



Buckden Day Nursery News- letter



August 2019

Parent Partnerships

At Buckden we want to engage as many parents as possible to encourage learning at home with what we do at Nursery. We have implemented a Parent Partnership station next to the sign-in laptop.

Our current parent partnership activity is Beach Nature Hunt! We have provided bags with a checklist for you and your child/children to help yourself too and if you venture to the beach over the summer then take your bag and a camera to snap some photos! This is a great learning opportunity and sensory experience for all ages, developing many areas of learning and even better when doing it together.

Send us some photos to our email at info@buckden-day-nursery.co.uk

Kitchen

We have started our summer menu now and the children are enjoying the fresh and homemade meals such as Moroccan chicken, baked bean lasagne, jelly and fruit, blueberry cake and delicious summer fruit salad for snack times.



Please could we remind parents if they would like a birthday cake for their child, Susan requires **at least 1 week notice**, due to the dietary requirements of other children in the nursery, making sure there is cake for all!

The cost of a birthday cake is £5 and a choice of chocolate or vanilla sponge. There are request forms available where the information leaflets are outside Tid-ler's and Seahorses.

Tiddlers & Seahorses



We would like to welcome all babies who have started their journey with us. They have all done amazingly well with settling in to our environment and getting used to the routine.

As we continue through summer we will be spending more time exploring what our outside environment has to offer, such as the colourful flowers, bugs and using our senses to explore the sand and water. Whilst exploring the water tray the babies have enjoyed emptying and filling. We have been out around the village visiting parks and the pond, observing what's around us and looking out for animals.

As the weather continues to be warm, we are going to be introducing ice play to explore our senses. We will be adding flowers to ice moulds and when ready, the babies can explore the flowers by watching and feeling the ice melt - developing their senses and vocabulary.



As holiday season is in full swing, please could you send us or provide us with some photos of the family on holiday. We will use these in circle time and add them to our home learning display.

Goldfish

The children in goldfish have enjoyed the variety of water and ice activities in the last month, especially during the hotter days. Lots of splashing was involved to keep cool and the children chose their own resources such as animals and cups to empty and fill with.

Goldfish have also enjoyed continuing with The Hungry Caterpillar interest using a range of sensory resources to illustrate main characters and objects in the book.

During August, we will be helping our new children settle. Some children that are settling enjoy us singing songs, especially "there's a dinosaur". To continue to settle the children, we will be providing activities with dinosaurs, looking at different shapes, sizes, colours in a variety of resources also.



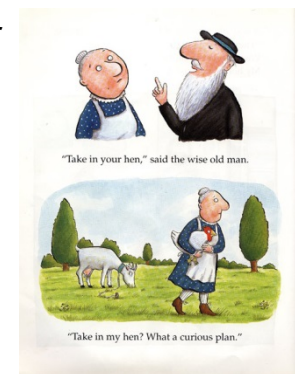
You may have noticed we have provided individual pictures which are placed below each child's name on their peg. This is to develop their independence and self care when getting ready to go out to the garden and coming in again.

If you haven't already done so, please provide us with a family photo to put in our home corner to enhance the home-from-home feel we like to implement in goldfish and nursery also.

Seashells

The first thing we would like to do is welcome all of the Goldfish upstairs into our Seashell room. They are all doing really well and are beginning to make new friends. If there are any questions new parents would like to ask please don't hesitate.

This month we are focusing on the book 'Squash and a Squeeze'. We are going to be making tactile trays for the children to explore whilst talking about the different animals that move into the little old lady's house. We are also going to be making pictures to display in the book corner to mark the book including the little old lady, the cow and the pig. Doing these activities we are going to be using our communication skills, developing our literacy skills, developing our fine motor skills and also encouraging our social skills as we play.



We are also going to be making some playdough trying different recipes. This will develop our understanding of the word and also develop our fine motor skills as we play with and explore our creations with our friends

If there is anything in particular that you have been doing at home and would like us to be continuing with at nursery please talk to your child's new keyworker who will be happy to help.

Starfish

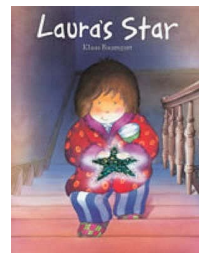
Starfish news



We would like to welcome the new seashells children into starfish, they are already beginning to settle and we hope they continue to enjoy their Journey with us.

