

Dear Families,

October brought the beautiful season of Autumn to our door step at Yellow Dot. This time of year always brings lots of interest and wonderful conversations during walks with the children around our community. The children and Team have enjoyed collecting and investigating those Autumn treasures of conkers, colourful shaped leaves, acorns and of course colourful pumpkins.

October continued in a colourful and bright vein as we celebrated Diwali, The Festival of Light. This leads us to November where the sky will soon be lit up with bright sparkly fireworks and the smell of bonfires and sounds of whizzing and banging will bring much excitement.

Thank you to all our grandparents who came and shared their smiles with us, we had a wonderful time sharing stories and playing in our garden showing them what we like to do at Yellow Dot.

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](http://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 Chrissie our Finance Manager.

Finally, as the beginnings and ends of the days get darker, please can we ask that you are extra vigilant with little walkers whilst entering and exiting our car park.

Many thanks.

*Lynne Carrigan*  
Nursery Manager



## Nature

Nature is something that surrounds our children, it can enhance their freedom during play and have many development benefits. Children tend to be curious about what they explore in the outdoors, spiders is a favourite find here in our garden. Enjoying those conversations and encouraging those questions about what we see and how spiders spin those complex and beautiful webs is a fabulous experience for them. Children love to learn and take great pride in learning something new. There are huge learning opportunities in nature.

## Dates

- **Bonfire Night**  
5<sup>th</sup> November
- **Remembrance Day**  
11<sup>th</sup> November
- **Children in Need**  
17<sup>th</sup> November
- **Kindergarten Nativity**  
11<sup>th</sup> December
- **Close for Christmas**  
22<sup>nd</sup> December
- **Re-open**  
2<sup>nd</sup> January

## Babies

During October the Babies explored different Nursery rhymes and the children were very interested in 'Baa Baa Black Sheep' and 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star'. Music and songs makes our Babies smile and we love to share our favourite songs with them. Our Babies also enjoy discovering sounds and we have been exploring ways in which they can do this as they investigate sounds which are loud and sound which are quiet.



## Toddlers

In Toddlers we have introduced Diwali by tasting different foods and being creative with colours. We've been enjoying walks in our local community and all that Autumn brings us, the changing colours and falling of the leaves created lovely conversation. We have been using leaves to print with, observing the shape and structure of the leaf and what wonderful patterns they have and then creating our own patterns. Together we look forward to the darker evenings being lit up on Bonfire Night.



## Transition

The children have been experimenting with colours. They have been mixing colours to see the changes, this relates well to the changing colours of the season which the children have had the opportunity to see as we all enjoyed walks through Otterbourne. The children have also enjoyed creating prints and leaf rubbings as they experimented with making marks using the leaves they collected on their walks. In November we will be continuing to explore the seasons, looking at the continuing changes as Autumn begins to turn to winter.



## Kindergarten

Kindergarten children have enjoyed all things Autumn. Taking their inspiration from local walks, the children spent time carefully drawing things which represent this colourful season. They were also very lucky to have Kirsty from Pyjama Drama come and lead them in an energetic drama and song session with the focus being on Autumn colours.

The children really enjoyed their experiences at the beach and were able to retell their adventures on their return to Nursery. This wonderful time of year also brings us the gleaming colours and lights of Diwali and Bonfire Night allowing the children to explore different cultures and traditions and make links between them.

