

FAMILY NEWS

LittleExplorers
Royal George Road

DAY NURSERY & PRE-SCHOOL

SPRING 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter! We've had a wonderful start to the year here at Little Explorers. We've had so many wonderful learning experiences over the past few months, and the children have been thriving as they explore new topics and engage in exciting activities. We're looking forward to the warmer weather and all the fun and learning that the summer term will bring!

As the season changes, we kindly ask that you ensure all clothing is clearly labelled so that items are not lost or mistakenly taken by other children.

Please also remember that we do not have parking on site. We ask that you park on Victoria Avenue and use the crossing to safely reach the nursery. If you are bringing a buggy, please ensure it is not parked in the school bike shed. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

We're excited for all the wonderful things ahead and appreciate your continued support.

Best Wishes,
Elise and the Royal George Road Team!

Dates for your diary

Holidays and Closures:

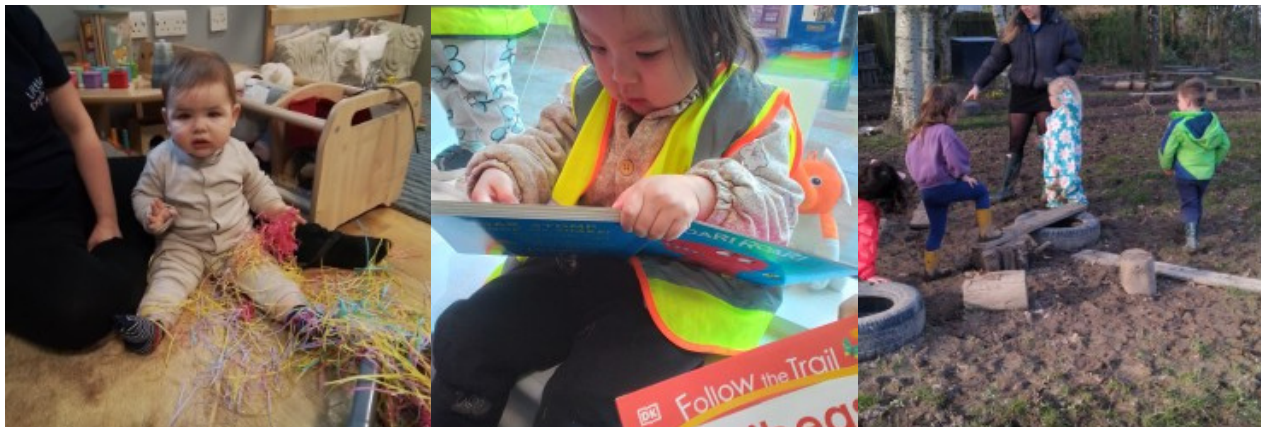
- **Friday 18th April** – Good Friday (Nursery Closed)
- **Monday 21st April** – Easter Monday (Nursery Closed)
- **Monday 5th May** – Early May Bank Holiday (Nursery Closed)
- **Monday 26th May** – Late May Bank Holiday (Nursery Closed)

Other:

- **Friday 21st March** – Red Nose Day
- **Saturday 22nd March** – Spring Spectacular Open Day

Don't forget to follow our Social Media:

 [/littleexplorersnurseryandpreschool](https://www.facebook.com/littleexplorersnurseryandpreschool)



The Baby Snug

The babies enjoy new toys, resources, and activities in their room. They have particularly enjoyed listening to various music and moving around with the musical instruments. This was extended further with a nursery rhyme session, followed by engaging activities such as a sensory farmyard scene and a sea world play tray.

The babies have also explored a range of sensory activities, including edible painting with dairy-free yogurt and various painting tools to make marks. They had a great time with colourful cornflour play, where they fully immersed themselves in the wet cornflour and explored the changing textures. Using various tools like scoops, spoons, plastic rakes, and cups, the babies could scoop and pour the cornflour into different containers, enhancing their sensory and motor skills.

Continue at home

Create simple musical instruments using household items such as pots, pans, and wooden spoons. Encourage your child to explore different sounds by tapping, shaking, or banging them. This can be a great way to continue their interest in music and rhythm at home.

The Toddler Den

The toddlers have been making the most of the outdoors, exploring various environments such as the nature reserve, local parks, ponds, and green areas. During these trips, the children discovered many treasures and animals, inspiring them to explore *The Gruffalo's* story. They enjoyed acting out the different animals and discussing what happened next in the story.

The toddlers have developed a natural love for books and storytelling, so we've continued this by regularly taking them on library visits. They've enjoyed joining in with rhyme time and story sessions. The children even returned a gift of books from the library to read at the nursery, further nurturing their love of reading.

