Dear All

Welcome to our September 2018 newsletter. We hope that you have all enjoyed the hot summer and we would like to welcome back our term time only children and families.

**Tapestry** - It is great to see so many of you enjoying your children's learning journey. Thank you for contributing with comments and sharing events your children have been doing out of nursery. May I remind you to check out your child’s termly reports within your Tapestry account which can be accessed at www.eylj.org/login/ once you have logged in you will see your child’s profile then click on Reports to view, these show a review of the past observations and highlights how your child is developing.

**Autumn & Winter Menu** - Please be advised that our Autumn/Winter menu will commence from Monday 1st October. We have now added a key showing which allergens are in which of our meals we serve. A copy is displayed in the entrance for your reference and it will shortly be displayed on our website.

**Front steps** - Thank you for bearing with us, we apologise for any inconvenience caused by having the front steps out of action, this has been done for everyone’s safety. We hope to get them repaired as soon as possible.

**Signing In and Out** - Please can we remind parents and carers to sign your child/ren in and out of the diary's located by the front door of the nursery on arrival and departure of your child’s sessions. Please also remember to advise us if another person will be collecting your child as we do require previous notice and a password.

**Warm Clothes** - Now that autumn seems to have arrived and its getting a bit cooler, could we please ask parents to ensure that they bring their children into nursery in appropriate clothes. Children will still be accessing the outside areas at all times, therefore needing warmer clothing such as jumpers and coats.

**Staff news** - As you may be aware we are always reviewing our practice and the best possible way of running our rooms and the staff within them using their abilities and experiences in the best possible way.
With this in mind, we have decided to change some staffing arrangements within the nursery. Sharon will be swapping to the Berries team and Charlotte to the Buds team as from the 1st October with spending short periods in the different rooms on the run up over the next week to meet the different children and for the children to get to know them closer and make the transition as smooth as possible.

We would like to introduce Clare Bell who will be joined the team as bank staff, she will be covering within all rooms as required to cover staff holidays. Along with Tegan Love working within the baby room.

Please be with us and welcome them to our team.

**Students** - We would like to let you know that we currently have one student completing placement with us. Courtney joins the nursery on a Tuesday and is due to be with us until next summer. Courtney is completing her Level 3 in Childcare and is gaining experience in all the nursery rooms.

We will be joined shortly by Abi and Molly to gain experience in the Berries Room whilst they complete their health and social care Training. Abi will be with us on a Thursday morning and Molly on a Friday morning throughout October and November.

**Fundraising events** -

Jeans for genes - Thank you all for participating in our jeans for genes day on Friday 21st September, we raised £40 for this charity. Thank you

Over the next few months we will be holding 2 more fundraising events.

W/C 12th November we will again be supporting the 'Children in Need' campaign. We will be having different activities for each day throughout the nursery (details to follow shortly).

Along with cakes for sale and 'Guess the Name of the Teddy' which we would like to invite you all to join in with.

We will be talking to the children about children less fortunate than they are.

W/C 10th December will be Christmas jumper week in aid of Save the Children. Please help us raise as much money as possible for these charities.

**Christmas Parties** - We will be holding our Berries and Buds 2 Christmas parties on Wednesday 12th December over at the bowls club. The Buds 2 party will be held from 9.30am until 11.30am and the Berries party will be held from 1.30pm until 3.30pm. Further details will be sent out separately. The Babies & Buds 1
Party will be held on Monday 10th December 9:45am until 11:15am. The After-School Club film night will be Monday 17th December 4pm until 6pm. Please keep these dates free if possible.

**Berries Christmas Concert** – This year the Berries will be celebrating Christmas by presenting a Christmas Concert full of Christmas songs and cheer! We will be holding the Christmas concert at 2pm on Tuesday 11th December 2018 at the Eye Bowls Club. We are also hoping to take the children to the local Care home for the elderly in Eye to share some Christmas festivity. We will send further information in a separate email closer to the time.

**Pack lunches** – We have a number of children who have packed lunches please can we ask if your child does have a packed lunch that you do not add anything which contains nuts including some chocolate spreads, we are a nut free zone and have a child who has a severe nut allergy and want to eliminate any chances of contamination which may cause a reaction. With pack lunches in mind please look at a healthy balanced meal including fruit and dairy products, avoiding things like sweets, chocolate and processed foods such as sausage rolls.

**Facebook Page** – You may already be aware, but we do have a Mulberry Bush Nursery Facebook page, please have a look and share any comments or news you would like to share with us or other parents.

**Term Time Only Children** – Half Term will commence Monday 22nd October 2018. The Autumn Term funding will finish on Tuesday 18th December 2018. The 19th, 20th and 21st December are unfunded and full fees will be payable.

