

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February



Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been an action packed week at nursery and the children have been busy exploring and learning with their friends and nursery teachers.

### Staffing Changes

Next week we are very excited to announce that a new member of staff will be joining Little Learners in Nature. Jenny is very excited to meet all the children and families at our nursery and bring her wealth of experience to our forest school. Jenny has many years of experience working in early years settings as well as working in pediatric hospitals. Jenny is forest school trained and will be working 4 days a week in our LLIN.

Kamara will be resuming her duties supporting in the other rooms but will be on hand to support Jenny and hand over the LLIN bubble whilst Jenny settles in.

The week commencing the 22<sup>nd</sup> February John will be joining our Pre-school 4 room to support Fatma and the team. John has remained at St Mary's these past few weeks to support with the bubbles but will be joining us after half term.

We are very sad to announce that Tulay will be leaving us on the 19<sup>th</sup> February. Tulay has been a huge part of our nursery and St Mary's nursery over this past year and is now moving onto a more senior position. We hope you'll join us in wishing Tulay the best of luck in the future and thank her for everything she has done at Little Learners.

### Half Term

During half term, if your child is away from nursery or will be coming in and picking up early or late please inform a member of staff in your child's room. This is to ensure we have the correct staffing for our ratios throughout the day and can plan ahead.

Also, if an alternate carer will be dropping or collecting your child please ensure to notify a member of staff, supply a photo and share the password with them so we can identify them upon arrival.

If your child will be absent next week due to half term please ensure you notify Dawn or Yasmin as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.





### Holidays & Quarantine

If you are going on holiday or will be away, please be sure to let a member of staff in your child's room know or email Dawn. This is so we can ensure that we log it onto our system and do not disturb your holiday by phoning to query absence.

Please note the government is updating this list regularly, please do check regularly and inform the nursery if this affects you.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-travel-corridors>

### Available Adhoc Days

If you have been contributing to nursery fees whilst your child is isolating this contribution can be offset against adhoc days.

There are several adhoc spaces available within the rooms so please contact Dawn or Yasmin if you are interested in booking an adhoc sessions.

We do ask you try and give us as much notice as possible so we can plan our staffing according.

### Nursery Spare Clothes

Recently the nursery have had a shortage of spare clothes especially trousers/leggings. If your child is sent home in nursery spares please ensure you bring these back as soon as possible so we can wash them and have them ready for the next time they are needed.

Nursery spare clothes are usually marked with 'SS' somewhere on the item of clothing to help identify it as a nursery item.

If you have any good condition old clothes that your little ones have out grown, please consider donating them to nursery as we always have a use for spare clothes for all weathers.

### What to do if you have symptoms...

We must remind everyone that if you or any member of your house hold exhibits Covid-19 symptoms you must **not** bring your child to nursery until the person or household have under gone a covid test and received a negative result.

If you have children in multiple rooms/school they must also be kept at home until a negative test is received for the person/people who has symptoms.

If the covid test result is positive you must all isolate for ten days and not leave your house. In the event of a positive case you must also notify the nursery senior team who will make a note of your positive result.

We thank you all for your cooperation in these difficult times.

### Drop off and collection

When dropping off or collecting children from the nursery gate you **MUST** wear a mask unless medically exempt. This is to ensure the safety of other parents, families and our staff team.



## What we have been up to this week...

This week at nursery, all of our bubbles have been very busy playing and learning. Here are some of our favourite activities.

### Bunnies

This week we have been making Valentine's Day's hearts. The children painted and decorated their hearts enjoying the sensory experience of making marks. We spoke about who our special people were and sang the 'I Love You' song during circle times.

The snowy weather has been very exciting and our children were very excited to go exploring. We made a mini snow people and foot prints in our garden with our wellies.

### Toddlers

This week we have been making Valentine's Day pictures. The children have been using different craft materials to decorate their pictures and used paint to make marks. We have also enjoyed our dolly role play areas where the toddlers have been dressing the dolls and washing them in the water trays. Outside we have been exploring the snow out of the field, the children have really enjoyed the wintery walks.

### Toddler +

In toddler plus we have been reading 'Jack and the Bean Stalk'. The children have been planting beans in flower pots and retelling the story using key words. We have been drawing pictures of our favourite characters and building houses using different materials to represent Jack's house.

Outside we had so many fun building with the snow, we used the large spades to make snow houses and snow people.

### Pre-school 4

The pre-school children have been very busy this week and reading 'Jack and the Bean Stalk'. We have been talking about plant life cycles and what they need to grow. The children have planted their own bean stalks and will be looking after them over the weeks. We have been celebrating Chinese New Year and making lanterns.

### Little Learners in Nature

In the nature school the children have been making a tent outside using the big logs and the large tarp, we have been thinking about what else we can use to create tents and the children had some very creative ideas.

Indoors we have been making Valentine's Day pictures and the children have been talking about their loved ones. We used different natural objects to make natural collages for our valentine's pictures and then painted them with beautiful pinks and reds for the occasion.