

Newsletter

September 2024

We have had a very eventful few weeks with a new roof, an Ofsted inspection, our family fun day and children moving rooms or starting school. It has been so lovely to hear about the children's holidays and time they have enjoyed with family whilst we were closed, we hope you all had an amazing break and have made some fond memories.

As we look back on our memories of August, here are some of the highlights from each room:

Baby Room

We have enjoyed being out and about in the local area this month. We visited the Horniman gardens where we saw the farm animals and enjoyed the summer flowers.

Back at the nursery, we made a big car out of cardboard boxes and took turns to drive it. We looked at different modes of transport in books and toys, with the train track and washing toy cars being the favourite activities of the month!

Toddler Room

We went on a transport hunt around Forest Hill to count how many different modes of transport we could find. Back at nursery, we used toy vehicles to match up with pictures, which reinforced some of the knowledge and language from our trip.

We sang transport themed songs such as 'The Wheels on the Bus' and 'Zoom, Zoom, Zoom'. We made a car wash in the tuff tray and made the toy cars nice and shiny.

Preschool

As part of our travel topic, we encouraged the children to share their experiences of different modes of transport. It was good timing with many of them going on their holidays. This also led to discussions about packing for our holidays and what you would need if visiting a hot country, compared to a cold place.

We had an interesting visit to Forest Hill Library where we explored the fruit and vegetable crops that they were growing. We also visited the local park opposite the Horniman. This was great fun on a sunny day, enjoying the sand, swings and climbing frame.

Another local visit was to the Horniman museum and gardens. We were lucky enough to visit the farm animals too.

The children showed lots of interest in the work that was happening on the nursery roof and we had plenty of discussions on this topic.

Looking Forward: The theme for September is: Food from around the world.

Building work

The work on the roof is very nearly complete and the scaffolding will be removed shortly. Thank you all for your patience and cooperation whilst this work was undertaken. There are just a few minor jobs being done over the next couple of weeks.

Ofsted Inspection

As you know, we were reinspected by Ofsted on the 8th August. This was another no-notice inspection. The inspector spoke to parents and we are very grateful that so many of you were able to come and give feedback on the nursery. The inspection went very well. However, we are still awaiting the draft report and so we are unable to share our rating with you but we will do as soon as we have it.

Family Fun Day

Thank you to everyone who attended the fun day. We were fortunate with the weather this year and everyone stayed dry. The children did so well in their sports day activities – as did the adults! Thank you for being such good sports and joining in.

Preschool parents information evening

We would like to invite all new pre-school parents to attend an information evening next Thursday 19th September at 5pm. This meeting will be held in pre-school whilst the children are looked after in the garden. This will be an opportunity to find out more about what we do in pre-school and how we will support your child's development between now and starting school, as well as how you can help.

Jeans for Genes week

Next week (16th-22nd Sept) is Jeans for Genes week in the UK. The Jeans for Genes campaign raises awareness of the daily challenges faced by those living with a genetic condition and raises money to fund projects that make a tangible difference to the lives of those affected. We would love to support this campaign by holding a 'denim dance'. We invite all children and staff to wear denim to nursery on Tuesday 17th September and Thursday 19th September. This doesn't have to be a pair of jeans, it could be a denim shirt, dress, jacket, shoes or even a denim hair accessory. We will then enjoy some dancing in denim!

NSPCC Learning resources

The NSPCC have recently updated their 'Look, Say, Sing, Play' resources for parents. These are activities and tips that have been developed based on the science of early learning, aimed at improving interactions between babies and adults. We thought you might be interested in having a look at these and perhaps trying out some of the activities at home:

[Look, Say, Sing, Play early years resources to use and share with parents | NSPCC Learning](#)

2024 Dates for your diary

- Saturday 14th September – School leavers graduation, 10am (for children who have started primary school in 2024)
- Tuesday 17th September and Thursday 19th September – Wear 'Jeans' for Genes day

- Thursday 19th September – Parents information evening for new pre-school parents 5pm.
- Friday 27th September – Macmillan Cake Sale
- Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th December – Bank holidays, nursery closed.
- Friday 27th to Tuesday 31st December – Christmas closure.
- Wednesday 1st January 2025 – Bank Holiday, nursery closed.