

Read all about it...



Spring 2017



News From Bollington's favourite day nursery!

Welcome

We would like to welcome the following children who have recently joined our Footprints family: Our babies; Amelia, Herbie, Reuben, Maddie, Hattie, Jojo and Tiana and our Toddlers; Tobias, Aaron and Libby. You have all settled in so well, we love having you here at Footprints to join in all the fun!

We would also like to welcome our newest staff member Charlotte who has joined our Pre School team and settled in really well.



Dates for the Diary:

19th June - Father's Day Breakfast, and Stay & Play 9am-10:30am

5th August - Footprints Family Fun Day 10am-12noon

11th August – Pre School Graduation Day

1st November – Parents' Evening



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Footprints Family Fun Morning

On Saturday 5th August we will be holding a charity fun morning to raise awareness and money for Ollie's Army, to find out more about this charity please click on the following link <http://olliesarmy.co.uk>

OLLIE'S ARMY Battling Against Batters

There will be stalls, games, bouncy castle, food and drink and plenty more. We are in the process of organising it all at the moment and tickets will go on sale later this month. You can pre order tickets at a cost of £1 per adult and 50p per child but most importantly please keep the date free in your diary.

Staff Member of the Month

Since the last newsletter we have been able to award the following staff members

with the **Staff Member of the Month** prize:
Rachel Coburn for her love of children and for providing them with stimulating and exciting activities.

Hayley Edge for loving the babies as if they were her own and for being supportive to other members of staff.



Staff Success – Tori's promotion

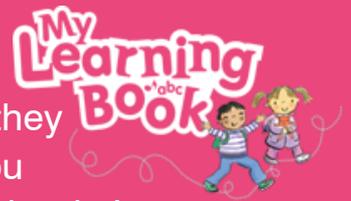
We are delighted to announce the promotion of **Victoria Gabriel**. Tori has been at Footprints for almost 3 ½ years now and has proved to be a wonderful nursery nurse. She is now ready to take her creative qualities and love for babies in to the Baby Room as she starts her new journey as the baby room manager – Good luck Tori!



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LearningBook



LearningBook has some very exciting news! Over the past year they have been working with us and their other customers to bring you the option of printing your child's learning journey into hardback books!

Celebrate your child's achievements throughout their time at Footprints with these wonderful keepsakes. Pick up a leaflet from the front desk or ask one of the team for more information.

Please don't forget to regularly log in to My LearningBook to view and comment on your child's learning journey. If you can, add your own photographs too!

Pre School Graduation

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to 27 of our amazing Pre School children as we send them off ready and prepared for big school. So many of these children have been a part of our lives for 4 years now, their families even longer and we will miss each and every one of them very much.

To support children's transitions to school we invite their teachers in to nursery to meet them and have a chat with their key person. The chat is very informal and is a nice way for the teacher to get to know a little bit about your child, their personality, things they like, where they are up to in their development and how they like to learn.

We will be celebrating their Footprints journey with a Graduation Day which will be held on **Friday 11th August**. All graduating children are welcome to the party which will begin at 9:30am and the ceremony for parents, grandparents, family and friends will begin at 1:00pm. Please let the Pre school room know how many guests will be attending.

The photographer will be here on **Tuesday 4th July** at 10:00am to take photographs which will be available to buy on Graduation Day. If your child does not usually attend nursery on a Tuesday and you would like a photograph taken, you can either bring your child along on the Tuesday morning or you can visit Paul's studio in Macclesfield.



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Engaging Boys in Writing

Did you know, research suggests the bones in boys' hands develop when they are around 5 and a half years old whereas the bones in girls' hands, develop at around 4 years old. That's quite a big difference! This might be a reason why girls seem more willing and able to draw and make marks at nursery whilst some boys seem more reluctant. It could also mean that the things we often expect boys to do in terms of mark making, are actually beyond their physical capabilities! Interestingly, the journey of children's bone development starts at their shoulder, travels to their elbow, then their wrist and finally finishes in their hand. This means that if we rush children into holding pencils and pens in their tiny fingers before the other parts of their arms are ready, we may be doing more harm than good.

At nursery, we encourage all the children to get outside and explore mark making. We strengthen shoulder and elbow muscles by allowing them to scrub the walls with soapy water, buckets, brooms and sponges, encouraging big circular and up and down shoulder movements. Also, attaching magazine pictures of cars or favourite characters to the wall outside and filling a spray bottle with water. This helps boys to concentrate on edges and outlines, following the shape with the spray. Another great idea is using playdough alongside pictures of cars and toy cars, car manuals, car books etc. and encouraging boys to strengthen hand and wrist muscles by making models of what they can see. Using books here helps boys to recognise that print carries meaning to things that are of interest to them.

If you want to have a go at home feel free to try some of the above activities or some from the list below, let us know how you get on.....

Developing the shoulder pivot – waving ribbons in the air, throwing balls, knocking down tubes/skittles, kneading large pieces of playdough, stood up is best

Developing the elbow pivot – using large rollers or paint brushes to paint the side of the house with water, bats and balls, stirring and whisking using large spoons, whisks and bowls perhaps during a baking activity

Developing the wrist pivot – use large mark making tools for example chunky chinks to draw lines and circles, pouring water from one jug to another whilst in the bath and even flipping pancakes in the kitchen if you're feeling brave enough!

Developing the fine motor skills in their fingers – pegging out the washing, using pipetts, stretching elastic bands over cotton reels, using pincers or tweezers, cutting up herbs for tea using scissors.

Look how much fun writing can be, it's not all about sitting at a table and using a pen.



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2 year old check

Around the age of 2 your child will be invited by a Health Visitor to come along for a 2 year old check. These checks are really important to ensure your child is developing well and reaching the milestones expected for their age. We carry out assessments at nursery so before you go along for your check please let the Toddler room know so we can give you a copy of their latest assessment.

If due to work commitments you find it hard to attend the appointment we can in certain circumstances ask the health visitor to observe your child at nursery. We have a link health visitor who provides great support to us as a nursery and to our families. **If you have any questions please ask.**

Race for Life

Some of the staff at Bollington are running the race for life at Tatton Park on Sunday 25th June. If you would like to sponsor us or come along and show us some support you are more than welcome!

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/team/footprints-flyers>



Reminders

Can I please remind all Parents and Grandparents to sign their children in as they arrive and out as they leave? The signing in book is an important document that needs to be complete.

Can I please remind all parents to leave a sunhat in their child's bag?

Social Media

If you have access to social media and would like to see what activities and achievements are going on in our nursery day to day, then please like us on Facebook and on Twitter.



www.facebook.com/FootprintsDayNurseries



www.twitter.com/FootprintsDN



Take care, see you soon
Rachel

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