



Countryside Day Nursery Newsletter August 2023

Sports day and Leavers Ceremony- Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th July

The children all enjoyed sports day and the leaver's ceremony, we had a wonderful day and I would like to thank all of the staff who helped on the day as well as preparing beforehand and thank you to the parents for supporting their children on the day too. It was a very special day where lots of happy memories were made.





Fond Farewell to Our School Leavers

It is that time of year where we sadly say goodbye to our pre-school children and wish them all the very best for a smooth transition from nursery to school. We will be very sorry to see you all go but it has been a pleasure to have each one of you here and we hope you settle quickly into school. We thought that you maybe interested to know that all of the information from the children's assessments which the Big Squirrels team collate, is processed carefully and this data is used to inform our future planning.

Grace feels it is so important to make use of the data which we collect, so we compile a research project in order to further improve our practice at Countryside. We will be looking particularly at how effective the curriculum has been during this past year, alongside the levels of progress which the children have made. We will then be looking at how we can implement the curriculum successfully in Big Squirrels for the next cohort to ensure that we are meeting each child's needs as well as making sure we are giving them optimum learning opportunities here at Countryside.

Therefore, we will continue to analyze the results for the 2023 school leavers and put improvements into place to further develop our practice.

We thought you maybe interested to read some of the thank you cards which we have received....

Dear Grace, Thank you for all that you and your team have done for Hugo over the past few years. I really don't think you know how special Countryside is. You have given Hugo such a sense of belonging and security that we will all really miss. When I asked Hugo about you, he said that you teach him, that you are smiley, fun, kind and that you tell them the weather. His favourite memories are going on the minibus, riding his bike, making plans to go to space with his friends, hatching the chicks and "everything is my favourite." His best memory is bringing Trev (his pony) in at Christmas.

And another card which we received....

Dear Grace

Thank you so much for everything you have done for Emilia this past year and the excellent care she has received during her whole time at Nursery. Emilia has grown in confidence and she has learnt so much during her time at Countryside. We really believe that Emilia could not have gone to a better nursery- Countryside is truly outstanding and I am always amazed by the level of planning and attention to detail you go to. You have been amazing and we will miss you so much!

And another card which we received....

Dear Grace

Words cannot describe not only our gratitude, but our admiration for all you do and all you put into CDN. Your care, thought and dedication shines through in all the children who attend, but we have had the pleasure of seeing it beam through William since he has been with you. The very fondest wishes to you all and much love.

Thank you so much to all of our 2023 parents and children for your very kind words about Countryside, it has been a privilege and a pleasure working with you all and we wish you our very best wishes as you begin school in September- Grace xxx

Ladybirds Learning Activities in July



Cooking up some treats together.



Exploring the sensory tray together.



Enjoying the Bead Frame.



Making marks in the sand.



Relaxing whilst enjoying a book.



Climbing high!



Getting creative together.



Tunnel Fun!



Lets explore the Farm sensory tray.

Hedgehogs Learning Activities in July



Three Little Pigs sensory tray.



Enjoying a walk in the meadow.



Is that Wiggly Woo?



Ball Pool fun in the garden.



Hedgehogs Puppet Show!



Using the rollers and cutters with the sparkly play dough.



Using blocks to explore the red paint.



So much fun in the puddles.!



Practising for sports day, ready, steady, go!

Little Squirrels Learning Activities in July



Making Slime.



Looking at Bugs and Mini Beasts a little more closely.



Giving our plants a drink of water.



Creating Pizzas.



Enjoying a Fruit Kebab which we made.



Beach sensory tray .



Watching Nursery recycling bin being emptied.



Ready, steady, go!



Getting creative working as a team.

Big Squirrels Learning Activities in July



Creating creatures with the play dough.



Look at us!!



Getting creative in the Meadow.



Fun in the rain.



Creating Caterpillars.



Lets get squeezing.



Cheese.....



Practising for Sports Day!



Cherry Pie!



Cosmic Yoga time.



A trip to Newent Lake.

Trip to Newent Lakes



In Big Squirrels we have been looking at our senses and we enjoyed a lovely trip around Newent Lake using our senses to see, hear touch and smell all the tasks which we had to achieve, on our scavenger hunt. What great fun we had!!



Trip to see the sheep being sheared.



