



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all enjoyed the Summer and made the most of the warm days between all the showers. It certainly helped our garden grow; our sunflowers are almost touching the roof!

We are looking forward to welcoming many new families throughout September. I hope the settling sessions have gone and are going well and your child is looking forward to lots of fun with us!

Whilst we said goodbye to three of our team last term, we have new faces who have fitted in and feel like they have been here for ever!

Our Toddler and Pre-School groups will be split as from September. They will still share their environment, but the key groups will be split. This may mean your child will have a new key person from September which has hopefully been shared with you already. It is really important that you are aware who your key person is so you are able to liaise as necessary.

From September we are re-introducing our 'Focus Child' programme which will include all Toddler and Pre-schoolers. Please speak with your key person for more information and look out for the 'Focus Child Schedule.'

From September our extra-curricular groups will be starting again. To add to Yoga, Cookery Club, Gardening Club and Outdoor Learning (when possible) we will also be doing Construction Crew (woodwork and science club). Boogie Mites will return too and babies will continue with their schedule of Massage, Picasso, Mozart and Baby Boogie as well as everything else!

Helen

Dates for your diary

Holidays and Closures:

- Half Term for Term Time Only - 28th October until 1st November
- End of Term for Term Time Only - 13th December
- 25th December until 1st January - Nursery closed for Christmas

Other:

- Open Day and McMillan Coffee Morning - 21st September
- Autumn Fun Week - 23rd September
- Poetry Week - 30th September
- World Space Week - 7th October
- Diwali - 28th October
- Children in Need - 11th November
- Armistice Day - 11th November
- Christmas Fayre - 7th December
- Seasonal Sing Along - 12th December

Don't forget to follow our Social Media:

 [/thenurseryfamily](https://www.facebook.com/thenurseryfamily)

 [@thenurseryfamily](https://www.instagram.com/thenurseryfamily)



The Baby Snug

Our babies have had a lovely, cool summer in their newly air-conditioned Baby Snug. The wooden canopy in the garden has also really made a difference.

Our babies love a sensory activity indoors or out! Sensory play helps define the senses, encourages communication and language and experimenting with different materials promotes fine motor skills. During the nice weather, the team put together a beach-themed sensory tray with sand and water and a few seaside extras!

The Baby Snug team have a 'Book Of The Month' which has been 'The Tiger Who Came To Tea' which has proved very popular! Kate and the team are great at providing a broad range of activities all linked to the book. The children loved their tea party, especially with their own teddies and tigers! They made a giant 'tiger', did sticking with different animal prints and made their own tea cups.

This month is the turn of Monkey Puzzle. So far the babies have made banana bread and a spaghetti jungle! Lot's more fun to come...

The Toddler Den and The Pre-School Study

The Toddlers and Pre-school children have had a fun-packed summer. We went on trips to the Donkey Sanctuary and Staunton Farm, and our school leavers had a great celebration picnic.

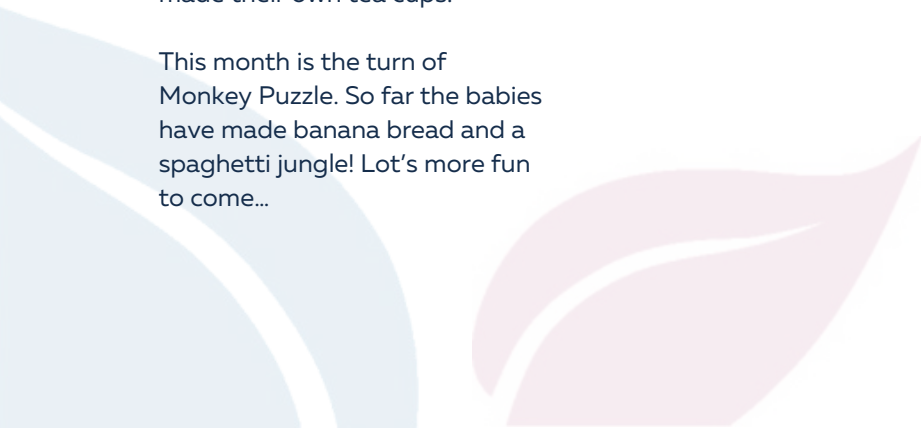
We loved our Team Purbrook Olympics, especially the gold medals the children earned. Physical activity is really important in a child's development, and finding fun ways to stay active ensures that children adopt a love of staying fit and healthy!

The hedgehog visit was lots of fun and we did lots of activities and learnt lots about our British wildlife. We made bee head dresses, foxes, spiders and deer antlers. The children especially loved making spiky clay hedgehogs and butterflies with leaves and sticks! We are particularly interested in the natural environment here at nursery and ensuring the children develop a love for our planet will hopefully mean they go on to be eco-friendly!

Along with bug hunts, sensory play, school readiness learning and lots of water play, our children have been busy learning everyday!

Continue at home

Within the Autumn weather slowly making an appearance, why don't you put your welly boots on and venture outside for a nature walk! See what natural resources you can collect, take them back home and create a collage masterpiece!



Recipe of the Month

HOT HERBY TOMATO PASTA

INGREDIENTS:

- 400g Penne pasta
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 medium red onion, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, peeled and crushed
- 1kg ripe tomatoes, chopped
- 2 tspn white balsamic vinegar
- Handful fresh oregano leaves, roughly chopped
- Handful fresh basil leaves, chopped
- Handful grated cheese



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cook the pasta in a large saucepan, following the packet directions until tender. Drain and set aside.
2. Heat the oil in a large, deep frying pan over medium heat. Add the red onion and garlic. Cook for 3 to 4 minutes or until onion has softened.
3. Add the tomatoes and vinegar, bring the a boil, then reduce to a simmer.
4. Simmer for 4-5 minutes until the liquid has reduced, then stir in the oregano and basil.
5. Add pasta to the sauce, then transfer to a large baking dish. Top with cheese and bake until the cheese is golden and bubbling.

Recent Training

All of our staff have recently completed their termly refresher Paediatric First Aid Courses.

Tierney will shortly be starting her Level 3 in Childcare!

Kirstie has enrolled on a Sleep Consultancy course.

Claire will shortly begin her SENDCO course to replace Kirsty SENCO.

Colleague Spotlight

Rob Light is a long established member of the team and I am delighted to announce from September he will step into the Senior Lead position for the Toddler and Pre-school groups. Rob is popular with the children, staff and parents and leads the team with enthusiasm and dedication. Rob and Chloe welcomed baby Delilah back in June, a little sister for Jaxon. Rob has plenty of parental experience (if not much sleep!!). We look forward to seeing where he will lead the groups in the coming term.

