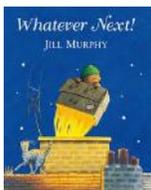


Welcome to Little Butterflies Nursery



Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term! We hope you have enjoyed your recent break and that you are looking forward to the exciting activities that we have planned for this half term.

This term we will be focusing on our new topic **'Light and Dark.'** We will be exploring our two new core stories **'Whatever next'** and **'My Pet Star.'** These two lovely stories will be the perfect way to explore night and space alongside Bonfire Night, Diwali, winter and of course Christmas!

We are very passionate about working closely with parents and carers and hope that by continuing to work together we can make this half term a happy and productive one for your child.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to pop in for a chat and we will be more than happy to speak to you. If you would prefer, an appointment can be made with your child's Key Worker.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Stobbart (Room Lead)

Rachael Forster (Deputy Room Lead)

Daphne Haley (Nursery Nurse)



Some Important Reminders...

Attendance and Punctuality. Please ensure that your child arrives on time for Nursery. The door opens at **8:45am** for a morning/ full day session and **12.30pm** for an afternoon session. If you are more than 15 minutes late please take your child to the main reception to get their mark. Good **attendance and punctuality** is important, as it has a direct effect on learning. Children should not take time-off unless absolutely necessary. We are aiming for 98%-100% - please play your part in helping us to meet this ambitious target!

End of the session. Morning sessions end at **11.45am** and **3.30pm** for afternoon sessions/ full days. All children must be collected by an adult over the age of 16. It is important that you inform us if someone new is collecting your child. If they are unknown to us we may not allow your child to go with them.

Uniforms and Coats. Uniform is not compulsory but is optional. If your child is wearing a uniform please ensure their name is clearly marked on clothing. Please bring a coat to school everyday, you never know what the weather will be like! Please pack spare clothes in your child's bag in case of accidents or getting messy/ wet during play. Don't forget to pack nappies/ pull ups, wipes and nappy cream. If your child is potty training please pack plenty of spare clothes - trousers/ leggings, underwear and socks. Children should also bring in fresh water everyday in their water bottles.



School Website and Tapestry journals. We have lots of information on our school website. We have a nursery page where we will regularly put on photos and updates. Please also remember to log in and check your child's Tapestry online learning journal as all observations and photos are posted on there. If you need support accessing the website or Tapestry, please see a member of staff. We also have a Facebook page - Little Butterflies Nursery. Please like and share our page for regular updates.

Outdoor Learning

We adopt a forest school approach to learning outdoors. We plan a range of activities to engage our children with the natural environment. This term we are spotting the Autumnal/ Winter changes in our garden. We have daily access to the outdoor area and children can access the outdoors freely. It is important that your child is dressed suitably for the outdoors, as we really do go out in all weather!

Thank you for your continued support, it really makes a difference!

This terms 'Learning Theme' (topic) is Light and Dark. We will be learning about our own cultures a traditions as well as others. We will focus on our core stories 'Whatever Next!' and 'My Pet Star' to explore through space, night time and winter. We will also be joining the whole school for Anti-Bullying week with a focus on the story 'Kind' and discuss how we can be kind.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development—We will be supporting children during their play to play alongside others, sharing and taking turns of toys. We will encourage the children to play independently with an adult close by to support i.e. helping to select activities. We will discuss our feelings focusing on happy, sad, scared and angry using visual aids. We will introduce a 'kind jar' encouraging the children to be kind to one an other and to the adults by following our golden rules. Children will be rewarded at the end of the week by having the opportunity to take home our Nursery pets (Paisley, Poppy and Flopsy), win star of the week and win a prize if selected from our kindness jar raffle.

Communication and Language— We will encourage the children to use their speaking and listening skills to talk about this terms topic. Using photographs we will discuss our experiences, for example, using class pet adventure books to tell our friends what we have been up to over the weekend. We will introduce a snack time 'Ponder Book' where children can discuss their thoughts on a special object.

Physical Development. This half term we will be encouraging the children to use big gross motor movements. This will be done indoors and outdoors with a range of activities. Outside we will support the children with jumping, balancing, climbing and running as well as using bikes and scooters. Indoors we will encourage the use of sensory activities such as painting and mark making in sand and the messy tray. We will also encourage independence with dressing and undressing, encouraging the use of the potty/ toilet, hand washing and taking off/ putting on our coats/ wellies.

Literacy.

This half term we will be focusing on two of our new core stories 'Whatever Next!' and 'My Pet Star'. Using story boxes we will encourage the children to re-enact these stories in the role play area and retell the stories. We will continue to sing our core songs daily and will be learning Christmas songs in preparation for our Christmas parent workshop/ sing along. Children will take part in listening games such as 'what's that noise.' and we will explore talking bags for the children to explore 1:1 and in small groups linking to our topic.

Maths. This half term we will sing number songs linking to our topic such as 'zoom, zoom, zoom' and five little men in a flying saucer. Children will be encouraged to join in with rote counting and counting objects up to 5 using their finger as an aid. There will be a variety of loose parts within the areas in Nursery for the children to count. We will also be using vocabulary such as 'more', and 'less' and will look at shape within their Nursery.

Understanding the World. We will explore our local area by visiting the shops and the park. Using photos we will reflect on our visits and make note of the children's thoughts. We will join in with different celebrations such as bonfire night and Diwali and discuss how we can keep ourselves safe. We will celebrate Christmas and discuss why we celebrate Christmas.

Expressive Arts and Design. We will paint firework pictures using different media. We will be decorate salt dough Christmas decorations. We will have various creative resources linked to our topics to develop gross motor movements and fine motor skills. We will continue to sing core songs daily and encourage children to join in with ribbon dancing.

Ideas for activities to complete at home



- Read stories with your child daily, this doesn't just have to be at bedtime! Encourage your child to dress and undress themselves, even with clothes that have zips and buttons.
- If your child is showing signs of readiness introduce the potty at home. Keep some stickers near by to encourage them to have a go.
- You could make your own salt dough decorations at home and tag us in your photos on Facebook or tapestry.
- Use sand, shaving foam, cream, flour etc to write and make marks in!
- Maths can be explored anywhere! While your out and about you can discuss shapes within the environment, count objects such as stones and sticks, explore numbers on buses, doors and signs.
- Encourage your child to play with puzzle inserts encourage them to match to the correct shape.
- Sing nursery rhymes with your child, this is good to help and promote their communication and language skills.
- Go on a listening walk in your local area, look for the changes within the environment and weather.
- Finally, Nursery can be very tiring! Please ensure that your child gets enough sleep. Bedtime and morning routines are key to a productive and enjoyable day.

Thank you for all your continued support

The Little Butterflies Team

GPS on Social Media

 Facebook: @littlebutterfliesnursery @grangetownprimary

 Twitter: @Grangetown_PS

 Instagram: grangetown_ps