



BUMBLEBEE
NURSERY

NEWSLETTER

Spring Term 2025



Welcome

I hope everyone had a good and relaxing break, and ready for the new exciting year. On behalf of all the Bumblebee team, we would like to welcome back all our existing parents and children, and a warm welcome to all the new parents and children who will be joining us in January for the Spring Term.



We are looking forward to a busy new term with lots of different learning and play activities, both indoors and outdoors. We hope all the children quickly settle in, meet their key person, and enjoy new experiences on their learning journeys.



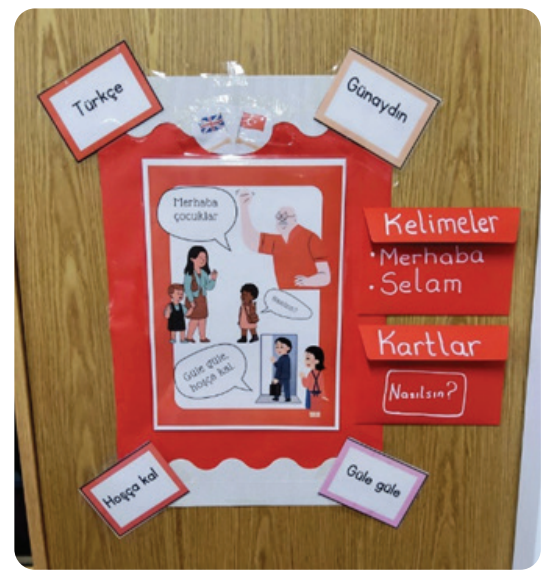
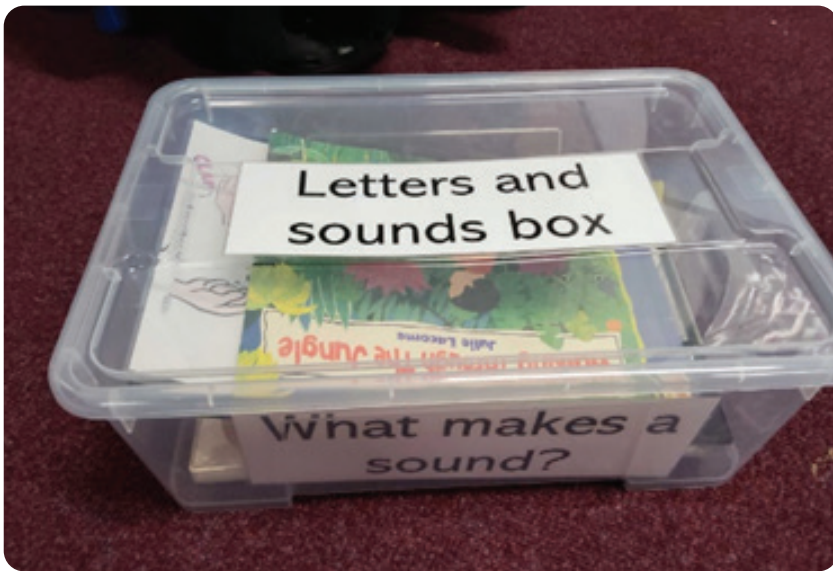
Last Autumn Term Learning Focus

Autumn Term Sep-Dec 2024

Pre-School

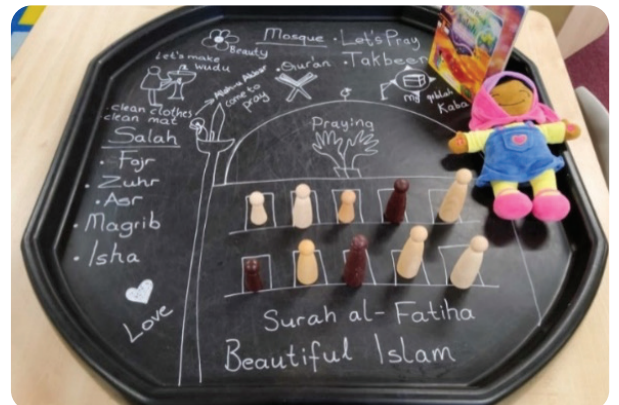
Pre-schoolers have been introduced to a variety of classes during this term. The children began learning the fundamental greeting words in Turkish as part of our fun Turkish classes (Gunaydin, merhaba, gule gule, nasilsin). Children were keen to learn new things and demonstrated enthusiasm in picking up a new language.

