

# January 2025 Newsletter



## Welcome Back!

Welcome back and a Happy New Year!

A very warm welcome back to all our children, parents, carers, and staff!

Congratulation on surviving the big day! We hope you managed to have some fun; however, you spent it.

Little Nest Nursery would like to wish you all a happy New Year.

We hope that your new year is off to a good start.

## What's Been Happening

Thanks to an inspiring partnership with Peabody and Penningtons Manches Cooper, we're happy to share that an apple tree now stands proudly in our garden.

This special tree is part of Penningtons Manches Cooper's incredible *Rushton Woods Project*, a global initiative honouring their late colleague James Rushton, who championed sustainability within their firm. The project's vision is to create a worldwide forest, connecting communities and celebrating his legacy.

Our tree has been marked on an internal global map showcasing all the trees planted so far, and we're overjoyed to see Little Nest Nursery contributing to this meaningful cause.





**Christmas:** We celebrated Christmas throughout the month of December by encouraging the children's development through a range of different Christmas themed activities such as Christmas sensory trays and crafts. The children also enjoyed a Christmas party, Christmas jumper day a special visit from **Hannah Sparkles** who sprinkled a bit of Christmas magic during our Christmas dinner.



## What are we going to be learning?

As part of the New Year and its theme of fresh beginnings, we'll introduce our nursery's name change to the children through engaging activities like arts and crafts and interactive circle time discussions

**Snuggle Nest** (Babies): In January we will be focusing on independent feeding and using both adult and child led feeding to promote this.

**Little Acorns** (Toddlers): We are going to slowly begin encouraging potty training. For every child this will look different, for some this will mean sitting on potty's during nappy changes while others will be communicating when they wet or soil in their nappies. This helps children's independence, which is something we strongly encourage with our Little Acorns.

**Mighty Oaks** (Pre-School): Next month we will begin our school readiness programme, getting the children all prepared for that next stage, Big School. This will be every month until they leave us to join their new school. We will also be learning more about using money to pay for things, incorporating maths skills into this, and where our food comes from. Beginning to understand the chain of food from farming to shops, to our table. **There will be lots of celebrations in January to look forward to such as Martin Luther King Day, Burns night and nursery rhyme week.**





# Learning At Home

**Snuggle Nest** (Babies): For home learning we are encouraging parents to continue independent feeding at home encouraging the children to try and pick up the spoon/food which will also help develop their fine motor skills and hand to mouth coordination skills. With babies that are weaning we understand this is not always practical, so an introduction to a variety of new tastes and textures is perfect for them.



**Little Acorns** (Toddlers): To introduce the idea of toilet training, and to build on independence skills. Please speak to us about working on this goal together. In the coming months we would like parents to encourage children during mealtimes to eat with a knife and a fork and putting their own coats on. If you would like some strategies on how to put on a coat independently, please feel free to ask a member of staff for advice



**Mighty Oaks** (Pre-School): During our role play activities we have been using tills and money and setting up different places of work, like a grocery shop, we have noticed that some of the children struggle to understand that in shops transactions take place with exchanging money for goods. It would be great if you could involve your child in food shopping, counting money, and paying for things in shops, so the children can see how this works in real life.



**We are also asking parents to share any photos over the Christmas break through the app with us to share at circle time.**

## Learning At Nursery

The Nursery planning is inspired by the seasons, festivals, nature and books as outlined in our long-term plan. The aim is to inspire children's curiosity and engage them in learning through play.

The outdoor environment is a very important part of the Nursery and children are encouraged to grow and care for plants, explore and play in the outdoors. Vocabulary, language acquisition and communication are the heart of all our learning.

# Dates for Diaries

## Spring Term 2025

**Term Dates:** Monday 6th January  
Friday 4th April

**Half-Term:** Monday 17th February  
Friday 21st February

**INSET DAYS:** Monday 7th April,  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025  
(Nursery Closed)

## Upcoming Events in January

### **Martin Luther King Jr. Day:**

Monday 20th January

### **Nursery Rhyme Week:**

Monday 20th – Friday 24th January

**Burns Night:** Friday, 24th January

**Lunar New Year:** Monday 27th –

Friday 31st January (Year of the Snake 29<sup>th</sup>) The **Year of the Snake** symbolises wisdom, elegance, and transformation, a fitting theme as we begin a fresh new year together.

On behalf of the entire team at Little Nest Nursery, we wish you a happy New Year. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to working closely with you over the coming months!

**43 Albyn Road, Deptford SE8  
4EG  
Tel: 07831 753 984**

## Collection of Children

Children may be collected from nursery only by their parents/carers or other nominated adults known to nursery staff. First time pick up's will be asked to confirm their password.

Parents and carers are kindly reminded to buzz and announce the name of the child they are picking up. For safeguarding reasons please wait at the gate, a staff member will bring your child out to you.

To help with your children's nursery routine could we kindly remind parents to drop and pick up children on time at allocated times given.

Please remember that our nursery close at 6pm. We must pay two members of staff to wait with your child after 6pm and there is a late collection fee of £10 and £1 every minute thereafter.

## Fees and Payments

To help us run the nursery efficiently all nursery fees are kindly requested to be paid monthly.

Fees are payable by BACS at the beginning of each month.

Parents are reminded that there will be a slight increase in fees from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 in line with increase in National Minimum Wage.

Eylog is our online portal. We use this to share information about your child.

Every week parents will receive pictures and observations about children's learning at nursery.

All parents should have access to EYlog. If you have trouble logging in or do not have an account, please us know.

