

### Our Garden

We like to give a termly update about our garden at nursery as it is so important to us. The vegetables are continuing to grow and are being cared for by the children. We have beautiful flowers on our courgettes, marrows, beans and nasturtiums. We harvested our potatoes and strawberries and the children enjoyed eating them at snack time. We have planted some more pumpkin seeds and the small plants are healthy and have been planted out in the pumpkin patch. We hope to have more vegetables and fruit as time goes on, and those that do not provide food for us, will feed the caterpillars and other bugs in the garden. We have noticed and identified at least 8 different butterflies and moths in the garden so far.



The children have also enjoyed exploring water in the garden and continue to find out more about the various minibeasts they find.

### Empathy Dolls

The children have enjoyed playing with our new 'empathy dolls'. Their names are Hannah, Charlie, Jennifer, Emilie, Max and Nora. They are soft and the babies are weighted, and they encourage children to care for them and play with them kindly. The children use their names and know a little bit about their personalities and preferences. The dolls also give children opportunities to explore their own thoughts and feelings as they play. They are very popular with the children and it will be interesting to see how their play develops and how the dolls continue to support the children's Personal, Social and Emotional Development.



### Pizza Express

Our leaving cohort of children had the opportunity to visit Pizza Express to see how pizzas are made and to have a go at making some themselves. Both groups had a great day and enjoyed sharing their delicious pizzas. They brought their skills back to the nursery and we made pizzas which all the children could help with and enjoy eating at snack time.



### Special Days

We have been celebrating and marking various special days and weeks this term:

#### **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

We had some lovely Jubilee celebrations at the beginning of June with our families, talking about the Queen, sharing food and singing songs together.



#### **Windrush Day**

We marked Windrush Day by reading stories, tasting food, listening to music and playing games – all from the Caribbean. It was lovely having families join us.



#### **Pride Month**

We celebrated Pride Month throughout June by talking about how we can make our own choices, and how we need to respect and be kind to each other.



### Vote for The Grove Nursery School

We are hoping to be awarded funding from **Tesco Community Grants** so we can buy the children new wellington boots and waterproofs for outdoor play. Please remember to ask for a blue token when you pay for your shopping at any local Tesco, and put it in the charity box at the front of the store, voting for:

**The Grove Nursery School**

Under 5's Outdoor Learning

### Dates for your diary

The school year will finish on **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July (1PW)** and **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July (FT and 2PW)**. We will have parties to celebrate the school year during these 2 days. Children can wear party clothes and we will provide games, music and party food.

The new term will begin on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September (FT and 2PW) and Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September (1PW) for the children returning.

### **Summer 2022**

We would like to wish all our families a happy summer and our leavers a fantastic time in their new schools. We look forward to more adventures together in the new school year.

### Core Books

During June and July we have enjoyed sharing the following books and doing lots of activities linked to them:

**Katie In London** – As we were thinking about the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, we shared this story about a girl called Katie who visits different sites in London on the back of a Trafalgar Square lion, including a visit to see the Queen.

**We're Going To Find The Monster** – We had a visit from Penguin Books who shared this story with us about a sister and brother who look for the monster who lives in their house – in the style of 'We're Going On A Bear Hunt'.

**The Very Hungry Caterpillar** – A timeless story about a caterpillar eating different foods and eventually changing into a butterfly – it mixes facts and fiction and is always popular as we find caterpillars and butterflies in the garden.

**Tadpole's Promise** – A story about a caterpillar and tadpole who become friends and do not want each other to change – they inevitably do change having tragic consequences, which causes children to question and think.

**Mr. Gumpy's Outing** – A story about a man who takes children and animals on a boat trip so long as they behave well – they don't behave well and all end up falling in the river – this links to our learning about water.

**Who Sank The Boat?** – Another story about a boat ride where different animals climb into the boat one at a time – which one will sink the boat? This story has links to capacity, size and science.

**I Am Too Absolutely Small For School** – A story about Charlie and Lola where Lola is convinced she does not need to go to school, and finds out lots of things about school from her older brother Charlie.

**The Colour Monster Goes To School** – Another story about the colour monster experiencing different emotions as he starts school. This book is good for exploring the children's emotions as they prepare to start new schools.

**Ruby's Worry** – This story explores the idea about having a worry and how to deal with it – many children may have worries at this time and can learn that it helps to share their worries with others.

**Handa's Surprise** – This is our core book for the 2s this half term – it is about Handa who prepares a basket of fruit for her friend, Akeyo, but along the journey the fruit slowly disappears and they both have a surprise in the end.



### Summer Poems

#### There's A Tiny Caterpillar On A Leaf

There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf, wiggle, wiggle,  
There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf, wiggle, wiggle,  
There's a tiny caterpillar, a tiny caterpillar,  
A tiny caterpillar on a leaf, wiggle, wiggle.

He will eat the leaves around him till he's full,  
munch, munch, .....

A cocoon is what he's spinning for his home, spin,  
spin, .....

Then he'll be a butterfly and fly away, flap, flap, .....



#### Sliced Bread

Slice, slice, the bread looks nice.  
Spread, spread, butter on the bread.  
On the top put jam so sweet,  
Now it's good enough to eat.



#### If I Were So Very Small

If I were so very tall,  
I'd walk amongst the trees.  
And stretch to reach the top most leaf,  
As easy as you please.  
And if I were so very small,  
I'd hide myself away.  
And creep into a buttercup,  
To spend a summer's day.



#### Five Little Peas

Five little peas in a pea pod pressed.  
One grew. Two grew.  
So did all the rest.  
They grew, and they grew,  
And they did not stop,  
Until one day the pod went POP!

