



Countryside Day Nursery Newsletter

August 2024

Sports day and Leavers Ceremony- Tuesday 9th and Wednesday 10th 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.

I feel 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. Therefore, 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 2024 school leavers and put improvements into place to further develop our practice.

On sports day this year, one of our parents read out the most amazing speech, thanking us in Big Squirrels and also thanking the whole of the Nursery. Here are some of the extracts of that wonderful speech.

"Most of our Big Squirrels have been in your care since Ladybirds - tiny little people. These children start with you and the level of care is so extraordinary, they don't leave until it's time up. The trust and connection you have formed with all of us parents has been exceptional from day one. Our safety net when challenging moments arise, our 'go to' when we really don't know what to do. To be the place where a parent can let their guard down and open up their short comings is a space that isn't very easily achieved. 30 years of experience in caring for children, parental challenges and your ability to support us shines through.

There really are no words we can say to express our gratitude, 'the actions of these little people really do speak louder than our words'. The growth in every single one of them since day one but especially in the last year has been truly magical to experience. We have never seen dedication and commitment as we have experienced from you, Grace and your unbelievable team. You truly go above and beyond.

We have seen our children evolve before our eyes and so much of this is down to you and your ad- amance that we as parents commit to this transformation. Your Friday evening posts and videos in Big Squirrels, not one ever missed, your consistency, the level of planning and incredible detail is something very unique to Countryside - something all of us parents have always been in awe of.

You teachers are one of a kind. This patience, day in, day out is special. The tears you wipe, dirty hands you clean, and food smeared faces, the stories you have so passionately told, every shoe you have tied and friendship you've repaired, yet whilst so importantly encouraging the most wonderful independence. When we drop our precious little people off with you we know they are 'safe', they are 'genuinely cared for', they are 'taught', they have their eyes opened to 'nature' and the 'world around them'. This is something many parents have highlighted to me in the last few days, how lucky we and our children are to have the incredible space for them to explore and learn in, the lambs, the hatching chicks, watching the transformation of tadpoles into frogs, the meadow, you really don't get any better.

You wonderful teachers take on the very special role of nurturing our children when we can't be there and have given them and us the confidence to move on from this exquisite chapter. We, all us parents, grandpar- ents, carers, siblings, and beautiful big squirrels are grateful for you and forever will be. Countryside Day Nursery and all that is encompasses is a very very special place, that not one of us will ever forget in this rollercoaster of a journey we call raising our children."

What an amazing testimony this was and I was particularly emotional when the parent read this on the stage on behalf of all of our Big Squirrel Parents. It was the most wonderful surprise.

So thank you so much to all of our 2024 parents and children for your very kind words about Coun- tryside, 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 2024



Ice cream sensory tray.



Exploring the sand tray together.



Mark making with the large chalks.

Bubble popping fun.



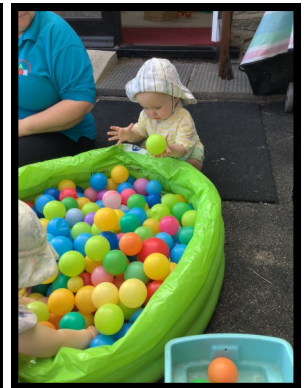
Practicing our climbing.



Creative time.



Music time.



Exploring the Ball pit



Exploring the ICT toys together.



Fun in the free flow.



Practising our fine motor skills.



Waterplay in the garden.

Hedgehogs Learning Activities in July 2024



Emptying and filling pots.



Getting creative with stickers.



Making marks and patterns.



Collecting the eggs.



Sand tray fun.



Enjoying a walk in the meadow.



Enjoying relaxing with a book.



Having fun in the large sand pit.



Shaving foam fun.



Mark making with the dabbers.



Fun exploring the boat.



Cooling off with water play.

Little Squirrels Learning Activities in July 2024



Large sandpit fun.



Checking our Nursery chickens.



Getting creative with play dough.



Having fun in the garden.



Practicing our balancing on the trim trail.



Exploring the sensory tray.



Pond Dipping.



Creating our weather pictures.



Watering our flowers.



Colouring in our holiday transport pictures.

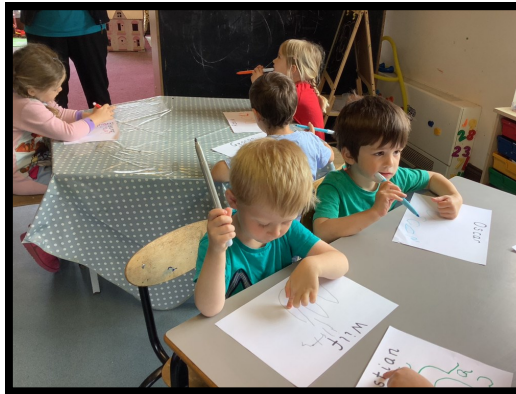


Having fun in the sunshine.

