

# Butterflies Class Newsletter

## Summer Term 2 – People Who Help Us, Transitions and Change

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are looking forward to a busy and exciting half term ahead as we begin to think about *People Who Help Us*, and gently support children as they prepare for transitions and new beginnings.

Over the coming weeks, our learning will focus on helping children feel confident and ready for their next adventure, whether they are staying in Butterflies or moving on to school. We will also continue to follow their interests and develop independence. **Our biggest focus in these last few weeks will be on enjoyment and making memories and having joyful interactions and lots of laughter.**

### What we will be focusing on

This half term, we will be supporting children to:

- **Take on small responsibilities** such as self-registration, snack preparation, tidying up and caring for their belongings.
- **Work and playing together**, widening friendships, learning to take turns and solving problems collaboratively.
- **Develop vocabulary**, talking about past and upcoming events, and following instructions using words like *first, next and last*.
- **Become independent learners**- having a go, trying again and feeling proud of their achievements.
- **Explore creatively**, using role play, storytelling and imaginative play to bring their ideas to life. Learning new techniques they can add to their creative artwork, lots of new songs, rhymes, stories and a wide variety of group games at singing times.
- **Prepare for transitions**, talking positively about change and new experiences such as moving on to school.
- **People who help us**- learning about people in the community who help us and what they do for a job- eg. teachers, doctors, dentists, refuse collectors, postal workers.
- **Friendships and being kind**- we will talk about what a good friend is and about making new friends.

### Experiences we will be offering

To support this learning, children will take part in a range of exciting, hands-on experiences, including:

- Using **real tools** - scissors, holepunches, child safe knives, hammers and nails (tap a shape),
- Creating **obstacle courses** and practising physical skills like climbing, balancing and throwing
- Taking part in a **teddy bears picnic** and preparing simple snacks
- Exploring nature, hopefully taste some homegrown fruit and vegetables
- Learning about **people who help us** in our community
- Showing kindness
- Meeting some farm animals (we have a farm coming to visit)
- School dressing up and opportunities to play 'school' in the home zone.

We will enjoy group games such as *What's the Time Mr Wolf*, *Duck Duck Goose* and *parachute games*, alongside lots of new songs, rhymes and stories.

## A love of stories and reading

Sharing stories is a huge part of our curriculum, both at nursery and at home.

Research shows that **reading together is one of the most powerful ways to support children's development**. It helps children to:

- build strong **language and communication skills**
- develop **listening, attention and memory**
- grow their **vocabulary and understanding of the world**
- develop **empathy**, by thinking about characters and feelings
- enjoy special **bonding time** with familiar adults

Even if your child doesn't sit for the whole story, they are still learning. Talking about pictures, joining in with repeated phrases, or reading the same favourite book again and again all support their learning brilliantly.

You don't need to read every word – simply talking about the story together is just as valuable.

## Our nursery book library

Don't forget we have our **little book library in reception (by the front door)**.

You are very welcome to:

- borrow a book
- swap one for another
- donate books your child has finished with

This is a lovely way to keep a steady flow of new stories at home and encourage a love of reading.

## Pyjamarama Day – Friday 12th June

We are excited to be celebrating **Pyjamarama Day** this Friday! Children are invited to come to nursery in pyjamas or their comfiest clothes and bring in a favourite story. We will spend the day enjoying stories together in a cosy, relaxed way. For some lovely ideas to support storytelling at home, you might enjoy Michael Rosen's tips here:

👉 [Watch Michael Rosen's storytelling tips](#)

## Supporting your child at home

You can support your child's learning this half term by:

- Encouraging independence in simple routines like dressing or tidying
- Reading stories together regularly and letting your child choose favourites
- Talking positively about **changes and transitions**, including starting school

We are really looking forward to a special half term as we celebrate how much the children have grown and begin to prepare them for what comes next. As always, thank you for your continued support.

**The Butterflies Team** 