



## Poppins Post - September, October & November

Here's hoping you and your family had a fun filled, relaxing summer.

As another new term and academic year approaches we wish all our older Ladybirds a happy and enjoyable start to their 'school life'. The only thing we ask is that you pop in and say hello from time to time as we will miss you LOADS!!!!

### General News

- We welcome Debra to our Caterpillar Room - some of our Caterpillars have already introduced themselves to her!!! Sadly we say good bye to Wendy who wants to spend more time with her own baby.
- A reminder that Holiday Club will run throughout October half term - Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October. Please see Nicole or Faye to book a space.
- Nursery grant funding will resume on Monday 1st September. There will be no nursery grants during October half term - 27/10/14 - 31/10/14.
- NEW - 15hrs funding is now available for more 2yr olds. These places are managed and funded through Staffordshire County Council. If you think your child could be eligible for this funding please visit: [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/think2](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/think2) or phone 03001118007.
- Please, please, please can all parents/carers ensure that their child(ren) brings a bag to nursery with at least one full change of clothes - Thank you.
- As you are aware staff make regular observations of your child and record these in their learning journeys, along with any photos. If your child does something new at home we would be really grateful if you could fill in a parent/carer observation form (located on the shelf in reception) and pass it on to your child's key worker so that it can be included in the learning journey - Thank you.

- The Pre-school Leavers 'Disney Prom' was a huge success and a fitting way to say goodbye to our fantastic Ladybirds soon to be going to school.
- Planting & growing has been a huge success this year. Both the Ladybirds and the Butterflies have planted, watered and watched their seeds grow. They have then been able to pick and taste their produce!
- Please can we all ensure that both gates are closed at all times - thank you.
- Can we ask all parents/carers to have a look at our emergency contact list and ensure that the number(s) we have is/are the correct one(s).
- A plea to all parents/carers - to enable the children to have more trips out we need your help to ensure outing ratios are covered. If you do have a little spare time and wouldn't mind helping out with this please have a word with Nicole.
- The Before and After School Club to Hayes Meadow has really taken off. If parents/carers know of anyone else who may be interested in this service please pass our details on - thank you.
- Any parents/carers in the Police force?!?!? - would you be able to come in to nursery in your uniform and give a talk to the Ladybirds???

### **Dates For Your Diary**

1. **Monday 1st September** - Nursery grant funding resumes.
2. **Half Term - 27/10/14 - 31/10/14** - No nursery grants.

**Holiday Club** - will run throughout October half term

3. **Halloween - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October** - the children will be doing lots of spooky activities & games, with lots of treats in store!?!
4. **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November** - Bonfire night - we'll be making and dressing our own Guy Fawkes!!!
5. **Christmas Fayre** - Provisional date for this year's Xmas Fayre

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November - 12 - 3pm**

## Room News



### Caterpillar Room

We welcome Lily and Teddy into our Caterpillar Room - they are beginning to settle in well and are having lots of fun with their new friends. August saw Ceara, Luke and Kaitlyn move into the Butterfly Room, with Freddie, Clay & Carter following on shortly - in September. We will miss you ALL very much but know that you will have lots of fun with your new friends.

In the month of September The Caterpillars are going to be very busy creating resources to put on to their Autumn display to replace the summer one. They will be creating hand print hedgehogs and bright footprint leaves to mention a few.

Watch out for the Hungry Caterpillar that will be creeping up the stairs. The children had great fun creating these along with reading the story. As well as looking at the animal - Caterpillar - itself, the Hungary Caterpillar book also provides an avenue for exploring different colours with the children.

In line with 'child choice', at times throughout the day, we will be introducing a new child choice activity board for the older Caterpillars. The idea is that they look at the laminated pictures of toys available in the room, choose 1 that they would like to play with and place it on the Caterpillar. This way their learning is self directed and relevant to the child's interest.

In October we are going to be getting very messy exploring a variety of Halloween media - jelly, spiders, soil, black shredded paper and much more. Look out for our Halloween collages.

On Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October we shall be having a 'Freaky Friday Party' where we will be decorating pumpkin biscuits, playing pass the parcel and dancing to Halloween music followed by a Halloween tea. Don't forget to come to nursery dressed up in Halloween costumes.

