



## BERKHAMPSTEAD DAY NURSERY

# NOTES FROM THE DAY NURSERY

JUNE 2023

## WELCOME TO OUR JUNE NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents,

We hope you all had a wonderful Father's Day and enjoyed the bacon butties. It was lovely to see so many happy faces on a Monday morning!

A huge thank you for supporting, and donating so generously to our Cystic Fibrosis charity day; we raised £123.15!

We hope you enjoyed the School's PTA Summer Festival. It really was such a fun-packed afternoon, and we are very much looking forward to working with the PTA team on future events. We are looking for parent volunteers to attend the next meeting, held at the school, on Wednesday 5th July at 7pm. Please speak to the office if you would like to come.

We are keen to continue to develop links with the local community, and recently we have been visited by the Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service. The children absolutely loved these hands-on experiences, meeting real life heroes, and squirting the hoses, testing out the sirens and lights as well as pretending to drive the fire engine. One of our grandparents, Bev, has been visiting Nursery to read to the children. This has been really super, and the children have loved her magical storytelling! It is undeniably beneficial to teach the children about their community and the world around them, and so we would be hugely grateful if any of you could spare a little time to come in to talk to the children and explain your occupation, interests or skills: if you're a doctor, you could explain what's in your medical bag, or if you're a chef, you could talk about healthy eating; the possibilities are endless!

## SPORTS DAY WISE BEARS

We would like to welcome the Wise Bears parents for their very own **Sports Day** on **Thursday 13th July, 3-4pm**. There will be a variety of events, including an egg and spoon race, running and a parents' race!





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## NOTES FROM THE DAY NURSERY CONTINUED



### STAFFING

We are welcoming Chloe in mid-July. Chloe is level 6 qualified and has a wealth of experience including working alongside children with additional needs, office administration, supporting staff and being a key person. Chloe carried out her placement with us a few years ago and we are delighted that she will be joining our team. Chloe will work across all the rooms to ensure she knows how each room works, before being placed in a room.

Penny, who left in April to work in a children's home, will be returning! We know how happy you will be with this news and I am sure the children will be thrilled to see her too. Penny will be back in mid-July and will be rejoining the Cuddly Bear team.

Kaitlyn has also joined the team as a full-time practitioner in the Fuzzy Bear room. She will be competing her level 3 with us, and has recently completed her level 2.

Milly, who is a Berky old girl, has joined our zero hour team, and so has Juliet who previously worked here as a full time practitioner. Juliet is studying to become a nurse and Millie would like to gain further experience in her chosen profession.



Penny



Juliette

### KATIE IS THE STAR OF THE MONTH!

Katie has been with us for seven years, and has brought so much to the nursery. She is such a support to the team, always sharing her knowledge and expertise, and encouraging each staff member to be the very best practitioner. She works closely with our families, and supports them with any concerns. She is empathetic and professional. Katie works very hard, and always remains positive! She takes pride in ensuring that every child is given the best possible start with us. She is a joy to work with!



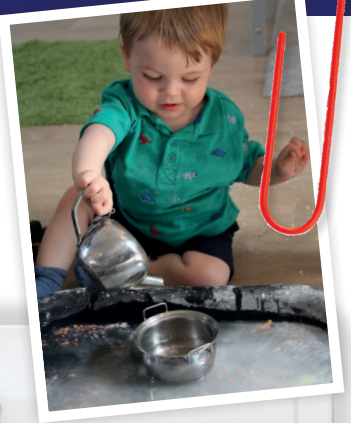
Katie



*Best Wishes  
Mollie and the team...*



# BERKHAMPSTEAD DAY NURSERY



## NEWS FROM THE ROOMS...



### **BEAR CUBS:** For baby bears from 3 - 18 months

Welcome to all of our new babies.

We have been enjoying exploring the big garden with the children from the other rooms, meeting the staff from the Cuddly Bears' room and seeing our older friends.

The Bear Cubs have been enjoying some creative play, and we have encouraged them to chose their own paints and painting resources such as sponges, tooth brushes and brushes.

We have also loved our singing, and introduced lots of new songs and actions.

The Bear Cubs have been trying different foods, and exploring a variety of tastes and textures. They particularly enjoyed strawberries and avocados, and some even enjoyed the limes and olives!



### **CUDDLY BEARS:** For toddler bears 18 - 24 months

We hope you enjoyed our recent Stay and Play as much as we did.

We all loved the fire engine visit, and watching the excitement on the children's faces when they held the hose and tested out the lights and sirens was priceless. During this hot weather, we have been enjoying water play, washing the babies, and playing with the spray bottles to help keep us nice and cool.

The Cuddly Bears children have shown an interest in role play with phones, holding them to their ears and talking. We would love to encourage this, so if you have any spare phones or mobiles, we would be grateful for any donations.

We have also been busy exploring lots of different textures in the sensory trays, including foam, gloop and flour.





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## NEWS FROM THE ROOMS...

### FUZZY BEARS:

For growing bears 2 - 2½



We hope you enjoyed our Stay and Play, and benefitted from Parents' Evening too. We are always here to talk to if you would like to share anything with us, such as any new skills, adventures or milestones.

We have been inspired by the children's interest in tools, colours and vehicles, and have set up a variety of activities based on this. Following on from a parent's request to encourage good oral hygiene, we have been set up activities to demonstrate the importance of brushing teeth.

We have also been creating stars and moon-inspired artwork, triggered by one of the children's fascination with them.

We are keen to teach the children about different occupations, and echo Mollie's pleas earlier in the newsletter.

### TEDDY BEARS:

For happy bears 2½ - 3½

Learning about different occupations such as medicine, hairdressing and singing has been great fun!

We really enjoyed the visit from the firefighters and loved being able to squirt the hose and knock the cones over. Learning all about the firefighters, their engine and equipment was the talk of the nursery!

During this hot weather, we have been exploring a variety of activities to keep cool such as cleaning our toys and cars with spray bottles. We have loved the role play areas in our room and created lots of yummy things in our kitchen. The sandpit has also been a firm favourite, and we have made lots of sandcastles and even ice cream with our party hat cones.

Robot Reg's visit is looked forward to each week, and we love the new sound he teaches us each week! Singing and dancing with him is great fun!

Rugby is a great way to develop our listening skills, ball handling and encouraging teamwork. The children have loved this extra activity, and Keith the teacher is wonderfully enthusiastic and energetic; we love having him!





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## NEWS FROM THE ROOMS...



### **WISE BEARS:** For curious bears 3½ - 5 years

Our Wise Bears have been learning lots about growing. We have planted flower and vegetable seeds in the nature garden, including runner beans, dwarf beans and sunflowers. The children have gained so much from this experience, learning what plants need to grow.

We have been looking at the life cycles of a frog and of butterflies, and this has sparked huge interest in our nature garden frog friend! We have also incorporated this interest into our graduation planning, and we have added a tadpole song into our show. We have been practising and can't wait to perform it to you.

We had an amazing time with the firefighters learning all about their equipment and tools, and even had a chance to spray the hoses; it was so much fun!

Inspired by the children's inquisitiveness, we have had fun experimenting with vegetables, chopping and blending them to

see what happened. They loved this, and we are now planning to make soup to show them another way we can adapt the textures of vegetables. Other experiments involved investigating colour changes with red cabbage, Skittles and coloured liquids to create rainbows.

We continue to make the most of our links with the school, and enjoy our French lessons with Madame McCreanor along with our phonics and assemblies.