We have been learning all about the letter K both in the starfish room and our home learning. The children have remained completely engaged and focused throughout July, they have built their own kites and brought them in for us to display, made kites using transient materials and shapes and our finger gym has helped with their fine motor skills as well as their mathematical skills. They have used their bodies to create a 'kicking k' this seems to have helped with the children's understanding of shape of the letter as well as recognition.

This month begins our letter L journey. Our book will be Laura's star, a magical story about friendship. To support the children's learning of the Letter we shall be incorporating various activities such as lemon and lime sensory play dough, lavender chia seed potion making, letter posting and leaf threading. Our role play area will become a Post Office where the children can post their letters they have made.



Shape and colour of the month

Our shape this month will be 'Circle', and our colour is yellow

What's new?

We are going to be introducing boxes for the children's shoes, slippers and wellies to be stored rather than the individual baskets. The boxes will have the children's names on as well as their group picture such as Dolphin, Jellyfish, Shark, Turtle and Octopus. The Children's pegs will have their names and group picture on to help the children find their name. We would like the coats and all-in-ones to remain either in their bag or on their peg. Could we ask their shoes, slippers, etc all to be named. The box will be situated within this group. If you are unsure please don't hesitate to speak to a starfish staff member.

Could we also ask that all spare clothes bags be named as well the clothes inside to prevent any confusion.

If there are any parents looking for a new pet, Sid the snail is looking for a new home. Please ask any of the starfish team if you would like him.

Thank you for your support

Joanne, Wendy, Abbie, Hayley & Hanna

Preschool



Hello!

Firstly, July was a special time for us in preschool as we had our graduation and said goodbye to some of our school leavers who have the whole summer off before they start school. It was a wonderful afternoon and we wish the children all the best when they start school!

With the remaining children still with us, they have been real superstars helping the starfish children settle into preschool, being their buddy and portraying beautiful behaviour and being an influence on the younger children. Throughout August we say goodbye to children each week as they leave and we also have children joining us from starfish which involves a very sensitive transition period. In preschool we will ensure the transition is as smooth as possible, we find by discussing topics in circle allows the children to express how they feel whether they are joining us or leaving to go to school. We also have a variety of books to support this.

There may be some confusion with colour key work groups. Orange group was created in the middle of this year due to the rise in numbers; we will be going back to red, blue, yellow and GREEN. The orange group children going to school, they will remain orange until they leave and their key worker is still Cally. The new children joining are green group and their key worker is Cally also. Lauren is blue group, Kim is yellow and Sophie is red.

What's New?

Our cosy corner has had a refurb to make it even more inviting and comfortable, it's great to read a story, have a rest or have a quiet conversation with a friend. We have a new fluffy rug and big new cushions which have been very popular. To add to our home-from-home environment, we have an artificial Olive tree to accompany the ivy and rose buds we have attached to our draped material on the ceiling which provides a very cosy feeling.

We have more plants in the preschool room to provide a homely feel. This allows the children to also be curious with the life cycle and care the plants need daily. We have children that water them and we observe their height and compare it with other things in our investigation area.

A dinosaur small world area is currently being worked on and should be ready very soon. We have created a scene using cable reels, leaf wall paper, plants and wooden accessories to enhance the creativity of role play with the dinosaurs which have been an interest from the children who have just joined us.

You may have noticed a cat tree in the small world area, yes, a cat tree! Sophie is a crazy cat lady and some of the staff have seen early years environments using cat tree's to enhance their small world area. Over the next couple of weeks the team will be getting creative and developing it into something magical, so make sure you keep checking the development of it.

We have been given access to the school field for the summer and the children have really enjoyed exploring and are having so much fun! We have had football matches, running races, stage performances, picnics and much more! The children thoroughly enjoy the space and we will continue to use it when we can.

What's Next?

During this transition period, the key workers will have two focuses. One will be settling in the new children, spending time doing group activities and have one-to-one time ensuring they feel safe, secure and settled within preschool and with their key worker. The other will be to support the school leavers children with their transition to school, by pursuing their interest in reading, writing, advanced mathematic skills, health and self care and group discussion on school.

Classes:

Through-out August there are no classes. They will continue in September when the new term starts.

Reminders:

- If your child has developed a specific interest at home/over the weekend please let us know so as a key worker we can extend their learning and development within the setting.

That's it for now!

Thank you for reading; we're excited for what the next month holds for learning, exploration and creativity. If you have any queries, please speak to a member of staff who will be able to help you ☺

From Sophie, Kim, Cally, Lauren and Jordan ☺

Thank you for your continued support!