The Caterpillar Room will be having a cookery hour every Thursday where the Caterpillars will do both hot and cold cooking. Their creations will be sent home.

During November the Caterpillars will be creating lots of sparkly pictures that will be used to create a bonfire art gallery.

Quite a few of our Caterpillars turn 2 over the next 3 months - so a HUGE HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Freddie, Clay, Carter, Bertie, Willow, Noah & Ryan!! We hope you have a lovely day and lots of lovely pressies!!!



### **Butterfly Room**

The Butterflies will say goodbye to Oliver, Sophia, Bernice, Lily, April & Marley-Jay in August/September as they are moving in to the Ladybird Room. We will miss them lots but know they will have lots of fun with their new friends. We will be welcoming some new Butterflies to our room: Oliver, Ceara, Luke and Kaitlyn will be joining us at the end of August, whilst Clay, Carter and Freddie will be following in September.

The 9th September is Grandparents Day so if you would like your child's grandparent(s) to come in to nursery for a couple of hours please let Nicole know. It is Teddy Day on the same day so please make sure you bring your teddy with you to nursery. The week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> September we are having an 'Elephant Week' where we will be reading the Elmer story and using this book to talk about colour, shape, size and number. The Butterflies will also make their very own patchwork pictures of Elmer.

As the 23<sup>rd</sup> is the beginning of Autumn the Butterflies will be learning about Harvest and the different foods that are produced at this time. Look out for our very own Dingle Dangle scarecrow that we will be making.

October 31<sup>st</sup> is Halloween so can all the Butterflies please come dressed up as cats, witches, spiders etc. We will be having lots of fun playing games, have ice play with spiders, green jelly play to mention a few things.

In November the Butterflies will be having fun creating lots of 'splatter paintings' & making fireworks. These will then be used to create a Bonfire display. Halloween will see the Butterflies doing lots of spooky & creative activities. To celebrate Remembrance Day the children will be making tissue paper poppies.

To celebrate St Andrews Day, which is on the 30<sup>th</sup> November, the Butterflies will be tasting haggis, shortbread & turnips. Look out for Liz's Scottish dancing and enjoy the shortbread that the children will be making and sending home!

The Butterflies are exposed to a variety of 'messy play activities' on a daily basis - these range from sand, water, shaving foam, rice, angel delight, custard, baked beans to mention a few. The children have a lovely time using this medium to mark make, feel different textures and explore - so please do not forget your child's spare clothes!!

We continue to send Me, Myself & I box home with a different child every week. Thank you for your continued support with this. The children love showing their friends 'their things' and it is an excellent way of promoting language development. We are also going to start sending home Barney Bear with a child every weekend - the idea is that Barney spends a weekend with a child and writes his adventures down in a diary along with some photos. The children then share Barney's adventures with their friends and show them the pictures - another great way of developing the children's literacy skills.



## Ladybird Room

The Ladybird children would like to welcome all their new friends to their room and hope they settle well into 'Ladybird life'. The end of July saw a number of our older ladybirds leave us to go to school - we had a lovely 'Disney Prom' to celebrate their time at nursery. We also had a mini sports day where the children took part in a variety of races from tiger feet, tunnel race and relay - they all had great fun.

Over the 6 weeks holiday the children have had a lovely time with various games and they loved their trip around the village - have you seen the pictures in the hall way???

In September we will also be looking at 'Me, Myself & I' as a tool to get to know the new children and share information with our friends. We will be finding out the children's interests and completing an all about me display which will cover the children's favourite toys, food & songs.

We have enjoyed planting, nurturing, picking and eating green beans, peppers, runner beans, cauliflower, broccoli, tomatoes & strawberries - yummeee!!!

One of our Ladybirds is from Bulgaria so we will be looking at Bulgaria on the map and learning a few simple Bulgarian words & then creating a mini Bulgaria display. The room also uses dual language words when labelling items.

We have started a day of the week bag which is full of activities, games & a book. The children will choose a bag at the beginning of the week - which will then be used at quiet/circle times.

Bonfire night in October will see us making our very own Guy Fawkes! If parents/carers have any old clothes that we could dress Guy up please pass them on to Faye - Thank you.

Finally we would like to wish the children that are leaving us good luck for school and Thank you for being such a great bunch - it has been a pleasure looking after you and watching you develop!!!