

Dear Families,



Welcome to our November newsletter. Autumn is truly underway and the splendid colours around us have given all the children the opportunity to link some of their Autumn provocations – colours, foods and natural materials – to the environment around them.

Thank you to everyone who donated to our food collection to celebrate Harvest Festival. Your generosity was amazing – we filled five large bags and the children took it all to St Mary's Church as part of their harvest celebrations. In November we will be raising money for Children in Need so please watch out for more information on how to join in and contribute.

The days are shorter and evenings darker but the children will still be exploring outside; lights, fireworks, Autumn foods and cooking will also be on the agenda for November. This will naturally lead onto Christmas, festive celebrations, treats and surprises for all to enjoy.

Thank you to the many families who completed our Nursery surveys. It is wonderful feedback for the whole team that you feel we have settled your children so well. All comments and suggestions are valued, shared and reflected on together.

The deadline to claim additional grant funding (30 hours) for Spring 2018 qualifying children is 31st December. Please apply online at www.childcarechoices.gov.uk to obtain your eligibility code so that you can claim the additional grant hours with us or another Setting. Please apply as soon as possible so you do not miss the deadline. Parents claiming the 30 hours or using Tax Free Childcare should reconfirm their eligibility every 3 months. If you have any questions about grant funding, please contact Sarah our Finance Manager.

Finally – the big news! Carolyn Rampton – Toddler Room Manager and Deputy Manager got married on October 13th and is now Mrs Mildenhall. Sadly however, she will be leaving Yellow Dot and we must say "Goodbye" and a 'huge thank you' on Friday 24 November. Amanda Shand has been promoted to Deputy and Jess Allmark Toddler Room Manager. Congratulations to all three and we wish everyone good luck in their new roles.

Best Wishes

Catherine Clifton

Nursery Manager



Diary Dates

- **Kindergarten Nativity Dress Rehearsal**
14th November 2.30pm
- **Kindergarten Nativity**
Friday 15th December 3pm
- **Bonfire Night**
5th November
- **Remembrance Day**
11th November
- **Children in Need**
Friday 17th November
- **Close for Christmas** Friday
22nd December 6pm
- **Re-open**
Tuesday 2nd January 2018
- **EYFS Evening**
22nd January

Babies

Babies have had lots of fun investigating the colours and textures of Autumn. We have been getting out in the community to enjoy lots of fresh air the changing colours around us. We have had a wonderful time exploring crunchy leaves and tissue paper, pine cones and wood in our sensory tray. It's been very exciting discovering these new textures and we look forward to continuing this interest.



Toddlers

During October Toddler Blue has been investigating Autumn. The children showed particular interest in the real fruit and vegetables, feeling the different textures and transporting them from one container to another. They have loved our walks to collect fresh, crunchy leaves, running through them and throwing them up into the air. We brought the leaves back to nursery and use them in are craft experiences. During November we will be exploring our 'in the kitchen' provocation which has stemmed from the children's interest in the fruit and vegetables and different containers. We will be cooking some Autumn inspired treats, and also continuing to explore texture and sounds.

The older Toddlers have done lots of Autumn cooking already. They helped to buy the ingredients and then made apple and cinnamon and jam tarts. The children also explored leaves, conkers and pine cones using them for sensory exploration and mark making in paint and enjoyed water play as they explored what sinks and what floats and why.



Transition

The children in Transition had a very busy October. They have been out and about looking at Autumn colours and leaves. Exploring fruit and vegetables led to cutting squash and pumpkins, cooking them, then making fresh pasta ravioli with a pumpkin filling. The children also explored lights linked to Diwali, the Festival of Lights. During November this will link up with Bonfire Night and the colours and lights of fireworks. The children have also been fascinated by the lights and sirens of emergency vehicles and we will be looking to incorporate this into our activities and experiences.



Kindergarten

Kindergarten children have also been busy, out and about. They have been exploring the park looking at Autumn colours. They joined in Harvest celebrations by delivering the food items collected in nursery to St Mary's Church and also visited the high street, enjoying a "babycino" to keep the cold weather out. They will be starting to rehearse their Nativity during November and look forward to all families joining them on Friday 15th December at St Mary's Church.

