

## Nursery Peek at the Week

### Weekly News

**Happy New Year to all of our Nursery Families!**

**Please remember that we would like photographs showing how the children celebrated Christmas, birthdays, Eid or any other festivals that you share as a family.**

There is lots of information in this week's peek so please settle down with a cup of tea or coffee (or any drink of choice) before you begin!

We would like to say a very big welcome to all of our new families who have joined us at Dorchester Nursery. The new children are settling very well and adjusting well to the new routines. New parents/carers please try to introduce yourselves to Zoe (Elodie's mum) she is our Class rep and can help you with any questions you may have or if you would like to get to know other Nursery parents. She can also let you know all about Friends of Dorchester Primary School (FODs) which is our school PTA.

The other children have all re-settled back into nursery life but have also had to get used to a change of routine. With more children joining us in January we have been able to get an extra member of staff and this has enabled us to make full use of our additional classroom (Copper Class). We are mainly using this room as our Snack time zone. Throughout the morning/afternoon, the children will have the opportunity to go to Copper Class to sit and eat their snack with their key worker friends. During this time they will also have the time to share a story, The Nursery Floor book (which shows our learning for the year) and the children's WOW books (their individual learning journeys).

The children also have two carpet sessions each day with their key worker. Once the children are settled, the session begins with a 'Huddle Time' where the children sing good morning/afternoon to each other and use The Zones of Regulations to talk about their feelings. This is followed by a carpet session in their group that will include Phonics, Maths, Dough Disco, Squiggle While you Wiggle, topic etc. At the end of the session the children have a story time mainly focusing on our '3 a day' stories.

This week for their Maths learning the children have been learning to subitise (please see details below), in Phonics the children have been learning about the 'i' phoneme and looking for objects beginning with 'i'. We have also started Dough Disco to develop the children's finger muscles in preparation for writing.

## **Dough Disco**

Please practise these moves at home if you do not have playdough you can make your own using flour, salt, oil and water.



## Key Worker Information



I am the key worker for Amber group and Amber bear is our group mascot. Amber group are now using Copper Class as our key Worker base. The children in Amber group are encouraged to start their day in Copper class, ready for key worker time. However, some of the children may choose to stay in the main nursery with their friends from other key worker groups and that is OK. They will join us in Copper Class as soon as we start our first session.

When I am out of class all day Thursday and Friday mornings, Kelly does the key worker sessions for Amber group.



Munaza is the key worker for Millie group and their mascot is Millie bear. They meet in the construction area for their key worker sessions. When Munaza is out of class on a Thursday, Jennie does their key worker sessions.



Carol is the key worker for Casper group and their mascot is Casper bear. They meet on the carpet of the main nursery for their key worker sessions.



If your child has just joined us and they are due to stay in nursery for five terms (they will not start Reception until September 2025) then they will be in Ollie group. Gemma is their key worker and will be working in Nursery every morning; she has just joined us at Dorchester and has lots of experience in another Nursery. Ollie the orang-utan is the mascot for Ollie group. They meet on the carpet just outside of Copper class for their key worker sessions. If your child is a five-termer who attends for 30 hours they will also have Munaza or myself as their keyworker in the afternoon.

Children who are attending for five terms will obviously be following a slightly different curriculum to the children who are due to start reception in September, for example, you will see that their 3 a-day stories are stories that the other children have already learnt.

We also have Zoe who many of you know as Elodie's Mum and our Class Rep. She has joined our Nursery team and will be with us every day. Zoe does not have a specific key worker group but will be working to support all of the children.



**If you are unsure who your child's key worker is then please email me or speak to a member of the nursery staff. From next week, the group mascots (teddies) will be visiting your houses. If it is your child's turn to have a visit from their key worker mascot please do not feel pressurised to go on any special adventures. All that we ask is that you send a couple of photographs of what you have done at the weekend. These will be used to support your child to talk about their weekend with the rest of their key worker group.**

With the addition of Gemma and Zoe to the Nursery team, Sarah is no longer joining us to support at lunchtimes. However, she is now supporting the Reception children at lunchtime and of course, she is still managing Willow Club (before and after school club).

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to email me or Munaza using the email addresses below:

[aglover13@suttonmail.org](mailto:aglover13@suttonmail.org) -Annabel Glover-Nursery Class Teacher, EYFS lead and Phonics Lead

[mahmad68@suttonmail.org](mailto:mahmad68@suttonmail.org) – Munaza Ahmad- Nursery Class Teacher

## Important Information!

**Only 5 days left to apply for your child's primary school place.**

### Applying your child's primary school place

If your child is due to start primary school in September 2025.

