

SEPTEMBER 2026

Bardfield Newsletter

"The environment must be rich in motives which lend interest to activity and invite the child to conduct his own experiences."

— **Dr. Maria Montessori**

Nourishing our futures

After successfully completing the first stage of our accreditation we are now moving into the second phase, Sprouting. This next step allows us to document our already enriching mealtime environment, gathering the children's voices, promoting sustainability, and our team's training. Over the coming months, we'll keep you updated on our progress, we continue to be proud of receiving recognition for our outstanding nursery meals.

Forest school fun

The children have had such a joyful time during their forest school sessions. They delighted in collecting shiny conkers, spotting all the beautiful changes in the autumn leaves, and were thrilled to see a deer quietly wandering nearby. They brought back a wonderful selection of leaves to use for pictures and leaf rubbings, and loved exploring what squirrels eat, especially learning how cleverly they open a conker husk to reach the nut inside.

Food bank collection

A huge thank you to all our wonderful families who have donated food and toiletries to our collection. Your kindness is already making a difference. Over the next few days, the children will be taking these items to the food bank in small groups — a lovely opportunity for them to learn about helping others and supporting our community.

TOP TIPS FOR FIREWORK SAFETY



FIREWORK & BONFIRE SAFETY TIPS

FROM THE FIREMAN SAM TV SHOW AND CHILD ACCIDENT PREVENTION TRUST



DID YOU KNOW?

Fireworks are exciting, but they **can be very dangerous**. Listen to your grown-up about where is a safe place to stand.



SPARKLERS



TIP #1

Keep your sparkly sparkler safely **away** from other people and don't run with them.



TIP #2

Once sparklers are finished, put them into a bucket of water, **don't** pick them back up.



TIP #3

Wear your gloves when you hold sparklers and **keep them away** from your body.

BONFIRES



TIP #4

Stand at a safe distance from the bonfire and **stay close** to the grown-ups.



TIP #5

Don't be tempted to **throw things into the bonfire** or poke at it with sticks.

FIREWORKS



TIP #7

If you're going to a firework display, **hold hands** with your grown-up and stay with them all the time.



TIP #6

Leave your dressing up clothes at home on fireworks night, **wrap up warm** instead.



TIP #8

Put toys and phones away when you're out and about so you can focus on keeping safe and having fun!

DON'T PANIC...

If you do catch your clothes on a flame:

STOP, DROP and ROLL

STOP what you are doing.

DROP to the ground and cover your face with your hands.

ROLL over and over to put out the flames.



Practice your **STOP, DROP and ROLL** before bonfire night. Get your friends to try it too!





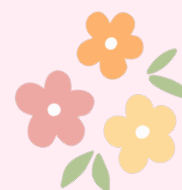
Building our independence



In Montessori, we believe that “The education of even a very small child does not aim in preparing him for school, but for life.” Maria Montessori. This beautiful idea reminds us that children learn best by doing, exploring, and taking part in the real rhythms of everyday living. We have popped a few suggestions that can nurture this at home through simple moments that build independence and confidence. Lovely activities such as pouring their own drink, setting the table, wiping their own noses, choosing outfits and getting dressed, brushing hair or teeth, helping to pair socks, washing fruit or vegetables, or watering plants all offer opportunities to practise real-life skills. These small responsibilities may seem tiny, but they have a big impact on a child’s self-esteem – and children absolutely delight in being trusted with them. It’s learning, connection, and confidence-building all wrapped into everyday life.



Nursery News



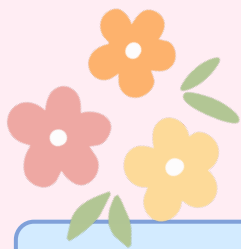
A Wonderful Start to the New Term!

We have had an absolutely fantastic start to the new term! Our new children have settled in beautifully, and it has been wonderful to watch all of the children blossom and thrive in nursery life. The nursery is full of excitement, curiosity, and happy learning.

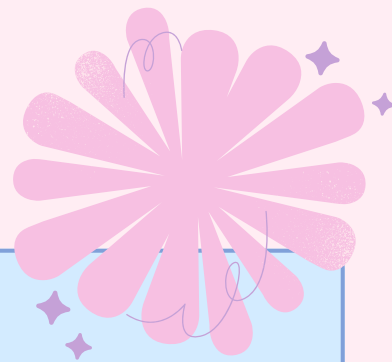
Over the summer, we made some exciting adaptations to our environments. We have modified our art areas to support creativity and self-expression, alongside cosy reading nooks designed to promote literacy and nurture a lifelong love of books. The children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring and making the most of these new spaces.

Team news

We are delighted that Lorraine, Lynn, Molly, Alysha and Sophie have begun their Montessori qualification journeys, and we look forward to supporting them every step of the way as they continue to develop their skills and knowledge.



Nursery News



Team news

Sophie's passion for supporting children and families with additional needs continues to have a hugely positive impact within the nursery. We are pleased to share that Sophie has now taken on the role of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator (SENDCO). If you have any concerns, questions, or would like support regarding your child's development, please do not hesitate to contact Sophie at:
sendo@bardfieldmontessori.co.uk

We would also like to send our heartfelt congratulations to Kim, who recently got married. We are delighted for her as she begins this exciting new chapter in her life. Kim is a valued member of our nursery family, and we know many of our children and families will want to join us in wishing her and her partner a congratulations!

You may have noticed some work taking place around the nursery recently. We are excited to share that we are currently relocating our office space, which will allow us to create a larger baby room downstairs. We cannot wait to unveil this wonderful new space for our youngest learners.

Practical life skills

As part of our Montessori approach, we place great importance on fostering independence and practical life skills. Every day, the children take part in preparing and cooking their own snacks and teas. The children have enjoyed making homemade baked beans, scrambled eggs and scones. They have been enjoying developing practical life skills such as grating, mixing, pouring, weighing and more!

Key worker development calls

Finally, please keep an eye out during the October half term, as your child's key person will be making their termly phone call home. These conversations are a lovely opportunity to discuss your child's progress, celebrate achievements, and answer any questions you may have.