

# Woking Newsletter



## Welcome

Thank you for taking the time to read our December newsletter! It was a wonderful month; we have welcomed two new staff members to the team! Esther will be working 11am-3pm, supporting with staff lunch breaks and Raveena will be joining us as a full-time member of staff. Please join me in welcoming them to the team.

## Whats to come...

December will be full of Christmas spirit as we prepare for the festive season!

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> of December** – Christmas Jumper Day.  
Please come to nursery in a Christmas jumper and join in the fun.

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> of December** – Children's Christmas Dinner.

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> of December** – Christmas Party Day.  
Please come to nursery dressed in festive clothes.

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> of December** – Pyjama Day at nursery.

## What we have been up to...

### Hedgehogs

This month our Hedgehogs have been getting very creative! They've been doing lots of colouring and painting for Bonfire Night and Remembrance Day. We welcomed some new babies and said goodbye to others who transitioned to our Butterflies room. The babies have enjoyed exploring puzzles, figuring out where the pieces go and developing their hand and eye coordination.

### Butterflies

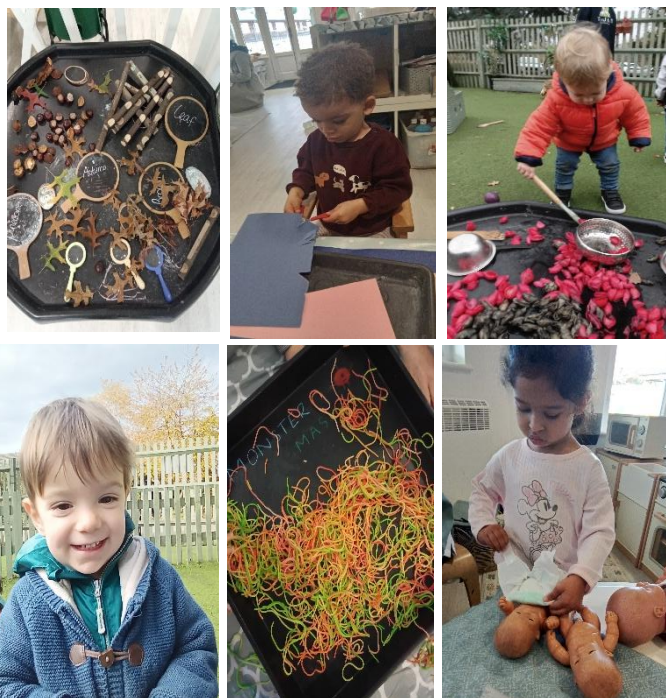
The Butterflies have enjoyed lots of messy play, while investigating new materials such as slime and gloop. They have also started exploring magnets and how they work, by searching for metal objects hidden in pompoms. The children have began exploring different colours and their gross motor skills by using big movements to scoop different coloured pasta. Finally, the children have really enjoyed having the freedom to make their own choices during group time, building independence, teamwork and communication skills.

### Little Toads

The Little Toads have been very busy this month, exploring a range of activities. They have really enjoyed exploring the sensory box they made, this helps develop the children's curiosity. They also painted their own poppies on Remembrance Day, this supports the children develop an understanding of history and community. The Little Toads have also been strengthening their hand muscles and coordination by practising using scissors. Finally, they created their own firework pictures, exploring colours and shapes whilst learning all about the Bonfire Night.

### Preschool

The preschool children have been enjoying a range of creative and exploratory activities. They explored fireworks by using tubes that they cut to create patterned designs, experimenting with a variety of colours while developing their fine and gross motor skills. They also created their own interpretations of poppies using different materials, which helped them to identify shapes and learn about the history of Remembrance Day. The children's fascination with airplanes inspired them to make and decorate their own paper airplanes, exploring how and why objects move through the air. This interest was further extended into imaginative role play, where they used chairs in the garden to create their own airplanes. This activity supported the development of teamwork, communication, and imaginative skills.



## Parent Notices

### Donations

We are on the hunt for donations of bags and hats for our role play areas, if any of our families have any that they would be happy to rehome, please drop them off to the office.

### Medication

As the winter germs may start to make their rounds, we'd like to remind parents of our illness and attendance policy to keep everyone healthy. If a child is prescribed antibiotics, they must be on the medication 24 hours before returning to nursery, we can then administer this at nursery after the 24 hours.

### Christmas party

On the 18<sup>th</sup> of December, we are hosting a Christmas party at the nursery. Parents are invited to join their children 3pm-5pm on the day. Please come dressed in your festive clothes! If your child doesn't attend Thursdays and you would like them to come, please let the office know.

## Dates for your diary 🎄

Date	Event
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day
12 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Dinner
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Party (families welcome)
24 <sup>th</sup> December	Pyjama Day for Christmas Eve!

### Extend learning at home

Here are some ideas on how you can extend the children's learning at home:

- Create sensory bottles at home. These simple activities support a wealth of learning including fine motor skills, language, focus and emotional regulation.
- Give your child old magazines or newspaper to snip and cut. Draw different lines, shapes and patterns for the children to cut along.
- Create different designs of paper airplanes and race them in the garden.
- Mix cornflour and water to create gloop, play with bubbles or explore textures during play such as sand or rice.
- Use a fridge magnet and see what objects around the house it stick to.



### GLOOP RECIPE

**INGREDIENTS**

- 2 cups of cornflour
- 1 cup of water
- 1 or 2 drops of food colouring

**OTHER THINGS YOU COULD ADD TO THE GLOOP**

- Glitter
- Sequins
- Small toys e.g. cars / animals
- Spoons / Spatula / Potato Masher
- Cookie Cutters
- Dried pasta shapes
- Pine cones
- Paint



**GLOP RECIPE**

**METHOD**

- Add water to the cornflour in a tray or bowl until it becomes semi firm. You can now mould this in your hands but when you stop moulding it will become runny.
- Add more water to make it more runny and gooier.

**DISPOSAL**

- Allow the water to dry out and then scrape the dry cornflour off into the bin.

## Recipe of the Month – Parsnip, Butterbean & Apple Soup

(Serves 4-6)



### Ingredients

Parsnips - (peeled & diced) - 500g  
 Potatoes (chopped) - 3  
 Onion - (roughly diced) - 1 whole  
 Carrot - (roughly diced) - 2 whole  
 Garlic clove - (chopped) - 4 cloves  
 Butterbeans - 1 can  
 Apples (cored and chopped) - 2 whole  
 Veg Stock - 1 cube  
 Rosemary - 1 tsp

### Method

1. In a large pan, sweat the onions and garlic until cooked (but with no colour) in a bit of butter.
2. Add the carrots, potatoes and parsnips and apples.
3. Fill the pan with water to a level just above the vegetables.
4. Add butterbeans.
5. Bring back to the boil and then allow to simmer until all the ingredients are soft.
6. Blend to a smooth consistency.
7. Serve with half a baguette.