



# The Little Leaf

## EARLY DAYS' MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

# NOVEMBER



### Owl Adventures:

November's theme in Owls will be Night and Day, and our **Core Books** are '10 in the Bed' (Penny Dale) and 'Peace at Last' (Jill Murphy). 10 in the Bed develops their mathematical thinking and language, whilst Peace at Last allows the children to develop phonological awareness by considering the sounds Mr Bear can hear as he tries to sleep. It also has a fabulous refrain ("Oh no! said Mr Bear. 'I can't stand this!") and we love hearing the children's expression in the words as they join in.

Discussions around night and day prompt us to make observations about the world around us, and also develop our mathematical understanding as we talk about what we do in the day, and what we do in the night. We consider which task comes before the next (such as bathtime and tooth-brushing) which develops our ability to understand routines. We will be exploring which animals come out at night and which ones we see in the day time.

We expect many of the children to come to nursery with tales of magical fireworks and bonfires, and we will be doing lots of different activities around this to support both their physical development and language as they cement what they have learnt from their experiences. We will have lots of fun science experiments on this topic too, allowing us to explore cause and effect and test our own theories.

We continue to focus on developing the fine motor and gross motor skills in all our children and we will do this through a variety of activities. Some of these are activities the children have each day (such as playdough and mark-making) whereas others will be planned using both the children's interests and our themes. We will continue to have our afternoon sessions such as Sporty Minis, Book and Cook, Curious Investigators and Amazing Animals: some of these will be tailored to our theme whilst others will capture the children's current interests.

From November onwards we will also be exploring **Feelsville**: an exciting new concept being developed by The Good Morning Club and ... ourselves! We are delighted to be involved in this project alongside Jen Foster and her team who are so committed to supporting wellbeing and emotional literacy in our youngest learners, not only setting them up for their future education but their lives. Please do see Tapestry for further information: some very exciting times are ahead!

We are often asked if we will be marking **Children in Need**: this year we will do some activities around this. If your child attends nursery on a Friday, they are very welcome to wear something spotty but there is no expectation. This will not be a fundraising event, instead we will be talking about Children in Need and Pudsey in recognition of the fact that the children are likely to see focus on it around them in the coming weeks and may want to explore / discuss this further. The children did lots of spot-themed artwork last term and if the weather is kind to us, we may also mark the occasion by displaying some of it outside to spot on their walk into / out of the nursery that day.

Please check Tapestry for our post on Christmas dates and do let us know if you would like the information re-sent / any further information to be provided.

Please do ensure coats and wellies are labelled: this really helps us get outside and ready to enjoy our walks as early as possible. The children are still learning how to find their pegs and sometimes coats end up on the wrong one - we find this happens less and less as the year goes on but it's very helpful to have a name on the item in the meantime, and means we don't keep you waiting at pick-up longer than needed while we search! If you would like to check your child's wellies are labelled please do just let a staff member know.

### Hedgehog Happenings:



The children in our Hedgehogs class have settled in really well and it has been lovely getting to know them and see how much they have grown and developed already. We can't wait to see what the rest of the years brings us!



Alongside our theme of Light/Colour, we will also be celebrating **Firework Night**. We will be using our neon glow in the dark paint to make coloured sensory play and use these for firework painting. We will be making lots of dens using boxes and tunnels and using our different colour torches, glow stick and glow in the dark stickers.

Can we also remind parents with the weather changing that we need some indoor and outdoor shoes, indoor shoes can be slippers if preferred.

## at-a-glance

### October Themes



### Reminders

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

### Birthdays

Jack D, Florence, Herbie, Ivy, Leo, Megan, Eve, Annabel and Fintan.

Enjoy your special day!!



### Owls' Story Time

If you would like to come in and read a story, please let us know. It is such a lovely occasion each time and is enjoyed by all. We can be flexible to work with your schedules.

### Lost Property Box

Please continue to check our lost property box. We find lots of beautiful things and are keen they get reunited with their owners.



### Hedgehogs Core Songs

Twinkle Twinkle Little



Star

Baa-Baa Black Sheep

### Owls Core Books

