

Santa Bus is coming to town!

12 charities
20 nights
20 routes



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move into this joyful and busy time of year, I'd like to thank all our families for their continued support and engagement within our nursery community. The past few weeks have been full of learning, play, and exploration, and it has been wonderful to see the children thriving. Their confidence is growing, friendships are blossoming, and they have embraced every opportunity and activity with such enthusiasm.

With the festive season fast approaching, we are already getting into the Christmas spirit. The children will be enjoying plenty of seasonal crafts, songs, and celebrations as we count down to the big day. It's always a magical time, and we're looking forward to making lots of special memories together.

We are delighted to be working in partnership with Brighton and Hove Buses as an official collection point for their Santa Bus.

Throughout December, we will be holding parent meetings to discuss children's progress, development, and next steps. These meetings are a lovely opportunity to talk about how your child is getting on both at nursery and at home, and to celebrate everything they've achieved.

Zoja

Dates for your diary

January

- **Thursday 1st** – New Year's Day (Nursery Closed)
- **Friday 23rd – Sunday 25th** – RSPB Big Bird Watch
- **Thursday 29th** – RNLI Day

February

- **Monday 1st - Friday 6th** – National Storytelling Week
- **Friday 6th** – National Wear Red Day
- **Tuesday 17th** – Random Act of Kindness Day
- **Tuesday 17th** – Pancake Day
- **Tuesday 17th – Tuesday 3rd March** – Chinese New Year celebrations

March

- **Tuesday 3rd** – Holi
- **Thursday 5th** – World Book Day
- **Monday 9th – Friday 13th** – British Science Week
- **Sunday 15th** – Mother's Day
- **Friday 20th** – Spring Equinox
- **Friday 20th** – Red Nose Day

April

- **National Pet Month**
- **Friday 3rd until Monday 6th** – Easter
- **Tuesday 14th** – Vaisakhi
- **Wednesday 15th** – World Art Day
- **Wednesday 22nd** – World Earth Day
- **Saturday 25th** – Open Day
- **Wednesday 29th** – International Dance Day



Toddler Den

Our toddlers have been bursting with creativity and curiosity as they explored a world of colour, texture, and sensory delight! They have absolutely loved creating their own firework artwork, using vibrant paints and sparkling glitter to swirl, dab, and flick across the page—just like dazzling fireworks lighting up the night sky. Their eyes shone with excitement as they experimented with different tools and techniques, discovering how colours blend and shine when mixed together.

Another magical experience has been our colourful shaving foam play. With paint added to soft, foamy swirls, the children watched colours mix and transform right beneath their fingertips. It has been a beautiful way to encourage sensory exploration, creativity, and fine motor development—complete with plenty of giggles along the way!

We've also been embracing the autumn and spooky season with pumpkin playdough making. The children measured, mixed, squished, and kneaded their dough with great enthusiasm, engaging every sense as they explored texture, temperature, and the wonderful seasonal scent. Our Halloween-themed sensory tray has also been a big hit, filled with spooky rice and tiny seasonal treasures for scooping, pouring, hiding, and discovering. It has sparked great imagination and provided endless opportunities for sensory play, communication, and social interaction.

Outdoors, our curious little explorers have continued to grow in confidence and physical skill, enjoying the freedom to climb, balance, and run throughout the garden. The muddy area has been a firm favourite—the children have proudly created mud pies, dug, splashed, and embraced the joy of messy play in nature. Their happy, muddy smiles say it all!

Continue at home

Create a simple autumn sensory tray using dried pasta, rice, leaves, sticks, or conkers? Add a few scoops, spoons, or small containers to encourage pouring and transferring. Activities like this support fine motor skills, imagination, language development, and provide a lovely seasonal sensory experience.



Pre-School

Last term, our preschool children were incredibly lucky to experience something truly inspiring – a visit from our local Police Department and Firefighters. The children were full of excitement as they explored the police vehicle, listened to the sirens, and learned about the important work these real-life heroes do every day to keep our community safe. They especially loved trying on helmets, asking questions, and seeing some of the equipment up close. It was a wonderful hands-on experience that sparked curiosity, confidence, and lots of proud smiles.

We also celebrated a beautiful harvest season at preschool. The children enjoyed themed activities, stories, and discussions about nature, food, and the importance of kindness and giving. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of our families – your heartfelt donations to our chosen charity made a real difference and taught the children the value of sharing with others. Thank you so much for your continued support. Together, we are helping to nurture not only young minds, but caring hearts as well.

Continue at home

Encourage your child to create their own "community heroes" role-play at home. Using simple props such as hats, badges, or toy tools, they can act out different jobs like firefighters, police officers, or doctors. This supports imagination, communication, and helps children understand the important roles people play in keeping us safe and caring for our community.

Recipe of the Month

BEETROOT BROWNIE

INGREDIENTS:

- 500g whole raw beetroot
- 100g unsalted butter, plus extra for the tin
- 200g 70% cocoa chocolate
- 1 tspn vanilla extract
- 100g caster sugar
- 3 eggs
- 100g plain flour
- 25g cocoa powder

Instructions

1. Wearing a pair of rubber gloves to stop your hands from staining – top, tail and peel the beetroot – you'll need about 400g flesh.
2. Roughly chop and put into a large bowl. Add a splash of water, cover with cling film, pierce, then microwave on High for 12 mins or until tender.
3. Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4.
4. While the beetroot cooks, butter then line a 20 x 30cm traybake or small roasting tin.
5. Roughly chop the chocolate and cut the butter into cubes. Tip the cooked beetroot into a sieve, drain off any excess liquid, then put into a food processor or blender with the chocolate, butter and vanilla.
6. Whizz until the mix is as smooth as you can get it. The chocolate and butter will melt as you do this.
7. Put the sugar and eggs into a large bowl, then beat using an electric hand whisk until thick, pale and foamy, about 2 mins.
8. Spoon the beetroot mix into the sugar and eggs, and use a large metal spoon to fold together.
9. Sift in the flour and cocoa powder, then gently fold to make a smooth batter.
10. Pour into the prepared tin and bake for 25 mins or until risen all over, with just the merest quiver under the centre of the crust when you shake the pan. Cool completely in the tin, then cut into squares.



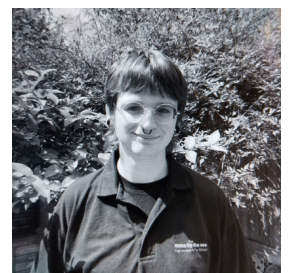
Recent Training

Staff training this term has included Olivia completing her TASTED training, and Zoja completing her DSL training with Brighton and Hove.



Colleague Spotlight

Moli joined our team in June 2025 and has been an instant hit! The children adore her warmth, kindness, and playful energy. With prior experience working in schools, she supports our little ones perfectly as they prepare for their next big steps. Outside of nursery, Moli enjoys chess, drama, and spending time with her schnauzer, Ramona. We feel incredibly lucky to have her on our team – professional, caring, and full of fun!



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