



# The Little Leaf

## EARLY DAYS' MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

# DECEMBER



### Owl Adventures:

Owls' topic for December is **Celebrations** and we will be making every effort to ensure they know that celebrations look very different for everyone.

We would absolutely love as many photos as possible of the children celebrating events with their families: these can be birthdays, graduations, parades, weddings, religious festivals - any kind of celebration is fantastic. The aim is to put together our own version of Everybody Celebrates, which is a wonderful non-fiction text. If you have not yet sent in family photos and celebration photos, these would be much appreciated. The children adore having photos of events and people special to them in their classroom, and it helps it feel like 'their' space - not to mention the huge amount of language development it can prompt. Thank you so much if you have already sent your photos - the children have been delighted to see them and the grown-ups love seeing them also!



Just a few of the activities planned for December:

- We will continue to have amazing sensory experiences: making our own confetti, preparing winter-scented playdough and mixing up a delicious batch of reindeer food ready to sprinkle on the lawn on Christmas Eve.
- We will be practising our writing skills by writing different cards and invitations, and will be integrating this learning into our understanding of the local area and jobs done in the community by posting some.
- We will be getting lots of numeracy practice as we play with **birthday cakes** and (pretend!) **candles** and make celebratory recipes.
- We will be practising wrapping presents and sharing lots of celebration-themed stories.
- Our wonderful Amber will also be joining us for additional **cooking sessions** so we can prepare some delicious treats for our families.
- We will be continuing our work with The Good Morning Club, exploring Feelsville and its residents: The Feels (Pride, Anger, Happy, Worried, Calm and Sad). We will continue to talk about how these emotions feel in our bodies and what we can do when we feel this way. If you have not yet returned your consent form regarding The Good Morning Club, we would really appreciate these being returned.

If you have not already done so, please read through the Tapestry post on all our Christmas happenings. All of the events we do over December (although special) are aimed to be as relaxed as possible. We understand

that our children are experiencing lots of big feelings and extra events all at the same time! Please do talk to us if you are at all worried or would like to discuss this further. Similarly, if you would prefer your child not to take part in any Christmas-specific events please do let us know and we can talk about how we ensure an equally wonderful experience for your child during December.

If it is possible to name your child's gloves/hats/ scarves/wellies - please do! This saves us lots of time when we're getting ready to go outside.



If Owls parents need to get a message to us urgently, it is always best to contact us via email or phone. Although we take photos throughout the day, we don't necessarily access the Tapestry app until the end of the day to send you photos. (Hedgehogs parents, please continue to communicate via Tapestry).

We know sometimes children are very insistent about the shoes they would like to wear to nursery! If your child does want to wear flip-flops / sliders etc, please would you be able to send in alongside these a pair of 'outside' shoes so they can go outside? Thank you in advance!

### Hedgehog Happenings:

The children have been really enjoying our **disco** and **snowflake** lights. We have been adding to this by giving them the opportunity to dance and let them pick what songs they would like. They all really enjoyed hearing the fireworks and watching the different colours. We did lots of colour with arts and crafts and mixing them together with different resources. The children have been climbing in and out of the den we have made, using a variety of different lights such as torches, colour boxes and snow globes.

We will be having lots of fun listening to Christmas music and doing lots of **Christmas crafts** and making decorations using paint, glue, drawings and, of course lots of glitter! We will be hanging up our fairy lights, wrapping up boxes for the children to practise how to open them and playing with the tinsels. We will be enjoying our Christmassy sensory tray, using Christmas cutters to make marks in the fake snow, coloured rice, and our Christmas gloop. We will be decorating our own Christmas trees using pictures of ourselves so that we can recognise the pictures and will be making snowmen using cotton wool.



All the staff at Early Days would like to wish all our families a very **Merry Christmas!!**

## at-a-glance

### December Themes



### Reminders

**Hedgehogs:** If not sent already, nappy cream: warm spare clothes in your bag each day; dress for all weathers please.

### Birthdays

Saige, Albie, Ralph, Daisy, and Etta all have a Birthday in December!!

We hope your day is special!



### Xmas Closure

The nursery will be closed from Christmas Eve and will be open again on Friday 2nd January 2026.

We are open on 22nd and 23rd December.

### Lost Property Box

Please check the Owls Lost Property Box. We add items almost daily and we would love to reunite things to their owners!



### Hedgehogs Core Songs

#### Jingle Bells

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer

### Owls Core Book

