

# Maidenhead Nursery School Newsletter

June 2022

## The Children's Learning

We hope that you had a lovely half term break and enjoyed the long bank holiday weekend celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Last half term flew by as we continued to be amazed by the children's progress. They have been fascinated by the different lifecycles they have been observing, noting the changes they saw as the tadpoles transformed into frogs and the caterpillars created their chrysalises. They are becoming so knowledgeable about the different creatures found in our gardens and much braver than many of the adults to hold snails and slow worms!

The children have been impressing us with their wonderful imagination as they have shown off their storytelling skills during helicopter story sessions. The process of helicopter stories enables children to realise their potential as storytellers before they can even write a word. The children are invited to tell a story, the adult scribes it and then supports the children to perform the story. It is wonderful to see the pride in their faces as their story is brought to life. If you are interested in finding out more information you can click on the picture and it will take you to their website.



## Moving on to School in September

Thank you for letting us know which school your child will be moving onto in September. We have emailed all next schools with invitations asking them to visit us so that the children have an opportunity to meet their next teacher in an environment in which they feel safe and comfortable. Due to the number of settings that some schools receive children from it is not always possible for their next teacher to visit so we strongly suggest that you take up the opportunity to participate in transition visits that all schools offer. We will inform you of the date if your child's next teacher is visiting so that you can ensure they attend Nursery on that date.



## A few reminders



☺ Please let us know if your child is unwell and unable to attend Nursery on the first day of absence. Children should remain off Nursery for 48 hours from their last symptom if they have had a stomach upset.

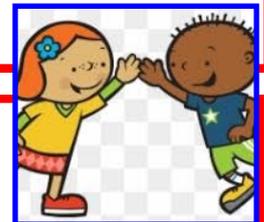
☺ Please remain vigilant for symptoms and follow the current Government guidance linked to coronavirus/respiratory infections. Children with mild symptoms e.g. a runny nose or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend Nursery. Children who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, if possible. They can return to Nursery when they no longer have a high temperature and are feeling well. It is not recommended that children are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional. If your child has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test. After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, they can resume their normal activities.

☺ Please check emails or our website for reminders, letters, weekly planning and newsletters (we do not give out paper letters).

☺ Please park safely and with consideration of our neighbours. Avoid blocking driveways and the nursery car park.

☺ Please ensure that your child wears clothes that enable them to be as independent as possible with going to the toilet and changing themselves. Elasticated trousers and leggings are ideal.

## Coming Soon ...



We would love to hear about your children's successes. We understand that the children enjoy a wide range of experiences at home and we value your input as parents when it comes to assessing your child's learning. Over the next few weeks the team in the nursery classroom will be sending out a progress sheet for you to celebrate with us what you feel are your child's main achievements whilst they have been at Maidenhead Nursery School. We would really appreciate it if you could find the time to write down what you have noticed about your child's learning since they have attended Maidenhead Nursery. This will help us to build a complete picture of their progress as the school year draws to a close.

## Suncream and Sunhats



As the warmer weather approaches please can we remind parents/carers to ensure that their child has suncream applied prior to their nursery session. If your child is staying all day then we are happy to reapply suncream. Please provide a named bottle and leave it with your child's key person. We do have some sunhats but it is helpful for your child to bring their own—just make sure it is clearly named. Thank you.

## Speech Technique of the month

### Beware of 'tag' questions

Sometimes it's tempting to make a 'model' into a question - we do it without even thinking!

Be careful about adding 'did you?', "don't we?", "isn't it?" tags onto the end of statements.

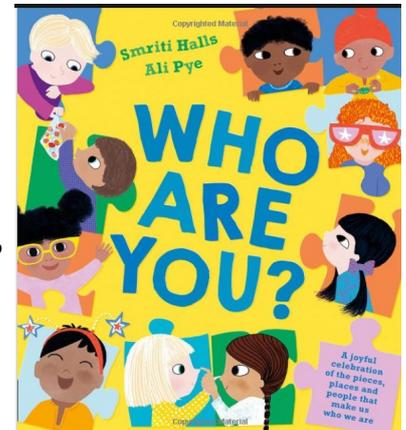
Your child needs to hear sentences being modelled, rather than questions.

'Tags' can leave children feeling a bit bewildered!



## Book recommendation of the month!

Who are you? Written by Smriti Halls and illustrated by Ali Pye. This wonderful, rhyming book released last year is a celebration of what makes us all unique. The detailed illustrations are a great start for discussions about hobbies, food, celebrations and family.



“How do you do! Have you come far?

WHO DO YOU ACTUALLY THINK THAT YOU ARE?

What's going on? What's this about?

Just turn the page, we're going to find out!”

## Diary dates

**Week commencing 4th July** - Reports issued to children who are leaving Maidenhead Nursery School.

**Wednesday 6th July** - Travelling farm here for the day.

**Tuesday 19th July** - Last day of the academic year - usual session times.

**September 2022**

**Thursday 1st, Friday 2nd, Monday 5th September and Tuesday 6th September** - CLOSED for INSET and home visits for new children .

**Wednesday 7th September** - CLOSED. New entrants day.

**Thursday 8th September** - Existing children to return to Nursery. Staggered start for new children.



## Our fabulous new playground!

We are so pleased with our new playground and the children are already loving it and safely challenging themselves! Many, many thanks to those who have made it possible - firstly the incredible generosity of the Spoores, Merry and Rixman Foundation who donated £23,000 towards the cost. Secondly Cllr, Philip Love, one of the trustees, who spent a great deal of time and effort negotiating on our behalf. We also need to thank parents past and present as their donations also contributed to this. And last but not least Hannah



(Assistant Head) who led the project, it was a lot of additional work on top of her usual work load. Just a reminder that Nursery can only be held responsible for an accidents on the equipment during Nursery session times when play is supervised by members of staff. As the equipment is so new we kindly request that you encourage your children to leave quickly at the end of the session and stay off the equipment. The equipment is available to them for the whole session so they have plenty of time to explore it.

## Staff news

Behind the scenes the Governors and Senior Leaders have been working on staffing for September 2022. We are pleased to share with you that:

Sarah Cottle - who is currently Co-Headteacher alongside Helen McHale, will take up the post of Executive Headteacher leading the whole Federation. Helen will continue to support SEND children across the Federation one day per week.

Hannah Diplock - is promoted to the role of Deputy Head and will be responsible for the day to day management of Maidenhead Nursery School.

Amy Crowle - will be based at Cookham Nursery School but will be involved with SEND children at Maidenhead Nursery School.

Aine Sadler - Early Careers Teacher will be joining the team on a full time basis and will be lead key person for the Ladybird group. She did her initial teacher training at Cookham Nursery School and the Federation is delighted that she will be returning to work with us.

Rose Scofield-Webb - will work 3 days per week Tues, Weds and Thurs and will take joint responsibility for the Bumble Bee group with Tracy Murray, who will continue to work full time.

Bev Eaton - Will continue to work full time taking responsibility for the dragonfly group.

Lesley Cutting, Gemma Cooper and Zoe Wright will continue to work part time.

Louise Cawte, Nusrat Islam, Gemma Cooper and Zoe Wright will continue to work in the lunch club.