On Thursday 20th July Big Squirrels had the opportunity to see some sheep being sheared. We travelled to Tirley and across a bumpy field in the bus, which was fun and made us all laugh, to find the sheep shearers busy at work. Shearer Rob, caught a lamb for us to stroke and then he kindly gave us all some wool to bring back to Nursery to take home. We also saw our friends farmer Bill and Farmer Andy there too- we had a wonderful time and learnt such a lot about this very old traditional skill.

Thank you to.....

Emily



Thank you so much to Emily for donating your lovely inflatable crab. The Ladybirds have really enjoyed playing with this and when we get the warm weather again we will be able to use it as a splash pool for our very young children. Thank you so much for thinking of us.

Rosie



Thank you so much to Rosie for kindly donating a microscope. As it happened the week you donated this Big Squirrels were looking at caterpillars and butterflies, so we had an amazing session looking at the details on a variety of minibeasts. Thank you so much Rosie for donating this wonderful new resource

Jacob



Thank you to Jacob so much for donating some wonderful books for us at Nursery. As much as we try and look after our books, you can imagine we do get through quite a few a year, so it is always lovely to receive some unexpected extras- thank you so much Jacob.

Beatrix and Bertie



Thank you so much to Bea and Bertie for bringing in some pots and pans following our request in the previous newsletter. I am so grateful for all of our parents for your continuous support at Nursery. We can't wait to use these on the Ladybird patio as musical instruments in their free-flow area, I am sure you will hear them being put to good use in the not so distant future- thank you so much Bea and Bertie

Thank you to.....

Penny



Thank you so much to Penny for donating your lovely toys and resources. We took these resources to the Ladybirds and the have really enjoyed shaking, rattling and rolling all of these new toys, as well as looking at the lovely feely book- thank you so much Penny.

Evelyn



Thank you so much to Evelyn for kindly donating these wonderful jigsaws. We always love a new jigsaw and jigsaw puzzles are so beneficial for the children's hand/eye co-ordination, vision, communication and language/ physical skills- the list is endless!! So thank you so much to Evelyn- we are very grateful

Please tell us your thoughts on....Survey Monkey

Here at Nursery we are always reflecting on our practise and trying to improve. We continuously encourage our parents to make suggestions through a variety of ways, some of which are as follows:-

There is a Suggestion box, which is located by the front wooden gate, on the left hand side, just by the notice board- please do post any suggestions into this box for us to read.

Via email or Tapestry- Please do write/ post any ideas/ suggestions to us through these methods- we are always wanting to hear your views and any possible ways in which we could improve.

Through Survey Monkey. I have devised a survey/ questionnaire which relates to our practise here at Countryside. Therefore, I would encourage all parents to complete this questionnaire- it shouldn't take very long and then I will be reporting back on the findings once I have collated all of the information. The link is as follows:-

<https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/a13M83FB60Ew809d52Z57r6p>

And just on another note.....

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continuous support here at Nursery. By working with us really does make the most massive difference to your child's development. We, as staff all know the "typical" ages and stages of children here at Nursery, we know the stage where your child is in their learning and how they are progressing with us. Therefore, when we are suggesting ideas for you to take home, this is purely to support you as parents and to assist with your child's learning and development. We are here to make your parenting journey easier, please do ask us if you need any advice or ideas- this is what we do every hour of every day- please make use of our knowledge and support to help you at home. Thank you. From Grace and all the team here at Countryside.

Big Squirrel—preparing for the final year—open evening 7th September at 7-00pm

Just a reminder to parents on Thursday 7th September at 7-00pm,- 8-00pm we would like to invite all of the 2024 school cohort children's parents/ carers to Nursery to have an informative evening discussing what we are going to complete in Big Squirrels for the forthcoming academic year and how we are going to prepare your child for school

We will also be talking about schools in September 2024 and we will have a power point offering information to parents about the application process.

Therefore, if you would like to attend this evening, please email Grace at:- info@countrysidedaynursery.co.uk and then I will book you places for the evening.

New Ready for Learning Programme

I have been looking over the last 12 months at introducing an exciting new tool to support early identification of children who may need additional help and input in their pre-school year as part of good quality, inclusive practice.

