

# Longacre Day Nursery

## November News Letter

### Message from the Manager

It is hard to believe that it is November already and on a personal note I feel the past two months since I joined Longacre have flown by. I have found everyone to be so welcoming and I am enjoying getting to know all of the children's personalities.

Thank you so much to everyone that attended our Parents Evenings, there was such a great response and we hope you all found our 'Meet and Greet' to be a positive experience. As explained at the sessions we will be holding more formal parent consultations in January and June, where your key person will have completed a Development Summary for your child and will discuss this with you, along with their planned next steps for

### The Baby Room

The children in the Baby Room have been thoroughly enjoying the seasonal change and have really welcomed the arrival of autumn. The children have loved being out in the garden and exploring the different fallen leaves. They have had great fun watching how they fall as they throw them up in the air or how the wind blows them around. Some of the children have particularly enjoyed collecting and transporting the leaves; pushing them in wheel barrows or carrying them in buckets. The leaves have also been used to make printing pictures and the children have been learning about autumnal colours.



### Toddlers and Preschool

The Toddler and Preschool children have also been learning about autumn. They too have enjoyed exploring the many leaves in the garden. The children have collected them and then used the leaves for a variety of different counting activities and have made an interactive number line to learn about the sequence that numbers come in and also making groups of leaves; learning about the value of each number. The children have also been introduced to some Montessori activities that support mathematical development.

The children have also explored autumnal colours and have experimented with mixing them together, using the paint to make hand prints which they have then cut out to make their own autumnal tree for the play room.

Some of the Toddler and Preschool children have shown a particular interest in the books; 'Going on a bear hunt' and the 'Gruffalo', key people have extended this by acting it out in the garden, which was great fun.



## Halloween

All of the children have had lots of fun participating in all the Halloween activities. They have made spooky ghosts with tissue paper, sponge painted pumpkins, hand printed spiders and much more ghoulish crafty fun.

The children have also explored pumpkins by scooping out the seeds and flesh; exploring the texture and thinking of words to describe it e.g. squishy, slimy, yucky, stinky and more. The children have also been supported to carve out their own design on some of the pumpkins.

'Room on the Broom' has been a favourite book for Halloween and the Toddler and Preschool children enjoyed mixing 'potions' and making up funny rhyming spells turning us all into frogs and other weird and wonderful creatures.

We celebrated Halloween by dressing up as witches and wizards and all the children and staff looked amazing, and we thank parents/carers for supporting their children to do this as it really helped create a festive spirit and atmosphere for the day and of course, we had a Halloween themed menu with 'Battered Toads, Mouldy Mash, Creepy Crispy Cabbage, jellied bugs, pumpkin pie' and many more tasty delights.



## Staff Changes

As some of you may be aware Louise from the Baby Room is leaving us at the beginning of November to have her baby, and I'm sure you join us in wishing her well. This, of course, means that we have to rearrange the staff to accommodate. We do have a lovely lady named Abby, which some of you may know, who is potentially returning to nursery at the end of her maternity leave, however this is yet to be confirmed and would not likely happen until January. Therefore Connor will be joining Mandy in the Baby Room and then should Abby return she will also be based with the Babies covering their non-working days. Connor is enthusiastic to be joining the Baby Room and has a particular interest in the developmental stages of this age range. Emily will be taking over Connor's current key children. She already knows the children well and is looking forward to continuing to support their learning.

## Dates for Diary/Upcoming Events

7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> November is National Nursery Rhyme Week. Children can bring in their favourite nursery rhyme books or CDs. Please ensure these are labelled.

21<sup>st</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> November is National Road Safety Week and we will be teaching the older children about road safety

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November  
**Parents Workshop** at Broughton Cottage Nursery from 8.45am to 9.45am  
'An Introduction to the EYFS and Montessori Approach for Babies'.

Week Commencing 5<sup>th</sup> December, we will be putting up our Christmas Tree please help your children to make their own decoration for the tree.