Being in our nursery does not automatically mean that you will be given a primary school place at our school. If you have not seen the rest of the school I highly recommend that you come to an open morning or evening to find out all about the lovely curriculum that we have to offer. This includes Forest School and many other extras that other schools may not have (please see dates in our key dates section).

**Please see details below detailing how to apply for a school place:**

If you are Sutton resident, please use the link below:

<https://www.sutton.gov.uk/w/applying-to-start-primary-school-1>

If you are not a Sutton resident please see the website below:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-primary-school-place>

These websites offers guidance and step-by-step guides to help you through the process.

**Applications close on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025.**

National offer day will be on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2025

If you live in another borough, you will need to apply through your local council's website but you are still able to select Sutton schools.

If you have any questions regarding this, please ask.

A reminder that we need each of the children to bring in a cardboard box. The children will be using these to make models of their homes.

Please no boxes that have contained nuts!!

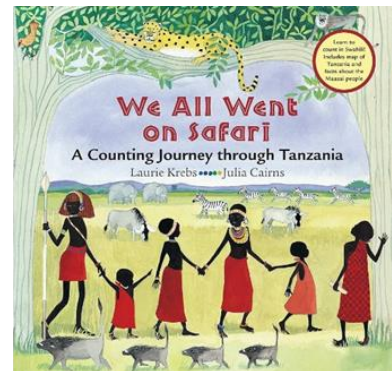
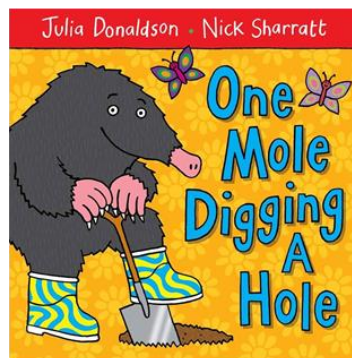
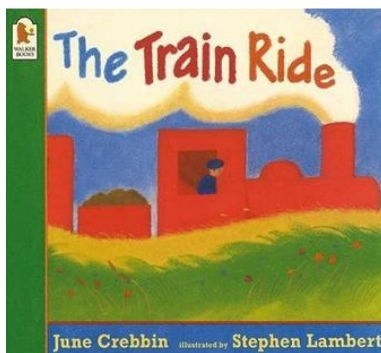




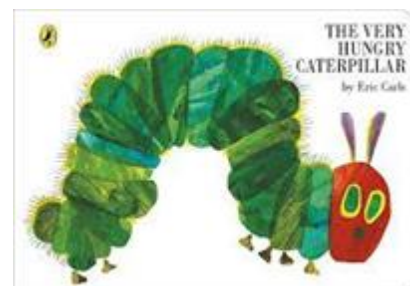
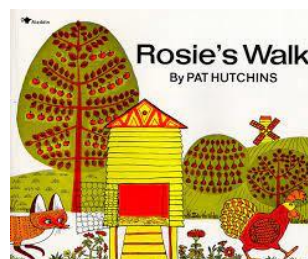
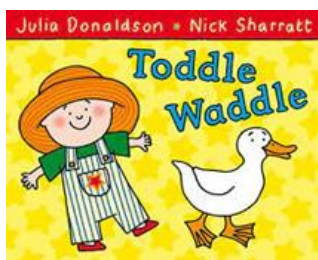
### School Gateway

This is an app that the school use to communicate with parents/carers. This is how you will receive the School's Weekly newsletter and all other information about important events happening within school. This is also the app that you can use to pay for lunch club and other school activities. You will need to download the app and sign up. Please let us know if you have any technical difficulties.

**3-a-day Stories for Amber, Casper and Millie group children:** The children have learnt our last 3 a day stories really well. These are our new 3 a day stories for this half term:



**3-a-day Stories for Ollie group children:** These are stories that the children hear every day. These stories have been carefully chosen to help the children to develop a love of reading and to help them to develop early reading skills. These stories have key elements that support the children to retell them for example many of them use rhyme or repeated phrases.



### Dip and Do

These are some ideas of things that you may like to do to support your child's learning at home.

- Can you practise your Dough Disco moves?
- Can you find objects beginning with i (i for iguana and ink not icecream)?
- Can you write the first letter of your name (of course, more letters is fantastic)?
  - Can you subitise?

### What have we been learning Nursery?

Please show your child these pictures and encourage them to talk about them.

#### Subitising

Subitising is the ability to look at a small set of objects and instantly know how many there are without counting them. For example, when rolling a dice we don't need to count the dots to know what we have rolled. It is important in the early development of number sense. To develop the children's subitising skills we regularly show the children different objects or images and ask **what do you see? How do you see it?**



I see a three, a two, a two, a three and a one.

I see a two, a two and another one.





**Bertha the Bus-i**

Bertha the bus goes to the zoo, what does she see as she passes through?

Iguana

Impala

Insect

Igloo