

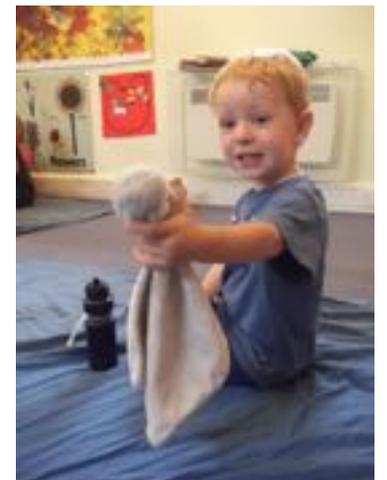
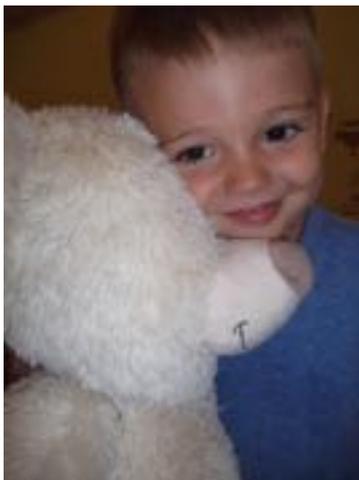
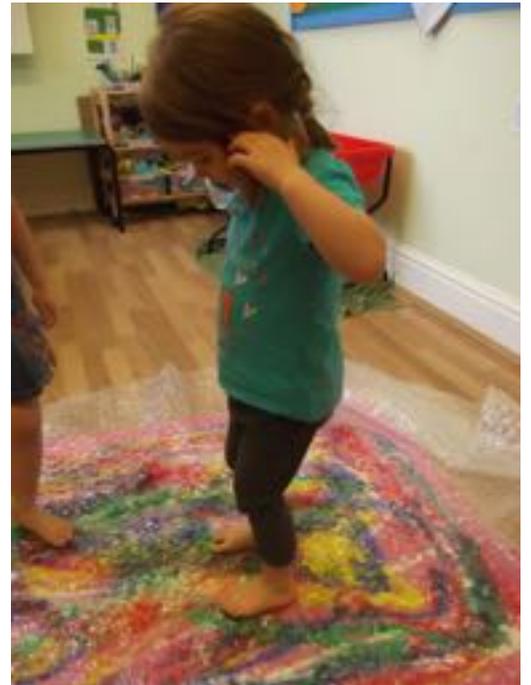
The Wendy House Impington

September Newsletter 2017



Images from August

August meant lots of adventures out in the Nursery grounds, some magical rainbow creations and, of course, our Teddy Bear's Picnic. Even though the weather didn't play ball that day, it didn't dampen our spirits as we had the picnic in the soft play room with lots of fun games and bear-themed food. It is so lovely when we all come together as a whole Nursery family - lots of laughter and wonderful inter-room interaction!



News from the Rooms ...

Bluebells



What a busy August our Bluebells have had. Many of our babies have enjoyed spending time exploring the great outdoors, from Bobby exploring flowers in the meadow, to Anna playing in the garden with her brother, they have had a fabulous time.

The children's interest in the outdoor environment has lent itself to many exciting activities within the Nursery for them to engage with. A particular favourite was the shaving foam meadow. The Bluebells enjoyed picking up the material flowers and sequin butterflies, using a pincer grip, showing control as they passed them to adults. Violet was particularly excited by burying these, then finding them again to show an adult. Our babies were also keen to use vocal sounds to communicate their excitement when the Practitioners were demonstrating new baby signs for the children to imitate.

Bobby went on a Gruffalo hunt and Oscar enjoyed exploring the woods, we used these interests together to create a Gruffalo-themed story basket to share at group time. The basket had a copy of the story and laminated creatures for the Bluebells to feel. This prompted the use of lots of new single words as the children named what they could see in the pictures. It also helped them to learn how to hold a book and turn the pages. The Bluebells also went on a Gruffalo walk around the Nursery grounds. We didn't see a Gruffalo but we did see two tractors, a combine harvester and lots of birds which the children enjoyed watching flying in the sky.

The Bluebells were keen to practice their walking as they explored the field, showing increasing balance as they negotiated the bumpy track.

We welcome Parker to the Bluebell room - we are sure you will have lots of fun with us!

Poppies



We enjoyed lots of different themed activities in August, which created lots of excitement and fresh challenges through some new activities for us to explore.

