



## Arnold Lodge Prepcare Nursery Newsletter November 2023

Welcome to the November Arnold Lodge Nursery Newsletter!  
It has been a busy month so far, and only set to get busier with lots of lovely Christmassy things planned!

### Staffing updates

As hopefully you are aware, Alba has started with us as our new Deputy Manager and Room Leader of the Tweenie Room – she has settled in fantastically and is busy getting to know all the children and staff team.

Natalie Synders is due to start with us next week (27<sup>th</sup>) as the full time Room Leader and Early Years Teacher in Pre-school. She brings lots of valuable Early Years experience. Natalie and Jane will be taking on Alex and Jeanette's Key Children when they leave.

I also wanted to let you know that Sharron is currently taking some time off to support her husband who is unwell. Therefore, Rachel has moved through from Tweenies temporarily to support the room on a full time basis. Olga, Olivia and Miya are all still consistently in the room caring for and teaching the children. Rachel's Key children in the Tweenies are being supported by Alba, Itishree, Jen, Gina and Alice.

I am still recruiting for another full time member of staff to support the baby Room. We are sending Sharron love and thinking of her and her husband.

### Baby Room

The babies have taken part in some spooky activities for Halloween, developing their fine motor skills by searching for spiders in jelly and playdough. They have also made poppies to commemorate Remembrance Day.

Mahi's mum very kindly came to visit to celebrate Diwali and share some traditions with the children and staff. The children listened to a story about Peppa Pig celebrating Diwali, as well as making dias from playdough and salutes from pipe cleaners. Thank you so much to Mahi's Mum!

The children also came in dressed in yellow or spots for Children in Need, took part in some finger painting and decorated cakes with smarties for spots. We raised £46 for Children in Need as a Nursery!



## Tweenie Room

The Tweenies have started learning Makaton this month in a natural and fun way, and through real life experiences, which allows the children to use the sings of the week in context.

The children have loved exploring and looking at their family board, which contains photographs from home – thank you for sending these in! This gives them the opportunity to share their experiences and helps them to recall past events and significant people.

The classroom has been adapted and changed recently, providing more space for the children to use the home corner, and to build effectively, as well as use the cosy den to read lots of stories and share books.

The tweenies have also been continuing to develop their independent skills, scraping their plates after lunch, washing their hands and choosing their own snacks.

This week the children have loved food tasting with some interesting and exotic fruits – this has coincided with their sing of the week, which is ‘to eat’.



## Pre-School Room

A very busy few weeks with lots of exciting and interesting activities – We finished our Pre School Detectives book “The Lost Glasses”, all the children are in the story and they have loved helping to put this together and seeing their photos on the pages of the story, another best seller!! We have made lanterns with pumpkins, painted self- portraits and shared news at circle time about our Diwali celebrations. The children had fun printing and making patterns with bright colours to represent fireworks. We have also been looking at numbers and counting small sets. We do a little “Spanish” each day and it really is surprising how much they know, they sometimes just take a guess at a word now which is just wonderful!

You will probably have noticed that we are introducing new songs ready for the concert on the 11<sup>th</sup> December, after just a week they are all singing along... jingle, jingle, jingle all the way!!!



And finally...

**Christmas 2023 dates to remember:**

Baby Room Singalong & Party – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2:30-4pm

Tweenie Room Singalong & Party – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2:30-4pm

Pre-School Christmas Performance at the church – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December, 9:30am

Pre-School Party – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2:30pm

Our observation process

Over the last few weeks we have been reviewing and updating our observation, planning and assessment process. Following this, we will be moving to a system where we record observations of the children's learning and carrying out next steps once every 2 weeks. The reason for this, is so that the activities can be more tailored to each child's individual learning, rather than doing blanket learning for all the children, whether it is significant for them or not. This obviously comes with an increase in work load for the staff team, and so to ensure this is manageable, observations will be taken and sent home once every 2 weeks. Rest assured, children will still be engaging in exciting learning every week! We will just be changing the way we record and deliver the learning.

I hope you have a great rest of the month, and if there's ever anything I can help you with, please let me know!

Natalie ☺  
Nursery Manager

