

Bumblebees Weekly Newsletter

Half Term Is Only One Week Away!

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful week it has been in Bumblebees! It's hard to believe that half term is just around the corner. The children have been so engaged, curious, and full of energy, and we're excited to share all the lovely things they've been exploring.

What Have Bumblebees Been Up To?

This week has been rich with sensory play, imagination, and early learning experiences that support every area of your child's development.

Colour Mixing with Shaving Foam

The children loved exploring colours through soft, foamy textures. Activities like this help develop:

- Early scientific thinking
- Fine motor skills
- Language development as they describe colours and textures
- Creativity and curiosity

Lentil Play

Scooping, pouring, and running lentils through their fingers supports:

- Hand-eye coordination
- Early maths concepts (full/empty, more/less)
- Sensory regulation and calm focus

Imaginative Play with Playdough

Playdough is a powerful tool for early development. It encourages:

- Strengthening of hand muscles
- Imaginative thinking
- Social skills when sharing tools and ideas
- Early mark-making and shape exploration

Sharing Stories with Friends

The children have been choosing books, turning pages, and enjoying stories together. This builds:

- Early literacy skills
- Listening and attention
- Social bonding and communication

✨ **Ball Pool Adventures**

A favourite as always! The ball pool supports:

- Gross motor development
- Spatial awareness
- Confidence in movement
- Joyful, active play

✨ **Threading Cheerios onto Spaghetti**

This simple invitation to play supports so many areas of development, including:

- **Fine motor skills** as children strengthen the small muscles in their hands and fingers
- **Hand–eye coordination** while carefully lining up each Cheerio
- **Concentration and perseverance**, especially when the spaghetti wobbles
- **Early maths concepts** such as counting, comparing lengths, and noticing patterns
- **Sensory exploration** through touch, smell, and playful curiosity

And so much more—our Bumblebees have been busy, happy, and thriving.

Story Groups

Main Story: *Down at the Station*

The children have become so familiar with the rhythm and pattern of the story and song. It's been lovely watching them join in, anticipate what comes next, and build confidence in group times.

Attention & Listening Groups

We've continued working through our structured stages:

Stage 1 – Bucket Time:

- Capturing attention through exciting, surprising objects.

Stage 2 – Brown Bear, Brown Bear (one-page focus):

- The children have been creating fun animal-themed crafts to help them stay engaged and build early comprehension.

Stage 3 – Extended Attention: Rolling on the peanut ball

- Supporting children to follow slightly longer activities and build sustained focus.

These sessions are wonderful for developing concentration, turn-taking, and early communication skills.

Songs of the Week

The room has been filled with music and movement as we've enjoyed:

- *Farmer's in His Den*
- *Wheels on the Bus*
- *Ring a Ring o' Roses*
- *The Ants Go Marching*
- *Humpty Dumpty*

Singing supports language development, memory, rhythm, and social connection—and the children have loved joining in.

Meet the Team – Week 3: Zainab



Hi, I'm **Zainab**, and I'm an Early Years Practitioner in the Bumblebee room. I really enjoy supporting children at this important stage of their development and love seeing their personalities grow through play, exploration, and everyday experiences. Creating a warm, nurturing environment where children feel safe, happy, and confident is something I'm very passionate about. Outside of work, I love entertaining and cooking for friends and family, but I also value quiet time and enjoy curling up with a good book for some well-earned me-time.

Come back next week to see who will be next!

Gentle Reminder: Nappies & Wipes

Please ensure your child has nappies, wipes, and cream in their bag each day if they haven't got any in their basket with us. Our spare supplies are very limited.

If you have any concerns about this, please feel comfortable speaking to me.

If you have nappies at home that your child no longer uses, we would be grateful for any donations to support the class.

Come and Play Sessions

You should now have received an email with all of our upcoming "Come and Play" session dates. We would love to welcome you in to share part of your child's nursery day.

Please let me know which sessions you will be attending so we can plan ahead.



Wellbeing Tip for Parents

A consistent daily routine can be incredibly grounding for young children. Simple patterns—like having the same steps at bedtime or a predictable morning rhythm—help them feel safe, calm, and confident. Even small routines make a big difference in helping children understand what comes next and feel secure in their day.



Hampshire Healthy Families: New Video Resource

Hampshire Healthy Families has launched *Two and Beyond – Your Child’s Learning Journey*, a brand-new set of short videos designed to support families with children aged two and above. These videos are a lovely way to understand and encourage your child’s development at home.

The four videos explore:

- Early independence
- Speech, language and communication
- Healthy lifestyles
- Social and emotional skills

You can watch them here:

<https://www.hampshirehealthyfamilies.org.uk/two-and-beyond-videos>



A Final Note

We are incredibly proud of every single Bumblebee. Each child is growing in confidence, independence, and curiosity every day. Their progress—big and small—is a joy to witness, and we feel privileged to be part of their early learning journey.

Thank you for your continued support.

Wishing you all a gentle and happy weekend ahead.

Warmest wishes,

Cora and the Bumblebees Team  