

A warm welcome to the following children:

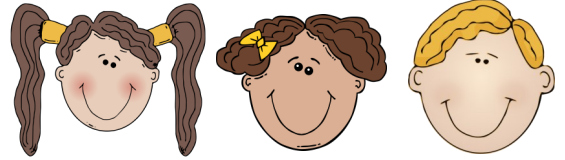
**Babybirds:** Felicity, Freya, Luke, Rupert, Noah

**Ladybirds:** Lyra, Sienna, Ayla, Adlynnne, Iphigenia, Fergus, Robyn, Weaam, Sebastian

**Curriculum Planning:**

The half-termly theme across the Nursery is 'Ourselves'

Activities to support the Pre school sessions:



	Weekly focus	Phonic sounds	Suggestions for activities to carry out at home.
04/07/23	What do I look like?		Check your uniform is properly named.
11/09/23	What do I wear?	s, a	Try and put on nursery polo shirt & jumper by yourself.
18/09/23	Who shares my home?	t, i	Draw the outline of your home & the people who live in it. Look at the number on your front door—can you copy it?
25/09/23	What can I do?	p, n	Show your parents 5 different ways you can move eg hopping, skipping. Can you put them in a sequence eg hop, skip, jump, hop, skip, jump
2/10/23	How do I feel?	c, k, e	Look into a mirror and make 4 different 'emotion' faces eg surprised, angry, excited. Can your parent guess which emotion you are doing?
9/10/23	How can I look after myself?	h, r	Make a chart together and tick every time you brush your teeth.
16/10/23	How do I change as I grow up?	m, d	Look at your baby photos and discuss how you have changed.

How to help support younger children at home:

**Doves**

- Look into a mirror and name body parts. Can your child find their eyes, nose, tummy etc.
- Use different body parts to make marks in paint and print them onto paper. Talk about the patterns made.
- Look at family photos and see if your child can point to the person as they are named.

**Starlings**

- Dress a doll or teddy, see if your child can help put on their cardigan / trouser / put them to sleep.
- Encourage your child to help prepare dinner/ get lunch ready e.g rinse the vegetables/ fruit.
- Can your child look into a mirror and say who they see. Extend this to talk about hair/eye colour.

**Kingfishers**

- Look at family pictures together. Can your child recognise any similarities or differences with yourselves when you were young?
- Use recycling materials to make a house e.g. cereal box. Make puppets to represent the people living in your house. What colours do you need for their eyes, hair etc.
- Encourage your child to get dressed by themselves. Can they pull up their socks & trousers? What do they need help with?



**Library books**

The pre-school children borrow a book from our library stock once a week. It is imperative that your child brings their bag on the correct day each week. They return the book the following week and talk (simply) to a small group about it e.g. whether they liked it? Did it have interesting pictures? Who was their favourite character etc? This is supposed to be a fun activity and not formal homework.

Blue group (Tuesday) Miss Gee	Green group (Wednesday) Miss Kaur	Yellow group (Thursday) Mrs Shortland & Miss Begum
Oliver	Isla	Sebastian
Joshua	Lea	Ocean
Lucie	Noah	Annabelle
Ana	Mae	Oli
Callie	Marc	Alfie
Robyn	Poppy	Kiran
Fergus	Joseph	Iphigenia
	Willow	Weaam



**Pre-School Parent's Meeting**

Wednesday 13th September  
7.45pm (drinks and nibbles available from 7.30pm )

We warmly invite parents of current pre-school children to attend this evening to find out more about what your child will be learning and to meet other parents. We will outline the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum and expectations regarding social and emotional development and ultimately the transfer to school. We will be happy to answer any questions you may have.



**\*\*\*\*\*FAMILY TEDDY BEAR'S PICNIC THIS FRIDAY FROM 4:30pm\*\*\*\*\***

Making the most of the fine weather, we would like to invite all parents to join us for a picnic tea on Friday 8th September from 4.30pm under the big trees adjacent to the nursery/carpark.

Come and meet parents and children from your child's room as well as the staff. Even if you do not attend on a Friday you would be very welcome to join us at 4.30pm. You are responsible for your own child during the picnic. Bring your own blankets.

Please send your child in with a teddy and cold picnic tea (if possible) on Friday.

**Results of annual parent and child questionnaires**

Attached are the results of the 14 questions all families were asked to complete in July. There were 2 separate questionnaires one for parents and one for pre school children.

We are delighted with the positive scores from both questionnaires. These results feed into our future planning for the next academic year.

**Staffing**

Please see below our current room teams:

**Doves:** Abbie Speed continues in Doves as room leader and works with Deanna English & Sophie Payani.

**Starlings:** Chloe Murphy remains room leader and works alongside Tia Constable, Olivia Oakman (Monday, Wednesday & Friday) and Gemma Harris (Tuesday & Thursday) & Izzy Vine-Lott (Apprentice).

**Kingfishers:** Charlotte Sinnott, Helen Page, Marguerite Kirkman continue in Kingfishers and Nuwangi Jayasundara moves from Starlings to join them.

**Pre school:** Sarah Gee remains in Pre-school as room leader and is working alongside Mandeep Kaur, Victoria Shortland (Monday and Tuesday) and Tahida Begum (Wednesday—Friday).

Tahera Choudhury and Candy Ng work every day to cover staff lunches and breaks. Moira Prentice continues to provide staff training and non-contact time. Michelle Gee (Nursery Manager) will work closely with the staff across the nursery.

