



Pippins Newsletter

Pre-School Classroom

It has been a busy term for the Montessori Classroom. We happily welcomed back dancing, music and French and have been very busy in the art studio. We have explored lots of resources, loose parts and materials and enjoyed some Reggio inspired professional workshops with artist Jacqui.

Earlier in the term we had fun learning about life cycles and watching our very own caterpillars change into butterflies. We have been very active in the garden creating tea parties with our new cups and saucers. We also enjoyed some sports and races in Sally's garden.

The children have enjoyed watching our plants and

vegetables grow, tasting our home grown peas and strawberries. We have explored how plants grow, looking at naming parts of a plant and discussing changes in growth. We have enjoyed finding out and looking at pictures of how everyone's sunflowers are growing. It was fun creating and decorating our own planes and boats and racing them in the garden.

In the studio, we enjoyed creating a crime scene and the children made very



good detectives! They helped draw around their friends' bodies, use magnifying glasses and take finger prints. To coincide with the Olympics, the children were busy competing in games and pushing their perseverance and risk taking skills to the limit. They enjoyed throwing, jumping and balancing on beams.

As we approach the end of term, we have been hard at work preparing the school leavers, taking part in dressing activities and reading books.

We would like to say a big thank you for our beautiful buddy bench which is already proving very popular!

All the teachers would also like to thank our lovely families for their generosity, kind words, cards and gifts.



Pippins Montessori LLP

www.pippinsnursery.co.uk

August 2021

We hope you all have a wonderful summer. To those who are going to school, we wish you all the best and to those who are returning to nursery, we look forward to hearing all about your holidays in September!



"Young children do not have to go to school to work. Playtime for them is a time of learning by practice. Every new movement which a little child makes is tried first of all tentatively and then repeated until the first clumsiness is gradually refined to an exact movement. Every plaything he uses is a tool for his work".

Maria Montessori



Forest School



Over the summer term we have been so lucky with the many opportunities that our natural classroom continues to provide. We have managed to grow our own vegetables including potatoes, onions, garlic, strawberries, beans, tomatoes, chard, lettuce and sweetcorn. This success has inspired us to create our own lunches under the canopy in the woods, try new foods and explore the circle of life. Being based on a farm, we have been able to observe life cycles and watch the farm machinery, much to many children's excitement!

The children have become more familiar with tools such as saws, loppers, knives, palm drills and have become creative with the use of ropes. The confidence grown from the use of tools has allowed us to make our own presents for Fathers' Day and we made our wonderful school leavers' gifts using the natural resources available to us in the woodland. Our little explorers

are always full of ideas and are very keen to try new things. Our days spent in the woods are continuously being filled with awe and wonder and we can only simply admire this.

We have continued to develop many areas of forest school, making it our own, adapting due to the weather and surroundings. During the drier months we have noticed signs of animals with whom we share our environment such as badgers, foxes, hares and deer. The children are now familiar with what they are looking for and love going on nature hunts throughout the week. Our brave and eager children have taken risk assessing in their stride and continue to amaze us everyday.

The staff team are already excited to see what our children can bring us in the autumn term and we only hope that we can continue to inspire and help the children to share the same love for the outdoors as we do.

Thank you for your support and enthusiasm over the past year, we are very proud of what our forest schoolers have done. Good luck to all those who are about to embark on their new journey into school, you

will all be missed and we wish you all the best!



Baby Pippins

Our babies and toddlers have once again had an amazing Summer Term. We made full use of the super weather and have taken part in lots of water play both in the garden and in the classroom!

The garden has seen a lot of football action with many of the children getting involved (shame it didn't come home!) We have lots of budding football players of the future.

As usual in Baby Pippins, we have taken part in lots of messy play. There was a lovely George Cross made from coloured rice that the children had lots of fun exploring with their hands and different utensils.

To extend our learning further, we have used flowers to paint and made some lovely colourful pictures. The children are amazed at how they can apply paint to something and it then makes a beautiful print onto paper.

We have been doing some building work in the classroom with the children using their fine motor skills to use a trowel and small spade. There was also some chocolate mud play with animals which of course tasted very nice (we didn't tell Lynne!)

There have been many children transitioning to the Montessori Classroom and Forest School. Lots of preparation goes into the transitions with short initial visits leading on to longer visits where parents collect from the new classroom.

We look forward to welcoming many new friends when we return from our summer break and we wish you all a happy, restful and enjoyable two weeks!



General

Please send your child to nursery with appropriate outdoor wear. We would be grateful if you could put your child's initials into coats, hats and wellies.

Can we please remind parents of the 48 hour rule after any sort of sickness or diarrhea. This stops the spread and helps to prevent more children or staff catching it.

For parents whose child is eligible to receive the Free Early Education extended entitlement, please remember that **every three months**, you are required to reconfirm that you remain eligible for 30 hours and

Tax-Free Childcare. You do this through the HMRC website using the log in you created when you first applied.

Contact Information

Could we please ask all parents/carers to keep us informed of any changes to contact information. This is very important should your child's Key Person need to contact you for any reason.

Please continue to check our Website, Facebook and My Montessori Child website regularly for up to date information on the nursery.

My Montessori Child (MMC)

Parents can access their child's individual profile page to see how their child is progressing and be active participants in their child's learning and development at nursery.

Activities and topics that the children have participated in can be viewed.

We recommend that parents visit MMC once a week to keep up to date with everything that is happening at Pippins and with their child.

Each child's individual album on MMC will become visible to parents on 13th August until 1st September.

Nursery Information

The nursery staff continue to test twice weekly for Covid by carrying out lateral flow tests. In time, we hope that some of the events that we held prior to Covid will be able to happen again. This will be dependent upon local rates and national guidance.

The photographer will be in attendance on Tuesday 9th November.

And finally.....

Please note that Pippins will be closed for two weeks commencing Monday 16 August and will reopen on **Tuesday 31 August 2021** after the summer break.

COVID-19

Handovers and collections will continue to take place outside. Staff and parents may wear a face covering if they wish. Please do not send your child into nursery if they have Covid symptoms. We will send them home from nursery or refuse entry if symptoms are evident. Children who have a Covid test should not come back into nursery until they receive a negative test result. Parents should please continue to adhere to the Pippins Covid-19 Policy.

Nursery Staff

Pippins staff have been very busy throughout the year updating their professional development. Charlotte has just finished her BA in Early Years and is awaiting the final result.

Emma Johnson has completed the Level 3 Qualification. Claire and Thea at Forest School are currently undertaking their Forest School Leaders qualification. Staff have attended Paediatric First Aid and Speech & Language training. Childcare qualification levels 2 and 3 have also been completed this year and in September Katrina, Becky and Thea start the Montessori Level 2 qualification. A very busy time indeed!



*We hope you
enjoy the
summer break!*