This term, we also started using our Letters and Sounds Box, which offers a range of activities to aid children in their learning and growth. During our weekly letters and sound sessions, we have been tuning in to sounds of the environment and recognising noises from all aspects of the home and in the world.



We also began learning how to write our initials and concentrating on pre-writing exercises.

We learnt about a wide range of events this term. We learnt the value of treating one another with kindness and got the opportunity to discuss the compassion in the world, on World Kindness Day. We filled our Pot of Kindness with some of the nicest phrases we had learnt.



We also concentrated on science-related activities and established an investigation area where children could investigate, ask more questions, and explore. During Science week, we made our own firework experiments and did a bean germination exercise that lets children see the bean's life cycle. The children enthusiastically engaged in every experiment, demonstrating how much they loved them all.



Our investigation corner helped us identify that children were really interested in insects and beetles. After identifying this, we made a comfortable and warm insect hotel for them, filled it with soil, and put it outside for the bugs to live in.



Many of the children have been really interested in dinosaurs this term, we also made a dinosaur tuff tray out of green chia seeds to look like green grass. The children enjoyed counting the number of dinosaurs in the tuff tray as they explored the green, gooey chia seeds and identified the various dinosaur types and colours.

We built an Autumn rice tuff tray using red, yellow, and orange rice and decorated it with pinecones and leaves to create an autumn theme. We also concentrated on calligraphy exercises. After that, the children formed letters out of the rice using paint brushes. As we produced each letter of the children's names in the rice, we also taught them how to write their names.



Toddlers

We have been producing engaging activities for the toddlers this term with an emphasis on their interests. Storybooks like The Gruffalo, Stickman, and Colour Monster have captured their attention. Using various materials including lollipop sticks and felt, the children had fun creating their own Gruffalo playdough. We used many descriptive adjectives to describe our creation.

We also talked about feelings and emotions as part of the child led activities. We went through various emotions and how to regulate them, we utilised the colour monster sensations to symbolise our activities.



Throughout this term we planned a variety of engaging activities, we placed a great deal of emphasis on the children's fine motor skills. Tweezers were utilised to enhance and strengthen their pincer grip and enabled them to move objects from one location to another, using tweezers. One of the activities was to place the spaghetti through the thread, which also targeted their fine motor skills, helped them develop hand-eye coordination.

We have been concentrating on the children's gross motor skills outside by designing engaging games like obstacle courses that include setting up tyres, bikes, and ramps to allow the children to develop their gross motor skills and balance.



Using fall leaves, we made collages and used our senses to investigate the snow and ice as we investigated the changing of the seasons.



During Space week, the children participated in several activities that taught them the names of the planets, which planet we live on, and planet sizes. We created our own little and large planets using papier mâché.

The children participated in a variety of fascinating activities during Science week. In the skittles experiment, the toddlers watched as the colours faded after adding warm water to a dish of skittles.

Babies

Welcoming all our new babies who have joined our nursery over the last few months in our new Baby Room, it's been lovely getting to know everyone during the settling sessions. As children make the big step into nursery life, we are extremely proud of how well they have all settled and started to make strong attachments to their key person, providing a safe and loving environment for them to be confident lifelong learners.

The babies have been very imaginative this term, they have created some beautiful artwork and engaged in other creative endeavours. The activities ranged from creating marks in the sand to painting with the fingers and body. Every baby has had a great time and loved using their imaginations!



The babies have also loved spending a lot of time outside these last few months, discovering the natural resources and honing their motor skills through a lot of crawling, climbing, walking, and cruising.



