

NURSERY NEWSLETTER - September 18



Welcome to the start of another new year at The Gatehouse Nursery. We have had a bit of a change around in our rooms this year and have renamed them as Sunflowers, Buttercups and Bluebells. We also have a new Room Leader – Julie Preugschat leading the Buttercups. It's been lovely to see children excited to return after the Summer and lots of new children joining us for the first time. As it's the first time to nursery for a lot of children this term, our main focus will be on getting to know children and helping them to feel safe and settled when they come to nursery. Please talk to your child's key worker if you think of anything more we can do to help this along. Our topic is called all about me and each room will be planning lots of activities for children around this theme.

In the Bluebells room we are taking time to get to know our children and what interests them. We will be talking about our families and it would be great if parents could provide some family photos for our display board to share with children. We will be planning some activities around growth and physical development and also looking at feelings and emotions. We hope to still get outside quite a bit and explore nature in the autumn time so please make sure children bring their outdoor clothes and wellies. Finally our story this term is 'Dear Zoo' and we will be having a jungle themed play area.

Karen, Terri, Ami, Stacey & Kira

In the Buttercups room we are helping children get settled in and finding out about what their interests are. We will be displaying children's families on our board and would appreciate photos from home. Our story this term is 'Owl Babies' and we will be having a display with the children's work and comments on this story. We are planning to look at how we grow, and how tall the children are – coming back to our charts over the year. Finally we will be exploring autumn and talking about harvest time - we will be harvesting vegetables from our nursery garden and making food donations to the local food bank. We would welcome tins/packets from home.

Julie. Marti. Jo. Caroline & Jess

In the Sunflowers room this term children are getting to know each other through games activities and at circle time. We are explaining Autumn with an investigation area, through cooking, textures and shapes of veg/fruit by making prints and trips to the meadow to create autumn pictures.(look at our display!) The meadow is a natural outdoor area behind our building where we share experiences of nature and wildlife and encourage the children to explore the great outdoors. As we promote self-care, children will look at each others similarities / differences (i.e. height, hair colour) and stories will be used and shared to promote these thoughts and ideas.

Dawn. Katie, Holly & Eni

This year we are introducing some changes to the way we support children's learning and development. These are designed to help us be more responsive and focused in meeting individual children's needs and interests. Each week key workers will focus on one of their key children's planned learning and assessment and at the end of it will give parents feedback on the child's development and achievement. This will happen termly. We'd really like parents to contribute to this process and staff will be explaining more about how parents can get involved as the term goes on.

Finally could we remind parents to make sure that all bags, bottles, coats etc. that come into nursery are clearly labelled so that staff can ensure all children and their belongings stay together! We like to get our children outside whatever the weather and we have been introducing the children to our natural meadow area at the back of the nursery so please make sure children are dressed for outdoor play with coats/hats/wellies etc. – Thankyou.