

# Little Burrows Newsletter: May 2022

## May 2022

As the weather improves please can we remind all parents that children need to wear 8hour+ sun cream to nursery and must bring a hat. Thank you for your support with this.

### Lightwater- Ticks

As tick season approaches it is important we protect the children. We ask that children wear long trousers to nursery, children will also wear wellies when we are out. We will be following the tick guidance issued by Public Health England when we are out and ask that parents do regular tick checks on their children. Please also read through the Tick guidance attached to this newsletter.

## School Leavers

We have had a lots of conversations with the children's new Reception teachers. We have been talking through how each child learns best and what will help them settle. At the end of term, if your child is leaving us to attend school, you will receive an End of Nursery Report via Tapestry. These can be shared with your child's teacher. We are currently writing the Reports and will let you know when they are ready to download.

## Staines Nursery

We are very excited that over the summer the nursery will be refurbished. We are very lucky to be receiving a brand new kitchen, new flooring, new ceiling, new lights and a lift to ensure we are accessible to all our parents and children.

As this is a big project our opening date is being moved back to the Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022. We will keep you all updated as the project progresses and look forward to welcoming you all in for a tour of our new facilities once the work is completed. We are excited about how this is going to benefit the children in the future! We already have lots of plans for baking in our new kitchen.

## Our Curriculum

At Little Burrows Montessori we have written our own curriculum and progression map looking closely at where are children are currently working and what their individual next steps should be. This is an area that OFSTED were particularly impressed with when they visited us in our Staines setting earlier in the year. The inspector commented that we have a very carefully throughout out progression plan to ensure all children make rapid progress from their starting points. Therefore, ensuring all our children are ready for their next challenge in Reception. Our curriculum and progression map is based on the Development Matters document and the Montessori principles.

We have had a huge focus on reading this year and have focused on a new text every week or two. We have noticed a huge difference in the children's engagement in reading.

Below are some of the texts we will be looking at over the following weeks:

- Nothing can Frighten a Bear by Elizabeth Dale
- Franklin Frog by Emma Tranter
- The Knight Who Said "No!" by Lucy Rowland
- Firefly Home by Jane Clarke
- National Trust: Look and Say What you See in the Countryside by Sebastien Braun
- Stardust by Jeanne Willis

## Reminders:

Please ensure all items (including clothes) are clearly labelled.

Water bottles should only contain water. Please no juice or squash. Children have the choice of milk and water at lunch time.

Please could we have any donations of tissues and baby wipes.

If you are using the 30 hours funding please ensure you are aware of the deadline for the application. For more info please visit: <https://www.littleburrows.com/30-hours-funding>. This link contains all the information parents need regarding fees and funding for the nursery.

The website contains lots of important information regarding fees, funding etc. Please ensure you check this if you have any questions. Of course you are more than welcome to check with us if you can't find what you need.

## Jubilee

We will be holding Jubilee celebrations in nursery. We have been discussing this as a team and have decided to hold these after the bank holiday weekend. This is so the children have already had experience of the event and can talk about it. We will be holding a tea party with the children and completing lots of activities. We will be basing our learning around the book *The Queens Jubilee* by Frances Rose.

## Dates

### Lightwater Dates

**8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> June:** Jubilee Tea Party

**22<sup>nd</sup> June:** Sports Day

**7<sup>th</sup> July:** Leavers Assembly

### Staines Dates:

**8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> June:** Jubilee Tea Party

**24<sup>th</sup> June:** Sports Day

**22<sup>nd</sup> July:** Leavers Assembly

*Family and friends are all invited to sports day- more information to follow! Children will need to wear a T-shirt of their team colour. The teachers will let you know what colour team your child is in over the next few weeks.*

*The Leavers Assembly is for our school leavers only. If your child is not leaving us and is due to attend on the day of the leavers assembly, please speak to the teachers about swapping your child's day. Nursery will shut at 1pm on this day. More information to follow!*

## Phonics <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TkXcabDUg7Q&t=2s>

As always phonics is an important part of our day at nursery. We follow the Letters and Sounds phonics guidance and focus heavily on the Phase 1 phonics activities to ensure our children are ready to start school and steam ahead in their learning. An important aspect of phase 1 is hearing and blending the sounds in words. The children are really getting good at this now but it would be really helpful if you could support at home. Sounding out simple CVC words like b-e-d, l-e-g, r-u-g etc will really support your child develop the skills they need to start reading in Reception. Why don't you sound out the last word in the sentence and see if your child can blend it together? (e.g. 'can you get into b-e-d?' 'can you h-o-p?') The more practise they get the easier they will find it when they start at school.