The children have been talking a lot about their holidays and the different ways they have travelled, including buses, cars, trains, planes and boats! From this interest we explored different types of transport and the vehicles we see. We looked at lots of picture books about transport, pointing out and naming the vehicles we recognised and also learning the names of some new vehicles. The children showed they could turn the pages in a book, sometimes several at once, and displayed interest in familiar stories they particularly enjoyed.

Once the children explored the various vehicle pictures, we used the picture books to choose our favourite vehicles and then made our own. We experimented with blocks, colours and marks as we chose from a variety of materials to create our vehicles. The children were able to show good control with the glue spreader as they spread it across the paper. All of the children showed lots of fascination and energy when exploring the materials and tools. We also enjoyed lots of small world play with the cars, garage and train set.

Many of the children have visited Wimpole Hall and other farms so we looked further into animal-themed activities. The children had great fun making lots of farm animals, using their hands and feet and expressed feelings of happiness and laughed a lot when having their feet painted. It also prompted lots of excited words with both Mimi and Thomas laughing as they said "tickle", "feet", "tickle". After making various animals, the Poppies seemed to show the most interest in the pigs so from this, we made pig masks. The children made lots of connections between their movements and their marks by noticing where they had used pink paint, where they had stuck the noses and put the eyeholes in their masks. Amelie, Benedict and Jake kept signing the pig sign when they saw the masks on the display board.

Finally, Thomas had enjoyed the story 'The Hungry Caterpillar', so we spent lots of time focusing on the book. We had lots of fun moving around like caterpillars, expressing ourselves through physical action and sounds. All of the children were very excited and willing to have a go. We also enjoyed listening to the story whilst looking through our Story Sack. The children focused very well throughout and all enjoyed looking for, and holding, the various items pulled from the sack. This helped to encourage lots of imitation of words and sounds, as well as the use of single words as they named visual props. The children all paid attention to details as they made links between the props they were holding and the pictures in the book.

Daisies



August was a very full-on month in the Daisy room. Many of the children have been spending lots of time in the big outdoors in places like Milton Country Park, as well as enjoying being in their own gardens and various play parks. Megan enjoyed spending time on the swings so we spent some time talking about different physical movements and how Megan used her legs and arms to push herself on the swing. This then prompted discussions about how else we use our bodies, and from this the Daisies were keen to get physical and do some dancing. We practised moving in different ways with the children displaying good spatial awareness as they were careful not to bump into their friends. The children particularly enjoyed stomping, and as some of them have recently enjoyed popping bubble wrap at home, we combined the two, adding paint to the mix and the children made a wonderful rainbow-coloured bubble wrap masterpiece!

Stomping on the bubble wrap created lots of noise and the children loved describing the different sounds, as well as trying to imitate them. As they had enjoyed the texture of the paint with the bubble wrap we created handprint bugs. This prompted lots of discussion about some of the plants, animals and natural objects they have observed, with a good use of vocabulary as they described all the different things they had seen.

We say a fond farewell to Annabel and George who will be moving through the gate to the Sunflower room. We also say an excited hello to Eric and Maya who will be joining us in the Daisy room for lots of fun!

Sunflowers



August was super exciting and varied, due to all the different interests that the children have had as well as the different places they have been.

Henry went to Duxford Imperial War Museum and Asher showed lots of interest in boats and trains, which encouraged an interest in transport. We got stuck in with car rolling, although we may have added planes, trains and tractors! We used paint and looked at the marks we made, as well as watching and exploring what happens when we mix colours together, with the children making predictions about the outcome. We also made playdough and used different tools to create different patterns in the dough. We then enjoyed using different words to describe what the marks looked like, with "bumpy tracks" proving popular. We also created our own mode of transport by cutting and sticking to put together a train, bike, plane, bus and many more. We also practised our cutting skills and talked about how to use the scissors safely.

Harrison had been on holiday to Lanzarote and had excitedly told us all about the volcanoes that he had seen. From his interest we made our very own volcanoes out of coca-cola, mints, baking powder and vinegar, which was very exciting, particular when the volcanoes 'exploded'! The Sunflowers displayed great curiosity and were fascinated by the process, asking lots of "how?" and "why?" questions. They were also keen to give their own explanations as to why and how things might be happening.

Moving on from volcanoes, we talked a lot about rockets and how they blast off into space and some even reaching the moon. Everyone enjoyed counting down from five, pretending to blast off up and away! We made our own moons out of shaving foam, swirling different colours with tools to create patterns. The children then enjoyed describing the shapes that everyone had made.

We say a sad farewell to Gracie and Leo who start their new adventure at school and wish them lots of love and luck. We also say hello to Annabel and George who are just at the start of their Sunflower journey.