

Friday 11th June 2021



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a lovely sunny week at Little Learners. Everyone has enjoyed being outside in the warm weather.

Reggie the School Dog

Next week we will be having a visit from Reggie, the St Mary's School dog, will be coming to say hello! Currently, Reggie works as a reading dog with the older children in the school and is always available for strokes and cuddles if a child is feeling a little down. He does not jump up at adults or children, and does not bark or bite. Reggie will be on a lead, with Mrs Hanley, and will not be left alone with children. To maintain the cleanliness of our indoor space, he will only be meeting children in our outdoor areas – though he is kept very clean anyway! We'll be introducing Reggie to the children in small groups and there will always be at least another adult with the group; children can walk off if they are not enjoying the experience.

Please could you email Dawn directly if you do not want your child to meet Reggie (dawn.hodge@llng.org). If you do wish your child to meet Reggie but still have some concerns which you would like us to be aware of (eg: currently scared of dog; is allergic and you would rather your child did not stroke Reggie or anything else) then also let us know.

Water Play Day

On Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th we will be making the most of the beginning of summer by having two days of water play fun. This will include running through sprinklers, large water theme tuff spots, water splash games and of course our favourite the field water battle.

We ask your child come in with rubber shoes (crocs, jelly sandals) that are easily wiped dry and a swimming suit or spare change of clothes as it is very likely we will be getting wet!

Hay Fever at Nursery

Recently the pollen count has been very high in Waltham forest and we have noticed an increase of hay fever reactions.

If your child suffers from hay fever at this time of year please ensure that nursery staff are aware of this and what symptoms they may have.

We are happy to administer anti histamines with parents' permission and will put measures in place to prevent a reaction where possible.





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>

Sensory toys and Open Ended Play

At Little Learners it is important for our children to engage in all types of play. We give children lots of opportunities to explore heuristic, open ended and sensory play, this includes exploring a variety of everyday objects to make noise with, role play and feel textures.

We are always looking for donations of

- Pots and pans
- Materials of interesting colours, patterns and textures
- Wooden objects (spoons, mug trees, curtain hoops etc.)
- Metal objects (CDs, potato mashers)
- Old/Used Tires
- Children's books (all ages)

If you are interested in donating any of these items please bring them in as all donations are welcome.

Summer Holidays

If your child will be away from nursery in the summer holidays that you notify Dawn or Yasmin as soon as possible. The school summer begins from Monday 26th July to Tuesday 31st August.

What to do if you have symptoms...

We must remind everyone that if you or any member of your household shows any Covid-19 symptoms you must **not** bring your child to nursery until the person or household have gone for 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 and take appropriate action if necessary.

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 really enjoyed our interactive singing sessions. The children have really enjoyed learning their favourite actions to the songs and using the puppets to interactive with the songs and stories.

We also enjoyed making hand print paintings and using the brushes to paint our fingers. The brushes tickled our palms but printing our hands on the paper to leave marks was fun. Outside the children have been painting with the dabber painting to make stamps and marks on the paper. Children made a variety of different pictures and shapes.

Toddlers

This week in the toddler room we have been making smoothies at snack time, the children helped to choose what fruit they would like in their smoothies and helped to cut them into small pieces for the blender. Once all the smoothies were blended up we enjoyed tasting different flavours during our snack time. Outside in the forest school we collected flowers and leaves for our mark making activities. The children placed the leaves under the paper and used crayons to draw over to leave a print. During our circle time we played a matching game using pictures and words to match up the meanings with the actions.

Toddler+

In Toddler + we explored unicorn sand which was very sparkly and shiny. The children helped to mix the sand with the paint using sticks to incorporate all the colours. We also enjoyed messy cornflour play with the Atlantic animals and spoke about what the Atlantic habitats might be like. We used our wooden blocks to make igloos for our Arctic small world play and spoke about how to build the blocks up to make a circle.

Pre-School 4

This week in Pre-school 4 we have been reading the story 'Rainbow Fish' the children have been speaking about how the behaviours of the characters in the story make other characters feel and the importance of being kind to friends.

We enjoyed being creative by designing our own fish, we decorated our fish with colourful scales, glitter and painted strokes on our fish.

Little Learners in Nature

In the nature school we have had lots of fun making sun catchers. The children carefully used sticks to make the outline of the sun catcher and used coloured film to capture the sun light and make beautiful rainbows on the floor.

We also made our own elderflower cordial which we enjoyed taste testing to get the perfect taste. The forest school children grated the lemon zest and helped their teachers clean off the flowers to be boiled over the fire pit.