



Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March

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.

### Easter holidays

Please remember that the nursery will be closed on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April and Monday 5<sup>th</sup> April for Easter bank holidays. We will reopen as normal on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April. If your child is going to be away for the Easter holidays please can you inform a member of the senior team via email.

### Nursery collection

I would like to remind parents that we are currently still asking children to be collected by 5:30pm. This is to enable our staff to thoroughly clean toys, equipment and furniture to prevent the spread of Covid-19. If you are unable to collect by this time or may run late we would appreciate you calling or emailing to let us know. Thank you for your co-operation.

### Baby Room Drop Off

With the return of the school children, the gates can get very busy in the morning. To help accommodate the many families we have, we are asking Baby Room parents to use the toddler gate between **8:35 – 9:15**. Before and after these times the babies can be dropped at the main school gate. A member of the baby room team will come and collect your child as usual. If you have any questions please contact us.





### 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 your absence.

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

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

### Parent Planning Forms

We will be asking for parent input to contribute to our weekly planning so we can include each child's individual interests at nursery. This helps to give our staff a bigger picture of the key children's development and interests both at home and at nursery. Please see attached to this email a parent planning form. We ask you fill this out and return it to us either by email or as a paper copy.

### Being Active

At Little Learners we ensure our children are provided with a wide range of physical exercise throughout their day at nursery. This often includes each room's garden space, the field and the adventure playground. We have now been allocated regular time to access the school P.E hall and use the equipment for physical exercise, learning and play. The children will have access to the balancing beams, climbing apparatus alongside music and dance.

### New Arrivals

If you are expecting a new baby and plan for them to attend Little Learners please make sure you sign them up as soon as possible. We are experiencing a huge number of requests for places and our waiting list will have to close quite soon. We always try to prioritise siblings if and where we can we can, however we need parents to plan ahead and sign little ones up as early as possible to secure a space in the desired room. If you are expecting a new little bundle of joy we would like to say a big congratulations! If you have any questions please email Dawn.

### 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 having lots of fun in our sensory trays, the children explored a range of different textures. In our outdoor sensory tray the children had fun mark making in shaving cream with rakes. We really enjoyed playing with sea world animals in soapy blue water and this was a great opportunity to explore floating and sinking with our little ones. We have also been singing 'sleeping bunnies' and the children know all of the actions! They have been practicing jumping with both feet and hopping on one leg.

### Toddlers

This week toddlers have been learning about outdoor clothes and how to put them on independently. The children explored zips, buttons and shoe buckles. Toddler room children have also had lots of fun exploring flour and foam in the sensory tray and exploring colours through painted pasta. We have also been making rice crispy cakes. The children helped to mix up the cereal and chocolate then scooped it into the cupcake cases. They looked delicious!

### Toddler +

In toddler plus we have been talking about animals and their habitats. The children especially enjoyed talking about farm animals and what they eat. In our tuff tray we had toy creepy crawlies in soil which the children enjoyed using magnifying glasses to find them and count their legs. In our insect tuff tray the children really enjoyed using tweezers to collect some of the stones and count them out into dishes. At circle time we have been talking about our story 'Going on a Bear Hunt' and describing the scenery and actions from the story. The children acted out swishing through the grass and wading through the lake.

### Pre-school 4

The pre-school children have been making foil paintings this week and printing their marks onto paper. The children watched how the marks transferred and the way the brushes glide over the foil.

We have also been writing out our sounds of the week. The children practiced their writing using pencils to write their phonics letters. At circle time we have been reading 'Going on a Bear Hunt' and the children have been exploring the story themed sensory tray.

### Little Learners in Nature

In the nature school we have been making bridges using wooden sticks, the children really enjoyed using the sticks to create structures for the small world toys. As spring approaches we have also been thinking about tadpoles and have been preparing somewhere to keep them safe and watch them grow.

**On Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April we will be celebrating Easter with a dress up day and party in the afternoon with a forest school Easter egg hunt. For more information please speak to one of the LLIN team.**