## Partnership with parents

To ensure your child makes the best possible progress we rely on working closely with families. There are many ways we do this at Ladybirds:

- Settling in - if your child is new or having difficulty settling into their new room we will provide a 'settling sheet'. This is a form of communication that goes between home and nursery until your child is settled. Existing Ladybirds children will have visited their new rooms on numerous occasions with and without their old keyworker before moving to their new room. The old and new keyworker met to exchange information to encourage a smooth transition.
- Blossom Educational (online platform) - This system allows us to communicate with you on a daily basis regarding your child's day at nursery. There is also a messaging app for you to share information with staff when needed. We post news and information in the news section and our newsletters go out at the beginning of each half term. We use Blossom to record your child's development and write consultation reports.
- Our website <https://www.ladybirdsnursery.com/existing-parents> has a dedicated section for existing parents. Here you will find a wealth of information including past newsletters, term dates, developmental information, recipe and portion advice.
- Cultural experiences - please tell your key worker about any special customs/festivals your family celebrate so we can incorporate these into our planning
- Parent visits - we warmly welcome visits into nursery from people who can give children first hand experiences. In the past we have had a pharmacist, policeman, musicians, sari fitter and engineer to name a few. If you or a member of your family have a skill or cultural experience to share we would love to hear from you.
- Magic moments - We celebrate special events and milestones in your child's life with our 'Magic moments' display board. Please write a sentence on the proforma (see attachment with this newsletter) explaining the special "moment" for your child and (ideally) send it in with a photograph. We celebrate it by sharing it with their peers then displaying it. This information helps us build a fuller picture of your child; staff plan activities around children's interests.
- Remember we want to know what you think—at the end of every newsletter there is a prompt to let us know your views—although you do not have to wait for this!

## Sports Taster session 21st Sept 9.30am

Super Star Sports are running two sessions for the Pre school children focusing on ball skills and general fitness. The sessions are designed to promote fitness, activity and a healthy lifestyle whilst having plenty of fun. These sessions happen in the park and children wear their usual uniform. and involves a coach working alongside our own staff.

## Snack and drinks

Every session children are offered water or milk and a healthy snack. We offer a range of fruit and vegetables which the older children help cut up. They are encouraged to pour milk from a jug into their cup.



All children apart from Doves are asked to provide a named, sports type top water bottle to which they always have access.

## Children in Need

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November we are encouraging all children (and staff) to come to nursery dressed in spotty clothes for a day of spotty themed activities! Pre-school do not need to wear uniform this day. To enable us to raise money for 'children in need' a small monetary contribution would be greatly appreciated.



## Absence

Please message on Blossom, ring or email nursery as soon as possible when you know your child will not be attending as planned. If your child is in receipt of government funding we have an obligation to check the reason for the absence.

## Songs

Thank you to Helen Page who has compiled another song leaflet to accompany this term's topic of 'Ourselves'. The songs are linked to items in the Kingfisher and Fun focus song bag. The leaflet is attached.

## Henry

The HENRY healthy families programme has released new dates starting in September. The programme is completely free for families with a child under 5 and runs online for 1 hour each week, or face to face for 2 hours over 8 weeks with 1 week break during the October half term. It focusses on healthy lifestyles including meal ideas, portions sizes and being active. The face to face meetings offer a crèche service during the session. Please see the leaflet attached or follow the link below for more information.

<https://www.henry.org.uk/>



### Dates for the diary

8th September	4.30pm family teddy bear's picnic (parents welcome)
13th September	7.30pm for 7.45pm start Pre-school parents meeting
W/C 16th October	'Lifestyle' Photos taken throughout the week
23rd October– 27th October	Half Term. Nursery Open for Holiday club and Babybirds only.
17th November	Children in Need
15th December	Term ends
18th December— 4th January	Nursery Open for Holiday club and Babybirds only.
22nd December	Nursery Closes at 1pm
25th & 26th December	Nursery Closed
1st January	Nursery Closed
5th January	Spring term begins

### Miscellaneous

- Please clearly label all food that your child brings into nursery. It is much easier for us if all items needing refrigeration are placed in a named freezer type bag or plastic box.
- Name all jumpers, coats and shoes. Sweatshirts that have a loop (of elastic or ribbon) attached are far easier for the older children to hang up on their pegs. This obviously aids their independence.
- Rucksacks and plastic bags are not permitted at nursery as they are too bulky/unsafe for the cloakroom area. Please use a drawstring bag . All children should have changes of clothes at nursery that are appropriate for the weather.



### Individual 'lifestyle' photos

Week commencing 16th October  
Emma Collins, the professional photographer will be in nursery across the week commencing 16th October. She spends considerable time with the children watching them play and interact and hence captures natural moments. You will receive full instructions on how to view your child's photos. There is no obligation to purchase any.



### Term dates

Please see attached term dates for the current academic year. This is relevant for Kingfisher and pre school only.

### Blossom

Please ensure you update the app regularly to ensure the best functionality. Many problems can be resolved by simply logging out and logging back in.



### Car Park & Collection

Please ensure your child is collected promptly at the end of their session. The nursery and carpark close at 6pm. The gate to the carpark is locked so you risk having your car locked in overnight if you do not vacate by 6pm. If you choose to visit the boules area after pick up you must still vacate the carpark by 6pm or risk being locked in. Drive dead slowly in the carpark. Although there is a 10 mph speed limit young children are often moving through it. Ensure you always hold your child's hand in the carpark.



### Parents 'Whatsapp' groups

Each room has a WhatsApp group run for and by parents. This is facilitated by us but we have no part in it. If you are new to Ladybirds and would like to be added to your room group please let your key worker know and they will pass this on to the parent co-ordinator.

### Parent feedback

We welcome any feedback about any aspect of Ladybirds Nursery from parents. Please feel free to e mail your responses to:  
admin@ladybirdsnursery.com.

Compliments

Suggestions

Concerns