**Children’s toys from home** – Please can we ask you to try to refrain your children bringing in toys from home other than their comforters as this has caused some issues within the rooms. If your child insists on bringing them please get them to leave it in their bag during nursery time so they don’t get misplaced Thank you

**Room news**

**After School/Holiday Club** – After school club has started back after the summer holidays. We would like to welcome some new faces and welcome back everyone else. The children and I have discussed what activities they would like to do, and these are being organised for them. These include cooking, and lots of crafts.
Holiday club enjoyed another enjoyable summer. The weather was so nice that we were able to use the tent on the grass as our base apart from one day. We welcomed back some old faces and some new ones too. Everyone seemed to enjoy meeting up with new and old friends and take part in craft activities, sports, cooking and trips. Some pictures of what they have been doing during the summer are on our Facebook page. The children had great fun planning and making a new water wall which is now on the grass area for everyone to use. Although a lot of the water was not used for the wall at this time as it was so hot the children cooled themselves off by getting each other wet.

One of the cooking activities was to make homemade lemon curd which was put into small jars to take home. The children even had a taste of it and said how nice it was and how easy it was to make.

The trips were a great success but was a little challenging at times to make sure the children enjoyed their trip but stayed safe in the very hot weather. One trip the children all said they enjoyed was to Bressingham steam museum where they enjoyed rides on the 3 different trains and the gallopers. The children also planned and played hide and seek in the gardens everyone had so much fun including all the adults, no one wanted to go home.

I must take this opportunity to thank all the children who attended the trips for their great behaviour, listening skills, obeying the rules while we were out, and to the older ones for looking after the younger ones. This helped make all the trips great success and very enjoyable for the children, staff and public. We even got some of the public comment on how well the children were behaving, especially when I was counting back from 10 to 1 while they were playing hide and seek, and everyone was back before I had got to 1. The couple commented saying how well trained they were and a fun way to get everyone back without having to shout names.

It’s sad that summer holiday club is over, but fun was had by all. We are now looking forward to the October half term, you will find the Plans for this on our website.

**Berries** - The berries have enjoyed the long hot summer, we have made the most of the outside areas in the nice weather and spend a lot of time outside where we made lots of mud pies in the mud kitchen and played on the stage acting out their own little narratives. and done lots of summer activities including making lolly's, sand pictures, butterfly pasta pictures, crab and fish handprints and flip flop foot painting, we have also talked about sun safety, places to go on holiday and what we would pack in our suitcases, tried some different food from other countries and looked at different flags.
We have learnt about Rosh Hashanah which is the Jewish new year, we made honey cake, tried some different fruits and the children had a go at writing their name in Hebrew. We have enjoyed a pirate week, the children really enjoyed making pirate ships out of cardboard boxes and going on an imaginary adventure, drawing treasure maps, making pirate hats and they had great fun going on a treasure hunt on the grass.

The children have also been learning some new Makaton songs and stories with Sharon and been encouraged to use Makaton at registration time to say, 'good morning/good afternoon'. The children have seemed very keen to learn more about Makaton and been asking the adults signs for different things such as 'hello' and 'goodbye'.

Over the next few weeks we will be doing some harvest and autumn activities e.g making bread rolls, straw pictures and tractor wheel painting.

We will then turn to look at Space, doing a space project, making man on the moon scones, making planets and looking at the solar system in November we will be doing some exciting activities to help raise money for children in need, and then of course it will be the run up to Christmas, so we will have lots of Christmas activities planned.

**Buds 2** - Over the summer the Buds have been taking part in the topics; Handa's Surprise, Superheroes, At The Beach, Elmer, Food & Drink, Circus, Harvest, Mark Making, Senses and Transport & Travel.

For Handa’s Surprise the children took part in a food tasting activity, they tried the different fruits from the story such as Guava, Pineapple, Tangerines, Mango and much more! They also done some great threading using pasta and made pasta necklaces.

We looked at different Superheroes and had a go at using potato mashers to mash frozen peas, we said these were the 'evil peas' from the story Supertato. We also acted as superheroes and rescued the play people from blocks of ice using different tools such as spoons, hammers, and our hands.

We then looked at The Beach, for this the children enjoyed an ice cream in a cone for their snack (with a flake too - yummy!), they took part in activities such as footprint star fish, paper plate seagulls all displayed in our art room, and beach ball games outside.

The Buds then went on to Elmer where we read a different Elmer story each day, we made Elmer’s from milk cartons which they decorated with eyes and different coloured tissue paper, we done some colour matching and sequencing along with colour mixing.

Next, we came to Food & Drink, the Buds tried different flavoured water throughout the week, strawberry water and lemon & lime water, the strawberry
water went down a treat! They also made mini pizzas, we topped these with ham and sweetcorn. We had fun using real fruit and vegetables to paint with too.