Continue at home

Take your child on a nature walk around your local area or garden. Collect different natural objects, such as leaves, stones, or twigs. You can use these at home to create a sensory story or act out a scene from *The Gruffalo* or another favourite story.

The Pre-School Study

The Preschool children have thoroughly enjoyed their regular trips to the local resident home, where they've formed incredible bonds with them. The residents have appreciated the companionship, and together, they have participated in various activities such as storytime, playing dominoes, solving puzzles, and engaging in creative play.

The children have also participated in Forest School activities with Sophie, including nature and scavenger hunts, bird watching, and creating a balancing obstacle course where they pretended to "walk the plank."

In the kitchen, the Preschoolers have been busy cooking activities like making cinnamon buns, pizzas, and most recently, pancakes for Pancake Day. They especially enjoyed watching the pancakes being made and flipped; this activity provided an excellent opportunity for counting as they counted how many pancakes were made. The children loved selecting toppings for their pancakes, including strawberries, raspberries, lemon, and sugar. These cooking sessions also sparked conversations about ingredients and where they come from, which has led to the children's excitement about growing a variety of foods in our sensory garden.

Continue at home

Try making pancakes at home with your child! Encourage them to help with the mixing, pouring, and flipping. You can turn it into a fun learning experience by counting the pancakes together and discussing the different ingredients used.

Recipe of the Month

VEGGIE PARMIGIANA

INGREDIENTS:

- Aubergines, cut into 1cm thick rings
- 1 tbsp garlic infused olive oil (you can make your own by adding 2 cloves of garlic to olive oil)
- 3 large onions, finely chopped
- 3 large carrots, diced
- 3 peppers (any colour), diced
- 2 large courgettes, sliced
- 2 tspn dried oregano
- 2x 400g tinned chopped tomatoes (no added sugar or salt)
- 50g pasteurised Italian style cheese, finely grated
- 125g mozzarella, thinly sliced



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Set the grill to high, and grill the aubergine slices until browned on each side, and set aside.
2. Preheat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas mark 4.
3. Heat the oil in a pan and add the onions. Stir until softened.
4. Add the carrots, peppers, and courgette, and stir frequently.
5. Mix in the tinned tomatoes and oregano, and simmer for 10 minutes.
6. Layer the sauce and aubergines in an oven proof dish, finishing with the sauce.
7. Top with Italian style cheese and sliced mozzarella.
8. Bake for 35 minutes until golden.

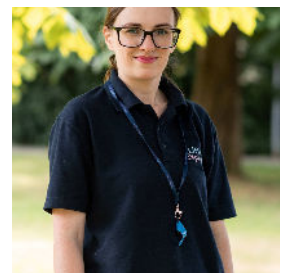
Recent Training

Sophie has recently attended Forest School training and gained a Level 3 accreditation in Forest School Leadership. She has also achieved her Level 3 SENCO qualification.

Additionally, all staff have refreshed their safeguarding knowledge and understanding during our recent staff meetings.

Colleague Spotlight

We want to give a big shout-out to Stacey for her fantastic support and dedication throughout the nursery. Stacey has genuinely embraced her training and personal development, creating numerous engaging activities and experiences for the children. She has been incredibly flexible with her working hours and has thoroughly enjoyed supporting all areas across the nursery. We are so grateful for her hard work and commitment!



EXCITING CHARITY PARTNERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

At iStep Learning, we believe in nurturing young minds while also fostering kindness, empathy, and a strong sense of community. That's why we're thrilled to introduce iStep into the Community - our new initiative dedicated to giving back to local causes.

Each of our nurseries has chosen a charity close to their hearts. At Royal George Road Day Nursery & Preschool, we are committed to fostering a sense of community and teaching our children the importance of supporting those in need. We recognise that food insecurity is a pressing issue affecting many local families, and we believe in the importance of supporting organisations that provide dignified and sustainable solutions. This is why we have chosen to support Your Local Pantry - Burgess Hill. This community initiative offers residents affordable food options, helping alleviate food poverty and promote well-being. Their mission aligns with our empathy, community support, and social responsibility values.

Through two fundraising events - one in May and one in July - children, families, and staff will come together to make a meaningful impact. Keep an eye out for more details soon! Together, we can create a ripple effect of kindness!

We will soon be releasing our full iStep into the Community pack, which will showcase all the charities our nurseries have chosen to support.

You can find out more about the incredible work that Your Local Pantry - Burgess Hill do [here](#)