Big Squirrels Learning Activities in July 2024



Bubble blowing.



Practising writing our names.



Having a splashing time!



Building structures together.



Cutting up fruit for our snack .



Creating a large group painting.



Hook a Duck.



Getting creative with the magnetic tiles.



Having fun on the trim trail.



Number hunt recognition.



We picked our first courgette!



Creating our Rainbow Fish.

Children's Christmas Party Day

As Christmas is approaching, as a staff team we have been thinking about organising a Christmas party day for the children here at Countryside.

So the parties will all be on one day- Monday 9th December and at one venue- Corse and Staunton Village Hall, Gloucester Road, Staunton, Gloucester Rd, Corse, Gloucester GL19 3RQ . The timings will be as follows:-

Hedgehog Party	9-30am-11-00am—Children will travel in the Nursery bus,
Big Squirrel Party	11-30pm- 1-00pm- Children will travel in the Nursery bus.
Little Squirrel Party	2-00pm- 3-30pm- Children will travel in the Nursery bus.

If it is your child's session on Monday 9th December, we will have the staff to look after your child, however, if it is not your child's session, please make arrangements to bring your child and stay with them at the hall. If parents are attending Hedgehogs party and it is your child's session, please can you bring them back to Nursery yourself rather than travelling on the bus.

Each room will have further information nearer the time, with permission forms and food lists, to ensure that the children have a memorable a fabulous time

I am sure that you will all realise that the Ladybird Room isn't on the list for a party at the hall- this is because these children are so little and transport is so tricky, however, Nicole and Issy will be organising some extra special Christmas activities for the babies during this week at Nursery.

Big Squirrels Nativity Play- Corse & Staunton Village Hall

This year we are planning a Nursery Nativity for the children who are due to begin school in September 2025 (children in Big Squirrels). The dates will be as follows:-

Tuesday 10th December morning all children need to be dropped off at the hall at 8-00am where we will have a dress rehearsal in the morning and a show for our grandparents at 1-30pm in the afternoon

Wednesday 11th December- We will take the children down to the hall in the afternoon if they are here at Nursery, but if your child doesn't attend in the afternoon, please can you drop your child off at the hall at 1-30pm for a Matinee performance at 2-00pm for all parents to watch. More details will follow in due course.

Big Squirrels- 2025 cohort. Preparing for your child's final year at Countryside—open evening 5th September at 7-00pm

On Thursday 5th September at 7-00pm- 8-00pm Grace, Laura and Michelle (Big Squirrels) would like to invite all of the 2025 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 school applications and we will have a power point offering information to parents about this process.

We will also be showing you, how we use the "ready for school learning programme" which is a great programme to support each child in Big Squirrels

We would encourage as many parents as possible as we always say in Big Squirrels, the more you work with us during this final year, the more prepared your child will be for school. This really does make a massive difference to help consolidate your child's learning and set them up to be confident happy active life long learners- exciting times ahead!!

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

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 **Stella** for sleeping on a mat at Nursery. Well done to **Hanna** for listening so well to instructions at Nursery. Congratulations to **Sienna** for coming into Nursery happily. Well done to **Isaac** for using a spoon independently at mealtimes and for taking your first steps. Congratulations to **Ronan** and **Hazel** for sleeping on a mat at Nursery. Well done to **Ronan** for using a spoon independently at mealtimes and congratulations to **Florence** for using more words at Nursery.

Hedgehogs: Well done to **Josie** for doing so well wearing pants.

Little Squirrels: Congratulations to **Santi** and **Emily** for doing so well with potty training. Well done to **Jacob**, **Wyatt** and **Wilbur** for being brave having your vaccinations. Well done to **Fflur** for staying in bed until light goes yellow.

Big Squirrels: Well done to **Ottillie F** for being so super helpful at home doing jobs and for also being a super-star at school. Congratulations to **Poppy** for being such a helpful big sister. Well done to **Erin** for being a very good big sister.

Congratulations to all of you superstars!

Christmas Closing Dates

Dates for Christmas Break 2024
Friday 20th December 2024-Nursery closes @
5-45pm

Thursday 2nd January 2025-Nursery re-opens @ 8am
