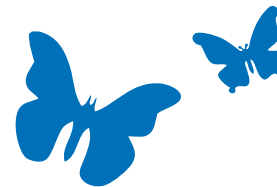


It's the Little Things Children's Day Nursery

Welcome!

Hello and welcome to our Summer newsletter. May we take this opportunity to say a great big hello to all of our new children and their families. There is quite a lot of news since our Spring edition, so lets get started!



Trip to the theatre, darling!

On Friday 19th June the Pre-School Owls had their annual leaver's trip. This year we went to the Empire theatre in Liverpool to see Lazytown. Almost all the children attended and lots of parents came too, including Vicky Marcus, who travelled with the superbly dressed Desarae.

Making good sense

We are very pleased to announce that our brand new sensory room is now up and running! The room has been funded by the proceeds of this year's Spring Fair and is already being enjoyed by all age groups throughout the nursery. The sensory room is a place of calm where the children can go with staff to relax, listen to soothing music, watch the phasing of colours and lights and handle sensory objects. Jim McCubbin can't get enough!



Hare we go

Well done to all those who took part in this year's Big Toddle. Almost 70 of us – children, parents and staff – got dressed up as hares and tortoises for our annual themed charity walk for Barnardos. Some sprinted, others pushed prams, but everyone sang as we walked around the beautiful grounds of Parkhaven Trust on Wednesday 29th July. Jessica Braham and Toby Atkinson led the walk.

Fond farewells to the children

The theatre trip was to say goodbye to the children moving on to reception class. It is a very sad time as so many of our wonderful little characters leave! This year is particularly poignant as many have been with us since they were babies. We wish them the best of luck and hope that they will pop in, show us their uniforms and let us know how they are getting on!

Fond farewell to Becky

It is with great sadness that we say bye bye to Becky. Becky has been a fantastic member of staff and has been with us from the very beginning. She has formed many great relationships with children, parents and staff and will be missed a lot, as Jack Bamber and Imogen Fairman pictured hugging her will agree. Becky feels that she is ready for a new challenge. Her last day is Thursday 13th August.





Blowing our own (recycled) trumpet!

Jude Bull and Daniel Calderon did their bit for Recycling Week, along with many of you parents. Thank you to all those who filled a bag – or three! We had a good response, raising £25!

After School Club

A number of parents have spoken to us about starting our own After School Club. We're looking into it at the moment and welcome all comments!

Green and greener

Our landlord, Parkhaven Trust, has just had its new £3m plans approved to make the location even greener. The plans include new care homes, more pedestrianised areas and allotments – and the nursery is already on the list for its very own allotment! Work starts in September but won't affect the nursery until 2011. Speak to me (Louise) if you would like more information.

The big splash

We're preparing for the new Maghull swimming pool, which opens in November. Two of our staff will begin the Rescue Task for Teachers training certificate, so we can plan trips to the pool.

Staffing changes

A few changes will be happening over the coming weeks. Bethan is taking her six week summer holiday. As one of our two qualified teachers, along with me (Louise) she is entitled to this break the same as other teachers! She will be back early September and in the mean time, I will be running the room. Sarah, Michelle and Jenny will be working in there as usual. As many of you may have noticed, Bethan is pregnant and will be on maternity leave from mid-October. We will advertise for maternity cover, but whatever happens, Louise, Sarah and Michelle will continue to work in the room. Charlotte has requested a room move to keep her skills with all ages up to date. She has moved to Hedgehogs as we feel this will aid smooth transition for babies moving through. Francesca has swapped places and will mostly work in the new Robins room. We are currently advertising for a new Room Supervisor to replace Becky when she leaves us.

Welly good

Can all parents please check that their children's wellies fit, as some of our little ones are growing very fast and their boots may need replacing.

Naming clothes

Please, please can you make sure that all items of clothing likely to be removed during the day, or items of value are labelled clearly with your child's name. Also, can you please ensure that your child has spare clothes in their bag for times when they get wet, muddy or have accidents.

If you haven't already, don't forget to look at our website at www.itsthelittlethings.co.uk



Gold star for health

We have been awarded the Appetite for Life Award by NHS Sefton after a rigorous check of our menus, allergy awareness, oral health and cleanliness. We got top health marks, and were praised for not only cooking fresh food with fresh ingredients on the premises, but also teaching the children the importance of it. They also highlighted our outdoor activities. Our Health and Safety Officer, Lyndsey Rimmer celebrated the award with Imogen Fairman and Sophie Bjork.

Bring your slippers!

Can all parents of babies in the Robins room please ensure that your child has suitable indoor footwear. The carpet area in the room will now be indoor shoes only, for hygiene reasons – slippers or soft shoes are ideal. Please remember to put your child's name in everything too, thank you!

Little Robins fly

Those of you with children in the baby room will know that changes have been happening. We have found that numbers of young babies have fallen dramatically since changes to maternity leave. We recently made the difficult decision to make this one room (Little Robins) rather than two. We are still working on the best layout and are striving to create 'areas' in the room and provide the same high level of care for all children. At present Sandra and Lyndsey are sharing the role of room supervisor but both have requested to stand down from their supervisory role, so we are currently recruiting for a new room supervisor who we hope will be in place by October.

