

Nursery 2016-17



Hedgehog class

Teacher: Miss Bond

EYP: Mrs Lambert

26 children

Our Year in the Hedgehog class

I have enjoyed my return to Early Years, working alongside a fantastic Early Years Practitioner, Yvonne Lambert. We have shared a wonderful year working with such enthusiastic learners! We have created many enjoyable learning experiences and we hope the children will be leaving Nursery with many fond memories.

This year has been full of challenge and adventure with a focus on learning through play, following the children's interests. I feel that my understanding of the Early Years curriculum has grown and matured this year. I feel that I understand the ethos of children needing time to explore, learn through play and follow their individual interests to reach their full potential.



Playing alongside each other

This year has been a successful time in Nursery. Our 52 places were filled within the first half term and the children attended full time sessions (9am - 3pm x5 days) after their initial staggered entry. The two classes have worked together as a unit, giving children free flow between the two rooms and the outdoor garden. Children have responded well to the opportunities that we have provided and have made good progress in all areas of their development.



To welcome the children into nursery we followed a staggered entry which enable children to build up relationships with the staff in smaller groups.



I was amazed how well the children settled and by half term the majority of children walked happily through the door with a smile on their faces.



Playing collaboratively...



Sharing experiences...



Supporting and encouraging...



Autumn Term

The Autumn term began with a *Getting to Know You* topic which allowed children to build new relationships with peers and staff and feel more secure in their new environment. We welcomed parents to "Stay and Play" sessions, giving them opportunities to see some of the learning that had taken place and look and comment on their child's Learning Journey file.



During the Autumn term, children formed relationships with both staff and peers and began to explore their indoor and outdoor environment...



Great balance Michael!



Sharing tools, it's time to dig.



Collecting autumn leaves



The children began to learn how to get ready themselves...waterproofs and wellies



Exploring in the water with colour and textures



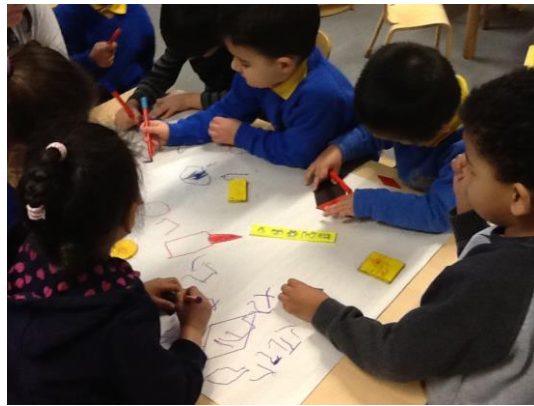
We love to read



Counting the caterpillars legs



Our class loves the play dough table



Mark making

As the weather turned colder I was impressed that the children still wanted to play and learn outdoors!



Here you can see the children enhancing the outdoors by decoration the willow with Christmas baubles.



Celebrating birthdays is always special in our setting.



The children love to make their own music.



Investigations are so much fun



What a magical time of year! The children helped to decorate the tree.

Our visit to the Metro Centre...





We visited the Metro Centre to see the Christmas lights and to buy a class bear from the Bear Factory.

Our new class bears; Topsy and Tim



Topsy and Tim have been our home/school bears this year. Two children each night were chosen to take the bears home. The next day the children have enthused telling their friends what fun they had the night before. This has been a great speaking and listening tool.

Time for our Christmas performance...



The boys and girls made us very proud performing to a large audience!



The first term was over and I was amazed at how well the children had settled; they had made special friends, they were comfortable and confident in their setting and they were all making progress!

Spring Term

What better way to begin the New Year with a visit to 'the trim trail'

The children really enjoy getting dressed appropriately to explore the outdoors in wet and cold conditions.



I valued the positive impact I had witnessed last year using Peer Massage in Key Stage 1 and I was eager to implement it in Nursery. I tried; but failed. It was a step too far for younger children, but I would not be defeated! We decided to bridge the gap with Yoga until the children were a little older and ready to join the rest of the school with Peer Massage. Everyday when my class regroup after lunchtime, we spend 5 minutes doing Yoga...





