



# BERKHAMPSTEAD DAY NURSERY

## Notes from the Day Nursery...

Dear Parents

Well, what beautiful weather we are lucky enough to have! All the children have enjoyed lots of time outside with a variety of activities such as water play and mark-making on the patio using water and chalks. Our new Nature Garden has been amazing for the children to learn and develop their knowledge about the world around them. They have been planting their own flowers, building their own 'houses' and have loved watching the wildlife explore.

The Muddy Puddle walk was great fun! We took our own water to make puddles and the little ones loved their adventure.

We are welcoming Vicky to the team, she is currently completing her level 3. Most of you know Georgia, she has been with us as bank staff, she will be joining the Fuzzy Bear room full time from September.

### THE LITTLE YOGI

We have arranged training to enable staff to encourage Mindfulness throughout the day for all the children. Positive mental health and wellbeing is crucial to enable children and young people to lead fulfilling lives. Allowing the children to learn self-regulating tools will encourage them to keep calm and to stimulate focus and concentration skills. Mindfulness sessions will take place during the day using deep breathing and having quiet times, allowing your children to listen, focus, breathe and relax whilst having fun!

We are very much looking forward to this and will keep you updated.

### PRE-SCHOOL GRADUATION

Pre-school graduation will be on Friday 30th August 3pm-5pm.

We have a bouncy castle, activities and games for the children to enjoy, as well as party food! We look forward to seeing you all there.

### STAR OF THE MONTH

Thank you for all your nominations. It is such a pleasure to receive so many positive comments about the staff and Berky as a whole, we really do appreciate them! Well done to Sian, Abbie and Collette.

"Sian always gives such a great handover and has a great focus on the learning and development. Thank you."

*"Collette always provides such lovely activities and is a pleasure to work with."*

*"Abbie is great and always give it all her all. It is clear how much the children love her, well done".*

If you would like to nominate anyone for Star of the Month, or have some feedback you would like to share, please take a slip from the front door and post it in the boxes.

Thank you.

*Best Wishes  
Mollie and the team...*



JULY NEWSLETTER





# BERKHAMPSTEAD DAY NURSERY



## News from the Rooms...



### **BEAR CUBS:** For baby bears from 3 - 18 months

Welcome to all the new little ones who have recently joined us. We are excited to watch and support your growth and development at Berkhamstead.

We have really been focusing on sensory play, as exploring with our senses is what the babies love to do! Water play has been a firm favourite, as well as body painting and a variety of messy play activities. The children have learnt to touch and feel the different textures, fill and empty through water play and make marks.

Circle Time is a great time for us to welcome the children. We do this by putting their photo on the board and sing our 'Hello Song'. We then continue with our 'Song box' and encourage the little ones to pick out a song. The children are really enjoying this part of their day.

Please can we remind parents that the Baby Room is a 'no shoe' zone. We have blue shoe covers outside the door or feel free to take your shoes off.

If you would like us to share our 'Hello Song' with you please let us know.



### **CUDDLY BEARS:** For toddler bears 18 - 24 months

Currently, the children have shown lots of interest in water, so we have set up lots of different water stations for the children to explore. They have loved the "under the sea" water tray, using bubbles, coloured water and various sea animals.

Another interest has been the 'Dear Zoo' book. They have all shown a particular interest in this book and have been able to recall parts of the book! This has supported the children's communication and language development, encouraging single words or two words together.

We were lucky enough to have a visitor last week... Millie brought her house rabbit, Rob. We thoroughly enjoyed meeting the rabbit and all gave him a gentle stroke. Following this, the children created their own creative rabbits using a variety of resources.

Cuddly Bears have more recently enjoyed 'The Hungry Caterpillar' and we will be extending this interest by taking part in a variety of activities such as fruit tasting, creating our own butterflies and exploring the Nature Garden to see what wonderful creatures we can find.





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## News from the Rooms ...



### **FUZZY BEARS:**

For growing bears 2 - 2½

In the past few weeks, the children have been really interested in animals. This started through parent contributions, sharing what the children had been doing over the weekend: they have been to animal parks and zoos. We set up an area using real materials such as wooden logs, sand and animals to recreate their experiences.

They have also loved exploring and creating marks using playdough. We have included a variety of textures and scents such as lavender. The children have been able to explore their senses and develop new language and experiences through this. We will be extending this by growing our own cress, teaching the children about planting and looking after the world around us.

If you would like to share any achievements or anything exciting your little one has been doing, please feel free to share with us or add it to the parent contribution board. We love being a part of your little one's adventures and extending them at Nursery.



### **TEDDY BEARS:**

For happy bears 2½ - 3½

The children in the Teddy Bear Room have shown an interest in the Nature Garden - in particular, we have been sitting around the pond to see if we can see our two fish. The frog jumped out in front of us and this sparked an interest in frogs; we therefore provided a variety of activities linking to their interest. The children used plastic frogs to paint with, creating a variety of marks, as well as water play.

They also created their own frogs using materials of their choice and different mark making tools.

At gather time, the children often ask to sing 'Five Speckled Frogs'; this has developed their confidence with singing and language development.

As well as this, the children enjoyed listening to stories. One of the favourites at the moment is 'Room on the Broom'. The children are able to predict what happens next and they become very excited when the dragon is coming!

The children remember parts of the story and are able to recall the story during free play, often using resources to create 'broomsticks' and 'wands'.





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## News from the Rooms...



### **WISE BEARS:** For curious bears 3½ - 5 years

We have been getting very excited about the lovely holidays the children have been on, or are about to go on. We love to hear all about what they get up to, so please keep sharing with us.

We have followed their interest in holidays and the children created their own airport role play area, with a scanning luggage area, as well as flying their own planes.

With the warmer weather, the children have loved water play and creating their own bubbles... and water fights! The Nature Garden has been super-exciting with fish, frogs and bugs for the children to explore and learn about. The construction area has been another great addition, allowing the children to work together and use negotiation skills and language to support their own ideas, as well as children becoming more aware of the numbers around them, developing a concept of numbers and mathematical language.

Lastly, we look forward to seeing the School leavers and parents at our Graduation Party on Friday 30th August, 3pm-5pm.

