



Batford Nursery School
& Day Care

Batford Nursery School Newsletter - July 2021



As we approach the end of yet another challenging year, we are very proud of all the Batford team for enabling the school to remain open throughout. We have overcome further challenges including working in bubbles, staff and families isolating and the constant government changes in guidance and measures. The team has worked incredibly hard to keep the school community safe as well as providing a rich and exciting learning curriculum. Let's hope that September brings some stability and a new normal way of working.

We would like to extend our best wishes to all our children moving on to Primary School, as they take their next step along their educational journey; and we look forward to welcoming back our existing and new families.

We hope you have a lovely summer and I am sure you feel like I do that it will be lovely to be able to enjoy time with family and friends. Stay safe and well.

Best Wishes,
Sarah Hedges
Headteacher

Themes & Events we have enjoyed this Year

Some of the themes we have explored this year:

- **Autumn** - The children explored changes in the garden. They collected natural resources to create various artworks.
- **Harvest** - The children learnt about harvest, looked at posters/books and found out where food comes from. We talked to the children about bringing in donations for our harvest display and what happens to the food.
- **Winter** - The children enjoyed going on winter walks around the grounds, learning more about seasonal changes. We had a fascinating impromptu session on frost and ice where children observed changes in the garden exploring scientific language and making predictions about what may happen.
- **Beebots**: The children used the Beebots (programmable floor robots). They learnt about controlling robots, programming them and making them go in different directions.
- **The Arts**: The children learnt about the Artist Paul Klee, a Swiss born painter, with a unique style that was influenced by expressionism. The children used paints to interpret his work and also painted self-portraits.



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- **Storytelling:** We used the "Tales Toolkit" to encourage the language of storytelling to include characters, settings, problems and solutions. The children particularly enjoyed it with traditional tales such as the Three Billy Goats Gruff, Goldilocks and the Three Bears and Little Red Riding Hood.
- **Snow & Ice** - The weather gave us the opportunity to learn about changes in the environment.
- **Birds** - The children and staff really enjoyed participating in the RSPB "Big Garden Birdwatch". In school we created a bird hide which some of the children enjoyed; they used binoculars to view the birds in the forest school garden.
- **Buildings** - The children have looked at images of different buildings and have used the builders' role play construction area to build and create structures.
- **Values** - Children talked about our Batford Owl values and what these mean.
- **Mini Beasts** - The children really enjoyed finding out facts about insects and mini beasts. In the garden they have observed snails, ladybirds, ants, beetles, millipedes, centipedes, slowworms and spiders. A highlight was watching the caterpillar larvae transform into butterflies which were released into the nursery garden.
- **Farm Animals** - Ark Farm brought the sunshine to Batford Nursery! The children thoroughly enjoyed their day with the animals and the animals thoroughly enjoyed being petted by the children.
- **Spring & Summer** - The children have observed blossom in the environment and have used a wide variety of materials including paint, collage and natural resources to create blossom pictures.
- **Transitions** - During this last half term we have been busy preparing the children for their transition to primary school. We have had phone consultations with most primary school teachers to discuss the children and pass on valuable information to ensure a smooth transition. Via Tapestry we have been showing children information about their new schools.
- **Yoga** - Thank you to Jean for keeping the children active during her yoga sessions - there is always a lot of fun and laughter in the hall when yoga sessions are in full flow.
- **Sponsored Circuit** - we finally managed for all the groups to complete the sponsored circuit after a few rainy day delays! The children enjoyed engaging in the physical activities and collecting their stickers. Thank you for all those that have donated to our cause we have so far raised £1,164.00. If there are any further sponsor monies to be transferred we would be very grateful if you could do this by the end of term.



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- **Individual photos** - Ian Scott Photography visited the children and we hope you agree he captured the children beautifully. They had a lovely day showing Ian their very best smiles!! <https://www.ianscottphotography.co.uk/>
- **Teddy Bears Picnic** - the children were invited to bring their teddy along to the picnic and enjoy some games and activities followed by some nibbles. Those children that are leaving us received a certificate from their key workers. The children had a lovely day and so did the teddies!



Thank Yous

- We would like to say a huge thank you to all our children. We know that those leaving us are going to continue to enjoy the next stage of their school life.
- We would like to say another huge thank you to parents and carers for your continued support throughout the year.
- Thank you to all parents/carers who have expressed their appreciation to staff and those that have made delicious food and cakes.
- Thank you to those parents who have made generous donations to the school; these will be used to benefit the children in the setting.
- Thank you to the Batford Governing Body - for all their continued support and volunteered time throughout the year.
- Thank you to all the staff for your continued hard work, energy and enthusiasm in working with our young children and families.





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2021 September Admissions & Virtual Tour for New Parents

If you know someone whose child turns 3 by 31st August 2021 please let them know we still have a number of places. Please ask them to look at our Virtual Tour on our website at

<https://www.batfordnursery.herts.sch.uk/> and contact

admissions@batfordnursery.herts.sch.uk or telephone 01582 713872 for further information and to complete an application.

Reminders

- Last day of this term is Tuesday 20th July 2021.
- First Day of Autumn Term - Unless you have been told otherwise is Friday 3rd September 2021.



Happy Holidays!!