### Key tick awareness messages

- **'be tick aware'** and remember that you could be exposed to ticks whenever you spend time outdoors, including when in your garden or the local park
- ticks mainly attach to animals, but sometimes they may bite you or your family
- you can prevent tick bites by walking on clearly defined paths, using insect repellent and performing **regular tick checks**
- some tick bites can result in infection, so it is important to remove ticks safely and as quickly as possible
- the safest way to remove a tick is by using a pair of **fine-tipped** tweezers or a tick removal tool
- contact your GP or dial NHS 111 **promptly** if you begin to feel unwell with flu-like symptoms or develop a spreading circular red rash. Remember to tell them you were bitten by a tick or have recently spent time outdoors

### More information

For more information, search for the phrases 'ticks' and 'Lyme disease' on these websites: [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk) [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

Public Health England  
Wellington House  
133-155 Waterloo Road  
London SE1 8UG  
[www.gov.uk/phe](http://www.gov.uk/phe)  
Twitter: @PHE\_uk

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Public Health  
England

## Enjoy the outdoors but 'be tick aware'



'Be tick aware' to avoid tick bites and know how to take action if you or your family get bitten by ticks



### What are ticks?

Ticks are small, spider-like creatures that feed on the blood of animals, including people. The size of a tick can vary, with a larva being as small as a tiny freckle, and fully fed females similar in size to a baked bean.

### Where do you find ticks?

Ticks survive in many habitats, but prefer moist areas with leaf litter or longer grass, like in woodland, grassland, moorland, heathland and some urban parks and gardens. Ticks don't fly or jump. They wait on vegetation for a host to pass by, and then climb on. They bite and attach to the skin and feed on blood for several days, before dropping off. Ticks are found throughout the year, but are most active between spring and autumn.

Sizes compared to a one penny coin

### Main health risks

- Ticks can sometimes transmit microbes that may cause human diseases such as Lyme disease. It is important to be Lyme disease aware and see your GP promptly for diagnosis and treatment if you recognise the symptoms which can include:
  - a flu-like illness, fatigue and muscle and joint pain
  - a characteristic expanding red rash, erythema migrans (present in many but not all cases)
- you may not always remember being bitten by a tick, so if you have spent time outdoors and develop any of these symptoms, seek advice from your GP or dial NHS 111.
- Lyme disease can be treated with a course of antibiotics. Without treatment, more serious conditions can develop such as swelling in some joints or problems with the nerves and heart, so prevention and early detection are key.

### Avoiding ticks

- walk on clearly defined paths to avoid brushing against vegetation
- wear light-coloured clothes so ticks can be spotted and brushed off
- use repellents such as DEET
- carry out a tick check

### Carry out a tick check

Make it a habit to check your clothes and body regularly for ticks when outdoors and again when you get home. Check your children and pets as well.

Ticks prefer warm, moist places on your body, such as the groin, waist, arm pits, behind the knee and hair lines, so look out for anything as tiny as a freckle or a speck of dirt. Young children are commonly bitten on the head/scalp so need to be carefully checked around the neck, in and behind the ears and along the hairline.

### If you have been bitten

- remove ticks as soon as possible
- the safest way to remove a tick is to use a pair of **fine-tipped** tweezers or a tick removal tool
- grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible
- pull upwards slowly and firmly, as mouthparts left in the skin can cause a local infection
- clean the bite area, and monitor it for several weeks for any changes
- contact your GP promptly if you begin to feel unwell with flu-like symptoms or develop a spreading circular red rash. Remember to tell them you were bitten by a tick or have recently spent time outdoors

