

☀️ Caterpillar Room Newsletter ☀️

A Reflection on Our First Year Together 💖

As we come to the end of the academic year, it feels like the perfect opportunity to pause and reflect on what has been a truly special year for our baby room.

This year has been particularly significant for us, as it marks **our very first year** since opening the baby room. Looking back, we feel incredibly proud of everything that has been achieved and grateful to everyone who has been part of the journey.

First and foremost, I would like to say a huge thank you to **Kay, Rosie, Aimee**. Their dedication, care, patience and commitment to creating a nurturing environment for our babies has been inspiring. Every day they bring warmth, enthusiasm and professionalism to the room, helping each child feel safe, loved and valued. I am incredibly proud of the team we have become and all that we have accomplished this year.

We would also like to thank **all of our families**. Thank you for trusting us with your precious children and allowing us to be part of their early years journey. We know how significant that trust is, and we never take it for granted. Watching the



babies grow in confidence, develop new skills and build relationships has been a privilege for us all.



From the very beginning, our vision for the baby room has been to create a homely, low-arousal environment where babies feel secure, settled and able to explore at their own pace. We believe that strong relationships are at the heart of everything we do, and that includes our relationships with you as parents and carers. An **open-door approach** and genuine **parent partnership** will always remain a priority for us. We value your insights, welcome your questions and love celebrating your children's achievements together.



Our babies enjoy visits to the meadow, visits to the ball pool and visits to the other classes. Our babies love exploring our garden's sensory elements - sand, water and paint play. Our babies explore treasure baskets, loose parts and role play. Our babies have so much fun learning and exploring!

One of the highlights of the year has been being selected by **Hampshire County Council's Children's Services** to contribute to training materials and professional development opportunities because of the welcoming and supportive approach we have taken towards breastfeeding families. Promoting breastfeeding, where families choose to do so, and ensuring parents feel comfortable, respected and included within our setting has always been important to us. To have this recognised beyond our nursery is a real honour and a moment of which we are incredibly proud.

As we look ahead to the new academic year, we remain committed to providing a nurturing, responsive and relationship-led environment where every baby and family feels they belong.

Thank you once again for your support, encouragement and partnership throughout this very special first year. We wish all of our families a wonderful summer.

With warmest wishes,

Hayley Nation-Smith
Nursery Manager