This Term Learning Focus

Spring Term Jan – Apr 2025

In the Spring term, the pre-school children will be focussing on STEM challenges and taking part in exciting science experiments.

In phonics the children will be exploring and building on their phonological awareness by looking at environmental sounds and rhymes.

The toddlers will be concentrating on feelings and emotions in the coming term, to allow the toddlers to express their feelings and gradually get an understanding of other emotions, we will be introducing the primary emotions and incorporating them into our circle time.

We will be concentrating on the language and communication skills of the toddlers, developing engaging activities that can aid in vocabulary development. To support the toddlers to recall stories and develop favourite stories, we will be concentrating on story books which interest the children. Story bags and puppets will be used to help children communicate and use language more effectively.

As our babies become more confident, we will be encouraging lots of sensory play to celebrate events and festivals over the Spring term, we will have lots of stay and play sessions which we are excited to see our new families attend and be part of our busy nursery day.

Lots of more exciting activities are planned in the Spring Term.



Dates For Your Diary

Diary Dates:

Wednesday 29th January
9:30 AM -10:30 AM

Coffee Morning

Please join us for our coffee morning and bring along a friend or family who are looking for childcare.

Friday 31st January

National Puzzle Day

Children to bring in their favourite jigsaw from home.

Thursday 6th February

National Chopstick Day

Children will be having noodles for lunch on this day.

Monday 10th February

Teddy Day

Children to bring in their favourite teddies from home.

March 2025

Month of Ramadhan

Children will be taking part in a variety of Ramadhan activities throughout the holy month.

Thursday 6th March

National Dentist Day

Dentist visiting the children in nursery.

Friday 14th March

White Dress Day

Children to come dressed in white abaya or jubbahs.

Nursery Closure Dates:

Monday 6th January
Staff Training Day

Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February
February Half Term

Tuesday 1st April – Wednesday 2nd April (TBC)
Eid Ul Fitr Holidays

Stay and Play Dates:

Toddler and Pre-school stay and play – Dates to be confirmed (week commencing 10th February)



Funding

Nursery Funding

All babies aged 9 months onwards and 2-year-olds are eligible for 15 hours of free early education (working parents).

3 and 4 year olds are entitled to 15 hours of free early education per week. There is an additional 15 hours per week of free childcare available for families that meet the Government's eligibility criteria.

More detail information can be found on the link below:
www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Application and Funding Process

You will need to apply online via HMRC, they have a dedicated helpdesk to support parents to apply if you are unable to apply online. The link to the website is below:

<https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/par/app/applynow>

Eligible parents will be given a code which will be valid for 3 months, you will be asked to re-confirm your eligibility towards the end of the 3-month period. HMRC will send reminders to parents.

Please be aware that if you would like to increase your child's attendance with your eligibility for 30 hours, please contact us.



Parents Meetings

We recently had our first parent meeting for this academic year. This was a huge success, and many parents were eager to learn how their child had settled and what goals they had achieved. It was lovely to hear some wonderful comments from parents.

Nursery Update

We are excited to announce the opening of our brand-new toddler room in January. The toddlers will be transitioning into their new room week commencing 13th January. Here is a sneak peak of our wonderful room, I'm sure the toddlers will love their new space!





A Few Polite Reminders

Parking

Please can we remind parents to park sensibly when dropping and picking up children. Residents drives should not be blocked or restrict passing vehicles. Parents should not park on the corner of West View/Church Street, on double yellow lines or on pavements in front of the Nursery. There is ample parking available on Branch Street and further along on West View.

Outdoor Clothing

Please can we remind parents to bring a named hat, scarf, and a pair of gloves in your child's nursery bag during this cold weather.

Indoor/Outdoor Footwear

Please ensure your child has shoes for indoors and wellingtons for outdoors.

Spare Clothes

Please can we ask parents to label all your child's clothes clearly and to return any borrowed from nursery.

Payment Reminder

All invoices will be sent out on the first week on this term. Kindly make all payments within 7 days of receiving your invoice.

Thank you for your continued support and duas and for being such an important part of our nursery community, Jazak Allah.