



# Verwood Day Nursery August newsletter

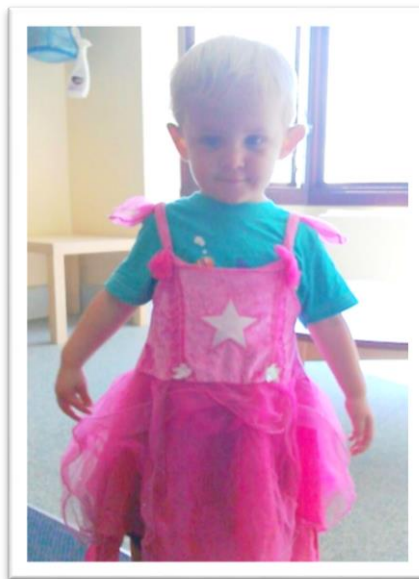


Welcome to our August newsletter - a month full of sunshine and fun!

## Baby and toddler news

This month I'd like to welcome Oscar and Maisie to the baby and toddler unit. They both enjoyed their settling in sessions and have settled in so well to nursery life.

### Dressing up



We have been trying on lots of fancy costumes and outfits over the last few weeks. The children have really enjoyed the opportunities to dress up in different outfits, looking at themselves in the mirror and dancing around in twirling dresses.

Opportunities to dress up allows children to develop social skills and confidence. They giggle and chatter together as they play and even nonverbal communication forms part of what they are developing. As the children get older the dressing up will take on more familiar roles such as pretending to be a policeman or a fireman or going to the shops and they will use more props to support their storylines and ideas.

The staff also encourage the children to try and put the outfits on and take them off by themselves which begins to develop the earlier physical skills they will need to get themselves dressed and undressed!





## Spaghetti play

The children have continued to enjoy playing and exploring food and like spaghetti and pasta at the moment. If children have frequent experiences of tasting, smelling, handling and exploring a wide variety of foods and if the people around them set good examples in growing, preparing and enjoying a range and balance of good food, the children will be more likely to develop the same habits and make good choices.

By allowing children opportunities to play with different textures and flavours develops their palettes and own preferences for food and is quite often an activity we will introduce to fussy eaters to encourage them to taste and explore.

Next month we will be introducing edible paint to the children and exploring other edible activities.

## Watching the world go by ...

Understanding their world.

Understanding of the world develops as children take notice of everything around them including places and all the things within them such as trees in the natural environment and roads and traffic in the built environment.



Finding out about places begins initially when a child learns about their own home and the things nearby, then later as children notice things on journeys to and from home – such as the sequence of the traffic lights or names on street signs

For our toddlers the fascination is prompted by watching out the windows and noticing cars and horses as they walk by.

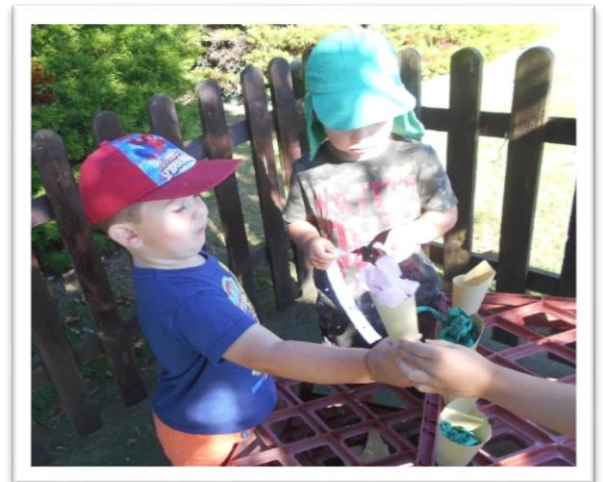
## Two, three and four year old news

It's been a busy month settling in new children and saying goodbye to our eldest children as they leave to start big school.

We wish all our 'big school' boys and girls the best of luck in their new adventures, but we all know that they will be just fine!

### Ice creams and builders!

It's all been about role play this month. The children are always selling ice creams and quite often we will hear shouts of 'who wants an ice-cream?' coming from the garden at any time of the year. So we made an ice-cream shop for them with special tickets that allowed them to purchase the flavour of their choice!