I quickly learnt that learning takes place constantly, even when sat around a 'campfire'. The children began to count around the circle, which led to singing number songs, which led to counting minibeasts, trees, passing cars, the new houses being built...anything and everything!



Later in the term we were visited by a 'maths pirate'. The children learnt about shapes through song...



Chinese New Year...



...food tasting



...dragon dancing.

After reading "We're going on a bear hunt" Sam and Alfie decided they would make a train and find the bears who lived in our garden. Lots of friends joined in and rich language could be heard.



After half term we decided our children were ready to begin RWI phonics. Our phonics lessons last 10 minutes everyday and the children have responded so well.



The end of term was quickly approaching as a new addition joined Bridgewater.
She came to visit us...



Hedgehogs meet Misty!

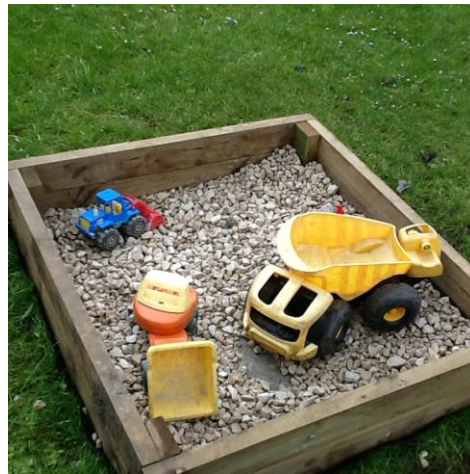


Summer Term

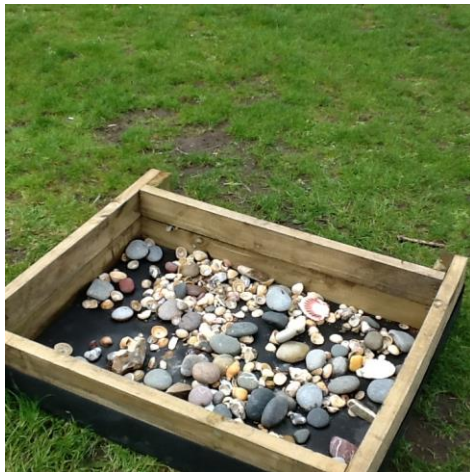
Nursery were excited to return to see our new exciting outdoor areas...



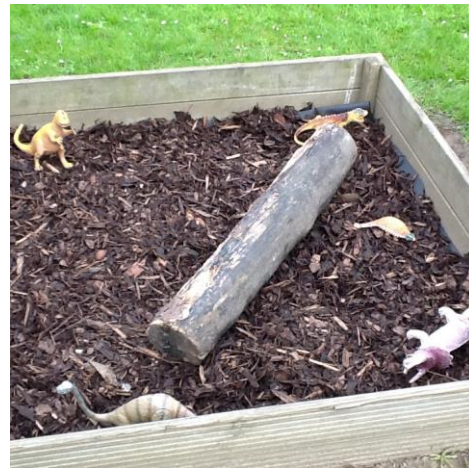
The rolling zone



Pebble pit



Shell pit



Bark pit

This years 'Enterprise week' brought many surprises to our class. Our children have high hopes for their future jobs and careers...



Eva "I will be a nurse and save lives and poorly babies"



Daisy "I will be a good teacher and teach you lots of stuff"



Vihaan "I will be a manager"



Jake "I will be a fireman and save people"

After reading the story 'The three little pigs' the girls used lots of different construction materials to make their own houses.



We learnt lots about animals and their babies before our exciting trip to Hall Hill Farm...





As usual, the staff at Hall Hill farm passed comments throughout the day about how well mannered and lovely our children are!

Of course, I had to agree!

I have thoroughly enjoyed this year in Nursery

As the photographs show, we have had a fun filled, action packed year showing good progress by all children.

I wish my class all the best for their future education at Bridgewater and beyond!



Class of 2016-17