I am pleased to announce that here at Countryside we will be using a new Ready for Learning programme which will focus on four key areas: cognition and language, emotional resilience, daily living skills and family support.

Therefore, we will be carefully looking at each area, in the Autumn, Spring and Summer term to see how the children are developing in each of the 4 areas above as they begin preparing for school.

We also plan to share the outcomes from the programme with the reception teachers to support transitions to school, inclusive practice in the classrooms and for individual children to continue to receive support as required.

I am very excited to introduce this new tool here at Countryside and we will also speak more about this during our evening on 7th September

Visit from Beatrix's kittens



Thank you so much to Bea's parents and to Bea for bringing in your two wonderful kittens for the children to meet, see and stroke. Mo and Tee were the most well behaved kittens and they were very patient as they were stroked, tapped and sometimes listened to excited squeals from the children. It was a lovely experience for the children and we are so grateful to Bea's parents- thank you so much

Thank you to Beatrix



Thank you to Beatrix so much for donating the great game, Pop up Panda, for us to play at Nursery. We always love playing a game and this one is really good fun, it makes us laugh, and is fun- super for us here at Nursery- thank you so much Bea

Magic Moments

Please let us know if your child has done something exciting at home and we will celebrate it here with a Wow Certificate! It is really wonderful to see our children taking steps forward in their learning and development and they also love sharing their certificates with their friends during Circle Time.

Ladybirds: Congratulations to **Penelope** for practising really good walking and a huge well done to **Mabel** for using more words and sleeping in Hedgehogs- well girls. A huge well done to **Angus** for eating so well at Nursery and enjoying every meal, well done to **Kit** for settling so well at Nursery and well done to **Henry C** for using the potty at Nursery- you are such clever children. Also, a massive congratulations to **Ryan** for completing some amazing walking, to **Rory** for being so helpful, to **Zeta** for being so kind to your friends and to **Henry W** for sitting so well on a big boy's chair and enjoying your ice-cream and mango puree.

Hedgehogs: Well done to **Harper** for wearing pants and sleeping in a big girls bed, well done that is amazing. Well done to **Harry** for sleeping in a big boys bed, to **Wilbur** for giving up his dummies and **Jacob** being brave moving house- such great achievements, well done Hedgehogs

Little Squirrels: Congratulations to **Arthur, Otilie, Eleanor** and **Martha** for winning a race at sports day. A huge well done to **Arthur** for being so brave with his injections, well to **Sebastian** for being brave in hospital and finally a massive well done to **Emily** for sleeping without a nappy- what clever children you are- amazing achievements- well done

Big Squirrels: Well done to **Penny** for being such a great helper at home when helping to cook, a huge well done to **Monty** for getting a swimming badge and for moving into a new swimming group, another well done to **Ned** for also moving into a new swimming group. We say congratulations to **Rufus** for completing some amazing counting 2 and 3 digit figures in columns, well done to **Evelynn** for sharing her excellent knowledge of rules when cooking and well done to **Henry** for being brave when holding a python. Also, a huge well done to **Thea** for settling so well into your new clubs- gym bobs and rainbows, a massive well done to **Arthur** for building an amazing mega model with the duplo and a huge well done to **Bertie** for swimming independently on holiday. Then last but by no means least we say a huge well done to **Arlo, Alexander** and **Fred** for their achievements at super strikers this year- well done boys and the biggest well done to all of our Big Squirrel friends- we are very proud of you.- you are definitely all ready for school!!

Congratulations to all of you superstars!

Grandparents afternoon- Friday 6th October 4-00pm-5-00pm in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support

On Friday 6th October, we would like to invite the grandparents/ relatives to see their children here at Nursery for some fun activities from 4-00-5-00pm and to enjoy a piece of cake and tea/coffee upstairs. We are opening the Nursery up for the relatives of the children who attend on that Friday afternoon and it would be lovely for you to see your children here at the setting. We will also be raising funds for the Macmillan Cancer support, so if you would like to donate on the day, please feel free. However, above all, we would like to share with you the activities which your children enjoy here at the setting.

Please email me at info@countysidedaynursery.co.uk if you would like to book places for your child's grandparents/ relatives to attend and I will make sure the place is booked for them. Please do advise if any of your relatives have mobility aids and then we will make sure that we have the rooms set up to facilitate these. Many thanks as always- Grace