Our next topic was Circus, we had a great week with this taking part in different circus games such as 'flaming hoops', Ring Toss, Juggling Balloons, and many more, we also loved using the Circus sensory tray, for this the children had popcorn, popcorn kernels, popcorn cartons and scoops to use. We also made paper plate clown faces, popcorn pictures and paper plate lions. Next was Harvest, we went for a walk to the farm to look for different farm vehicles, the Buds took more of an interest to the wind turbines, we also baked bread rolls, painting with vegetables, tractor painting. We also done a carrot top experiment, for this we soaked carrot tops in water and waited for the grass to sprout, once the grass had sprouted we then planted the tops into soil and we are now waiting to see if any carrots will grow.

We then went onto Mark Making; we done lots of different mark making throughout the week such as painting on tin foil, making marks in playdough with sticks, water and chalk outside along with water and paintbrushes outside also painting on Perspex. Next was Senses, we went for a walk to listen to lots of different sounds, we heard vehicles, birds cheeping and dogs barking. We also made different smelling playdough, such as curry, chocolate, peppermint, cinnamon and orange. We also sellotaped bells to paintbrushes so that when the children painted with them they could hear the bells ringing.

Transport and Travel was our last topic we have been busy making hot air balloons using real balloons which the children decorated with brightly coloured tissue paper. We used cars to paint with, boats in water, potato boat printing, train collages, masking tape roads on the floor and decorating biscuits and make them look like traffic lights.

Our next topics are; Science, Autumn, Bonfire night/Halloween, Diwali/Remembrance day, Physical, Pets, Stick Man and then we will hit our busy Christmas period, which will be full of baking, present and card making, Christmas party and we are also going to make a giant advent calendar, the advent calendar will have a different activity behind it that the children can take part in, these will be things such as; Christmas stories, hot chocolate for snack, Christmas themed crafts and much more!

**Baby Buds** - In the babies it has been a very busy fun filled time with many beginning their transition up to buds and welcoming new babies too. This term we have explored both fine and gross motor skills. The babies loved these topics a lot, the activities they enjoyed the most was our golf tee hammer box, they were able to use their toy hammers, in a real world way, by hammering the
Tee’s into a cardboard box, with help from an adult, they also really enjoyed our sticky spider web ball throwing game, they loved seeing if they could throw the ball hard enough to make it stick to the tape, in the hoop, they cheered lots when they throw the ball into the hoop.

We explored lots ways of moving, and really enjoyed our scooping and transferring station in our water tray.

We looked at the book 'The train ride', the children loved exploring the boxes we used to make a train. We first started by painting the boxes ready to make our train, and every day we had it out the children loved pretending they were going on a train ride, we explored all the different things the children saw in The train ride story, such as a hot air balloon, we made our own air balloons using our stampers, and we went through tunnels and explored different lights.

The children really seemed to enjoy the boxes so much we decided to have a construction week where we enjoyed building with them and trying to build with pasta, lasagne sheets and cannelloni with cream one session, and then using playdough another session, the babies spent a long time exploring these activities. Another activity that the babies enjoyed very much was role play building with all our tools and big boxes, dressing up in hard hats and Hi-Viz jackets.

We have really enjoyed small world play this term too, learning all about the zoo, and under the sea, we made many different animals using different materials, such as lion doilies, giraffes made with cheerio’s and butterfly’s out of coffee filters. They got very creative making these and loved making their jelly fish too, for our under the sea week.

Over the last two weeks we have been looking at space and reading a story based on this, we read 'whatever next’, and explored space by getting messy using green jelly with aliens and spacemen. We also made rockets out of boxes, and used our metal sensory basket to make space helmets out of colanders, these two weeks we explored all different kinds of lights, each morning we would make our room dark, and using our light table and different fibre-optic lights, we would explore all the different colours they made and patterns they would create in the dark, the babies sat for a good 20-30 minutes exploring these, they loved it!

Next term, we are looking at sensory play, Autumn, fireworks night and Halloween, Mark making, Food and drink, and then Christmas.
# Dates for your Diary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday 22nd October - Friday 26th October 2018</strong></td>
<td>Half Term for TTO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday 22nd October - Friday 26th October 2018</strong></td>
<td>Holiday Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W/c 12th November 2018</strong></td>
<td>Fundraising for Children in Need</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday 11th December 2018</strong></td>
<td>Berries Christmas show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W/c 10th December 2018</strong></td>
<td>Christmas Jumper week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday 10th December 2018 10-11:30am</strong></td>
<td>Babies Christmas Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday 12th December 2018 9:30-11:30am 1:30-3:30pm</strong></td>
<td>Buds Christmas Party Berries Christmas Party</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday 17th December 2018 4-6pm</strong></td>
<td>After school club film night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 21st December 2018</strong></td>
<td>Mulberry Bush Closes for Christmas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday 2nd January 2019</strong></td>
<td>Mulberry Bush Nursery Opens</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>