

# Newsletter

*August 2024*

The topic for July was Animals and as you can imagine, this was a fun topic and thoroughly enjoyed by each age group.

Here are some of the highlights from each room:

## **Baby Room**

We made an animal zoo display board of our painted paper plate animal faces and enjoyed the Dear Zoo story book. We did lots of singing along to animal themed songs and have been learning about the sounds that animals make. We rescued animals from the mud and from being trapped, which practiced our fine motor skills as we peeled off the sticky tape that they were trapped under. We had lots of lovely outdoor play with sand in the new sand pit.

## **Toddler Room**

The children in the toddler room enjoyed lots of group circle time games, such as identifying and matching animals to their babies. We counted the animals and rescued them from the masking tape trap. We played 'down in the jungle' which we linked to the song and book as well as small world play in the tuff tray. We also made a display board of some of our fabulous art work.

## **Pre-School**

We looked at animals and their habitats in more depth and talked about how animals can be carnivores, herbivores or omnivores. We then sorted the animals into groups according to the food they eat. The children extended their learning on this through their self-directed play where a group of them took toy animals for dinner in the home corner.

We looked at animal habitats and talked about which animals live in the sea, which ones can fly and which ones live on land. The pre-schoolers have been creative in making their own animal finger puppets and paper plate animal masks.

**Looking Forward:** The theme for August is: Travel.

## **Building work**

You will have noticed that the scaffolders have started work this week in preparation for the roof replacement and other maintenance work set to go ahead from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> August. The nursery team are planning activities and trips for children to minimise disruption to the children's routine. In fact, the children have been very curious about what is going on already and it is providing opportunities for interesting conversations.

Just to remind you, the nursery will be closed from 6pm next Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August and will reopen at 8am on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> August. We are aware that lots of you are going on holiday during this time and we look forward to hearing all about these as part of our travel topic when the children return.

Don't forget that if you are available, we would love to see you at our fun day in Crystal Palace Park on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August, details below.

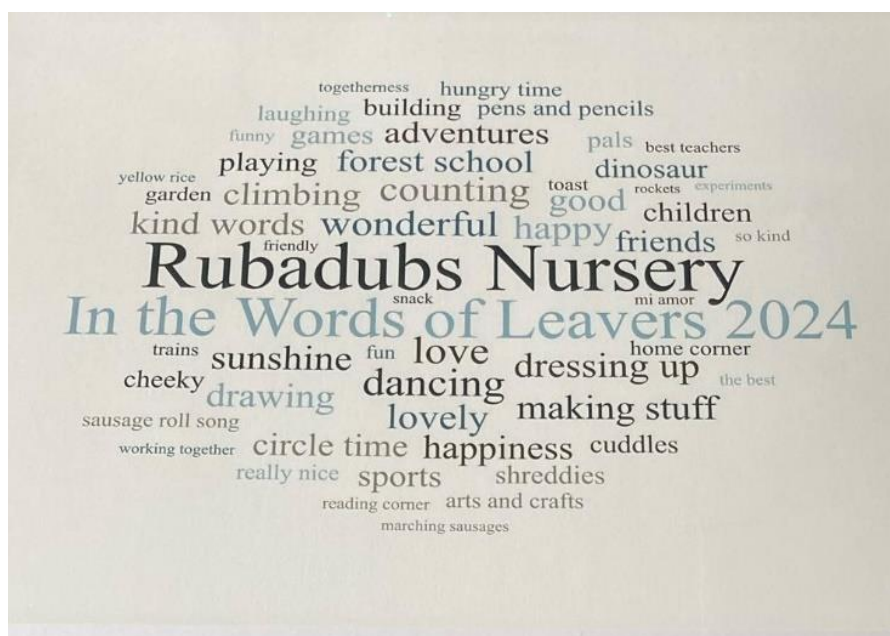
## School leavers

It is that time of year again where we say a fond farewell to our pre-school children who are leaving to go to primary school in September. We have a large cohort of children leaving for school this year and we will miss them all dearly. We hope that you will all keep in touch as they settle in to school and come and visit on the way home one day – we would love to see you!

***All pre-school leavers and their families are invited to attend a special graduation ceremony at the nursery on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September – save the date please!***

We would like to say a huge thank you to the parents for putting together a beautiful photo album and word art print from the children. It means so much to the team to have received such a special gift that will provide us with memories to look back on for years to come. It has been a true pleasure to be a part of the children's early years and to see them grow into such wonderful, bright young children. We loved reading the words that the children had chosen for the word art and think it really sums up their experiences of rubadubs perfectly!

### ***In the Words of Leavers 2024:***



## Pre-school information evening

We would like to invite parents of children who are moving up to pre-school in September to join us for an information event on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 5pm. This will be an opportunity to find out what pre-school is all about, with curriculum demonstrations and a presentation.

## Childhood vaccinations

We have been informed of recent cases of measles locally (not in the nursery) and therefore we would like to remind you of the importance of keeping your child's vaccinations up to date. The first dose of MMR should be given at around 12-13 months. If your child is behind with their vaccinations, please speak to your GP or health visitor.

### **Safety in the entrance hall**

Please refrain from leaving large items in the entrance hall or under the stairs as these pose a safety hazard to the children and staff throughout the day. Any items that do not fit on your child's peg must be placed in the pushchair storage or taken home please.

### **Staffing update**

We are delighted to have welcomed two new permanent staff members to our team! Lucy has been with us for a few weeks now and will be working with the children downstairs on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Lucy has a level two qualification in early years care.

Juvaniya joined us at the start of this week and will be working throughout the nursery each afternoon to fit around studying for her degree.

Many of you will know that Clarice is currently on maternity leave. We are pleased to say that Clarice gave birth to her beautiful baby girl a couple of weeks ago. Huge congratulations Clarice and family!

## **2024 Dates for your diary**

- Monday 12th to Friday 16th August 2024 – Nursery closed for building works
- Monday 19th to Thursday 22nd August – Staff training days (nursery open to staff only)
- Friday 23rd August – Family Fun Day in Crystal Palace park for children, parents and staff
- Monday 26th August – Bank holiday, nursery closed
- Monday 27<sup>th</sup> August – Nursery reopens to children.
- Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September – School leavers graduation.
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September – Parents information evening for new pre-school parents 5pm.
- Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> December – Bank holidays, nursery closed.
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> December – Christmas closure.
- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025 – Bank Holiday, nursery closed.