The builders have also been in making vital repairs to the building and attempting to cut down some of our trees. Health and safety was a top priority and great care was taken when using the tools!



## The benefits of role play

Role play is an effective learning tool as it encourages children to become active participants in their learning.

Children can:

- wear a costume and use props
- move about and use their energy
- put themselves in someone else's shoes
- communicate and make decisions in character

all of which will allow them to take risks and explore different areas.

Learning from role play is therefore far more likely to stick with children than for example doing more structured activities, mostly because they will be much more willing and enthusiastic!

As a parent it is a great sign if you see the children acting out something they have just learnt or seen. This shows that it grabbed their attention and engaged their curiosity.

## Leaver's party

On Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August we held our annual school leavers party. This is a celebration of the time the children and families have spent with us and a way for us to say thank you choosing Verwood day Nursery and giving us the privilege of looking after the children.

Krazy Kev came in and entertained us with his magic show and then the children were presented with their special bags which contained their learning journeys and cards of well wishes and pictures of happy times.



## Sad farewells and happy hellos

As many of you will know we said a sad farewell to Vicki Nicklen and Lizzie this month. Vicki has moved onto to an exciting new position as a teaching assistant at Trinity school and after 9 years at the nursery we really will miss her. We wish her the best of luck in her new adventure and know that she will pop in and visit as she misses us already!

Lizzie has taken up the position of private nanny and we all know she will just be great in her new role and we also wish her the best of luck.

I am excited to welcome some new faces and some familiar faces to the Verwood team. In the baby room, many of you will already know Amy who has been on placement with us in the baby room, for a long time now while undertaking her Level 3. On completion of her qualification we offered her the opportunity to join us in a full time role. I am pleased to say Amy will continue to work with Deana and Yeima in our baby and toddler unit.



Joining Amy and the team is a familiar face to many of you. I am so pleased to be welcoming back Mel. Mel had previously worked at the nursery while undertaking her Level 3 and as one of our bank staff team. Mel later took up a full time role as a nanny, but since this has come to an end, she is excited to be returning to us in a full time capacity. Mel brings a wealth of knowledge and experience and I am so pleased to have her back with us.



A new face to the team is Kelly. Kelly will be working together with Craig, Donna and the team downstairs and we are again very excited to welcome her. Kelly comes from a large nursery in Kent and loves the outdoors, cooking and arts and crafts so she will be right at home here with us.

## Congratulations

A huge congratulations to Kaitie and Ethan on the safe arrival of their beautiful baby boy Noah Jack born on the 25<sup>th</sup> August at 1.37am and weighing just under 8lbs. Mum and baby are doing well and we are looking forward to having cuddles very soon.

## Well wishes

As some of you may know Carole our deputy manager is currently on long term sick leave. After visiting her recently, she is making a steady recovery but will be off for a little while longer. If anyone wishes to send any well wishes to her, please pass them onto Rachel who can share them with her when she next visits.

## Referral reward

Don't forget that our referral reward is to say thank to those parents who recommend friends and colleagues to Verwood Day Nursery. A big thank you to the Rose family who this month have benefited from a £100 referral reward.



To benefit from this reward yourself, you must ask the person you recommend to mention your name at time of enquiry or booking and the new child must be on a full time (51 week contract).

Then after the new child has been in attendance at Verwood Day Nursery for 3 full months, the £100 reward will be credited to your account during the 4<sup>th</sup> month. Simple!

**The nursery is filling up fast and current spaces won't be available for long.**

**If you are thinking of increasing or you know of someone who is thinking of joining us, please contact us ASAP to avoid any disappointment.**

## Friday fun days

We enjoyed another great Friday fun day at the beginning of August and this time the focus was on weaning and fussy eaters.

Staff talked to parents about the different ideas and techniques we use within the nursery to encourage children to try new flavours and textures, and there was an opportunity for the children to explore some food!



The next session will take place on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October from 10.00-11.30 and the focus will be messy play!!

## Coming up:

- A visit from our nominated charity Guide Dogs for the Blind

Enjoy the last of the summer sun

Rachel and the team at Verwood Day Nursery

