

Welcome to Little Butterflies



Light and Dark

Dear parents/carers

We hope you have had a wonderful half term holiday and are ready for our brand new topic '**Light and Dark.**'

This half term we will start our topic by exploring Bonfire Night and celebrating Diwali. We will focus on one of our favourite core stories 'Peace at Last' and plan lots of exciting activities linking to the story. We will end our topic by getting into the Christmas spirit with a walk to the local post office to send those important letters to Santa and, of course, we will be joining Big Nursery and Reception for the nativity!

If you have any questions, queries or suggestions, please do not hesitate to pop in for a chat and we will be more than happy to speak with you.

Best Wishes,

The Little Butterflies Team



Some Important Reminders...



Attendance and Punctuality. Please ensure that your child arrives on time for school. The doors open at 8.45am for a morning/ full day session and our afternoon Nursery session begins at 12.30pm. Good **attendance and punctuality** is important, as it has a direct effect on learning. Children should not take time-off unless absolutely necessary. We are aiming for 98%-100% - please play your part in helping us to meet this ambitious target!

End of the session. Morning Nursery ends at 11.45 am and 3.30pm for afternoon/ full day. All children **must** be collected by an adult. It is important that you inform us if someone new is collecting your child. If they are unknown to us we may not allow your child to go with them. If you are late collecting your child (12:00pm or 3:45pm) please go to the office.

Uniforms and Coats. We would be grateful if these could be clearly named. Please ensure children bring a coat to school everyday, even if the weather appears warm and sunny. Please ensure your child comes to school with spare clothes in case of accidents or getting messy during play. Children should also bring in nappies, wipes and cream, their comforter and fresh water everyday in their water bottles.

School Website and Tapestry journals. We have lots of information on our school website. We have a nursery page where we will regularly put on photos and updates. Please also remember to log in and check your child's Tapestry online learning journal as all observations and photos are posted on there. If you need support accessing the website or Tapestry, please see a member of staff.



Outdoor Learning

We adopt a forest school approach to learning outdoors. We plan a range of activities to engage our children with the natural environment. This term we are spotting the changes of the seasons and using our water area lots! We have daily access to the outdoor area and children can access the outdoors freely. It is important that your child is dressed suitably for the outdoors, as we really do go out in all weather.

***Thank you for your continued support,
it really makes a difference!***

This terms 'Learning Theme' (topic). 'Light and Dark.'

Personal Social and Emotional Development

This half term we have split our children into groups— 'The dragonflies' and 'The Bumbles bees'. These smaller group times will help to develop your child's confidence with speaking in a small group and helps to prepare our oldest Butterflies for their big move to big nursery next term. We will also be spending some time at big nursery getting to know Mrs Hanlon, Mrs Mitchell and Miss Davison and their fabulous nursery to support our Butterflies who will be moving up after Christmas.

Communication and Language

This term we will be focusing on our core story 'Peace at Last.' This story is an excellent hook to develop our children's listening skills. We will be going for listening walks in school and in the local area to see what sounds our Butterflies can hear and playing plenty of listening games such as 'What's that sound?' 'Simon says' and musical statues.

Physical Development

We will continue to encourage and support our Butterflies to take off their own shoes and coats when they arrive at Nursery/ before going outside and put them away on their peg or in the shoe basket.

For children who are showing signs of readiness we will be encouraging the use of the toilet or potty and encourage/ support with dressing and undressing.

We will also be walking along to our local library developing our stamina and gross motor movements.

Literacy

We will focus on one of our favourite core stories 'Peace at last' encouraging the children to join in with repeated phrases such as 'I can't stand this!' and developing our vocabulary skills by playing games such as 'What's in the bag' providing objects for the story for the children to explore and discuss.

Maths

We will be introducing number cards for our butterflies to choose from at group time to encourage our children to count how many of their friends are sitting on the carpet each morning. We will also continue to model mathematical language as full, empty, big, small, more, less etc

Understanding the World

We will explore different celebrations such as Bonfire night, Diwali and Christmas! We will talk about what people do to celebrate these important events and even do some cooking and baking activities linked to each celebration.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will explore a range of different resources to get creative, encouraging the children to get messy with paint, gloop, shaving foam, ice and chalk. We make collective firework pictures using paint to develop our gross motor movements and add some sparkle to nursery life with lots of glitter and sequins!

We will be taking part in the Early Years Nativity and will be learning lots of lovely songs linked to Christmas. To end the term we will attend our Christmas party where the children can show off their best dance moves!

Ideas for activities to complete at home



- Visit your local library and pick a special book to read together at bedtime.
- Discuss your child's bedtime routine with them. Talk about the order of their routine e.g. we go in the bath, then put on our pyjamas, have a story then go to bed.
- Encourage your children to make marks outside with chalk—Don't worry about the mess because the rain will wash it all away.
- Look at your child's tapestry account together and talk about what they have been up to at Nursery. If your child is still a little unsettled, this may help to settle them.
- As the weather is getting colder, you could encourage your child to be more independent by getting them to have a go at putting on their coats, hats, scarves and mittens.
- Freeze some toys in water and encourage your little one to work out how to get the toy out. You could give them some salt, a toy hammer or warm water and discuss what happens.
- Let us know what lovely things you have been up to with our Little Butterflies. Upload some photos to tapestry with a few words so we can talk about their adventures at Nursery—we can even add them to our floor book!

GPS on Social Media



Facebook: @Littlebutterfliesnursery



Twitter: @Grangetown_PS



Instagram: grangetown_ps