



# BATFORD NURSERY SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER July 2018



The themes we have explored this term:

- *Summer*
- *Farm Animals*
- *Mini Beasts*
- *Transitions*
- *Holidays*

**Summer** - We are very lucky to be surrounded by beautiful trees in our outdoor area. The sun has been kind to us this year and some unexpected visitors have taken up residence behind the bus in the garden. A swarm of bumble bees have made a little nest, the children have been watching them and commenting on the pollen on their legs! A Beekeeper came to assess the bees and advised the children keep watching them especially the "drones" as they don't have a sting!

**Farm Animals** - Linked to our successful and exciting Ark Farm visit children have been learning about different farm animals, listening to farm stories and singing farm songs. They have also painted pictures of farm animals which will be displayed in the nursery.

**Mini Beasts** - The children were fascinated to see the butterflies emerging from their cocoons. The butterflies will be released into the nursery garden where the children will be able to see them in their natural habitat. The children have really enjoyed finding out about insects. In the garden they have observed snails, ladybirds, ants, beetles, millipedes, centipedes and spiders. We also found a very exciting giant woodlouse spider that had a red body, the children were intrigued and looked up the different types of spider to identify the species.

**Transitions** - During this last half term the children will be busy with visits to their new schools. We have been helping to prepare the children for their smooth transition into primary school. We have also had visits from most Primary School Teachers. We have been talking to children about the display in the corridor and they have been discussing the different schools. If you would like to exchange details with other parents going to your child's school please write your details on the sheets provided. Please feel free to note down other parents' details and contact them directly.

**Holidays** - As the holiday season approaches we have been talking about different destinations and locating them on a map/globe and have used non-fiction books to find out about different countries and continents. This also linked with World Cup fever, where the children were interested in looking at the flags, countries and the different stages of the World Cup.



### Forest School

- The children have been making natural crowns using sticky weed! They built dens using canes and tarpaulins. The children have made a mini-beast hotel called "Buggingham Palace!", this was a perfect place to house all the creatures the children have found over the last few weeks. We are also doing ground art and making frames using square lashing to tie them together. At the beginning of term when the weather was not as nice we made vegetable soup on the fire - it was delicious and most of the children enjoyed preparing, cooking and trying it.

The children have had a wonderful time in the Forest School sessions throughout the year.

### Other Activities

- **Ready for school workshop** - thank you to those parents who attended our phonics and writing session, your positive feedback was greatly received and we enjoyed working with you and your children to complete some exciting activities.
- **The Sponsored Circuit** - was a great success. The children were very enthusiastic about completing their circuits. A huge **Thank You** to children, parents and especially sponsors for raising a massive £1200.00 and an extra £120.00 from the cake sale. We cannot thank parents enough and we will be using the money to buy some pedal vehicles for our outdoor track. This is an amazing total - our best ever - thank you.
- **Consultations** - thank you for all your supportive comments and feedback. Please remember to return any outstanding forms to your key person, as we do analyse responses and take time to feed back to staff and new parents.
- **Leaver Ceremonies and Picnics** - We are looking forward to seeing you at our forthcoming leaver ceremonies and picnic. The children have been practising the songs that they can't wait to share with you. Full details have been e-mailed to those children leaving us.

### Reminders

- Please see the link below to Hertfordshire County Council E-safety newsletter  
[http://www.thegrid.org.uk/eservices/safety/news/newsletters/documents/online\\_safety\\_newsletter\\_parents\\_sum18.pdf](http://www.thegrid.org.uk/eservices/safety/news/newsletters/documents/online_safety_newsletter_parents_sum18.pdf)
- Please see the link below for the most recent information from Hertfordshire safeguarding board, including safety around water (follow the link and scroll down to the "Be safe in water flyer").  
<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/childrens-social-care/child-protection/hertfordshire-safeguarding-children-board/professionals-and-volunteers/training-and-learning/campaigns-and-posters.aspx>
- Thank you to all parents for returning the Firm Foundations/Fun Packs - please can you check at home for any CDs, small coloured teddy bears or any of the resources from these packs as we have a number of incomplete sets. Our staff are very busy re-stocking the packs and we would appreciate if you could return anything as soon as possible, especially the CDs as they are costly to replace. If you find any resources please hand them to your key person or Dawn.
- Please also return all library books.



### Future Admissions

Batford Nursery School admissions will be in-house from now on and therefore you need to apply directly for any future admissions and put your child on an interest/waiting list. For further information please phone 01582 713872. Your child is never too young to go on a waiting list!



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### Thank you

- We would like to say a huge thank you to all our children. We know that those leaving us are going to continue to enjoy the next stage of their school life.
- We would like to say another huge thank you to parents and carers for your continued support throughout the year.
- Thank you to all parents/carers who have expressed their appreciation to staff.
- Thank you to those parents who have made very generous donations to the school; these will be used to benefit the children in the setting.
- Thank you to the Batford Governing Body - for all their continued support and volunteered time throughout the year.
- Thank you to all the staff for your continued hard work, energy and enthusiasm for working with young children and families.
- Trish McCrossan will be leaving us at the end of August to take up a post of Teaching Assistant in a local school. We would all like to wish her the very best for the future, Trish will be missed at Batford. She is a brilliant Key Worker and has been highly committed to working and supporting our children and families.
- Yesterday the afternoon children gave Jenni a wonderful pre-wedding party in the garden, I am sure you would all like to join us in wishing her and future husband Areen an amazing wedding day and a wonderful future together. Jenni returns in September as Jenni Voskanian.



All the staff have thoroughly enjoyed working with your children and wish them the very best as they continue their education in primary school and we look forward to welcoming back those who will be with us next term.