

Welcome to the Summer edition of our company magazine. From all of the staff across our 11 sites, we wish you all the most perfect holiday and hope that the weather is kind to us all wherever you may be.



Whether you and your children are still busy working and attending nursery or foot loose and fancy free over August, here are some fun activities that will keep you all entertained and busy this summer.

NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT

- | | |
|--|---|
| ○ worm  | ○ bee  |
| ○ snail  | ○ bird  |
| ○ butterfly  | ○ bug  |
| ○ leaf  | ○ twig  |
| ○ animal  | ○ water  |
| ○ pinecone  | ○ berries  |
| ○ nut  | ○ feather  |
| ○ web  | ○ flower  |

SCAVENGER HUNT

Scavenger hunts are a great way to get children outside and encourage exploration in a fun and exciting way. They also encourage them to use their problem-solving and observation skills to seek out hidden gems. It offers a sense of independence as they seek out the individual items on their own. It can help children better understand the world and promote discussions around season change, weather, travel, animals etc supporting their communication and language development.

DEN BUILDING

Den building is a great way to spark creativity and imagination but also provides children with a sense of independence and allows them to challenge themselves and problem solve. Outdoor den building offers the added bonus of exploring the natural world and testing different materials which makes it a great activity for the summer holidays. The physical act of building a den involves gross motor skills through lifting, moving, carrying and fine motor skills through gripping, manipulating and tying knots. Children learn new vocabulary and practice using instructions, descriptions, actions and positional language.



ARTS AND CRAFTS

Crafts can be used to promote so many areas of learning. For example, designing and writing a postcard to a friend or family is fun and Creative, but it also improves children's language and communication. Similarly, creating ice cream out of playdough may seem like a simple activity but is also great for improving fine motor skills as the act of moulding the dough into shape builds up strength and muscles in their hands. Which is useful for future activities such as holding a pencil. Creating transient art pieces not only encourages creativity but it requires children to develop concepts, plan, and represent ideas which also improves concentration and the ability to complete tasks.

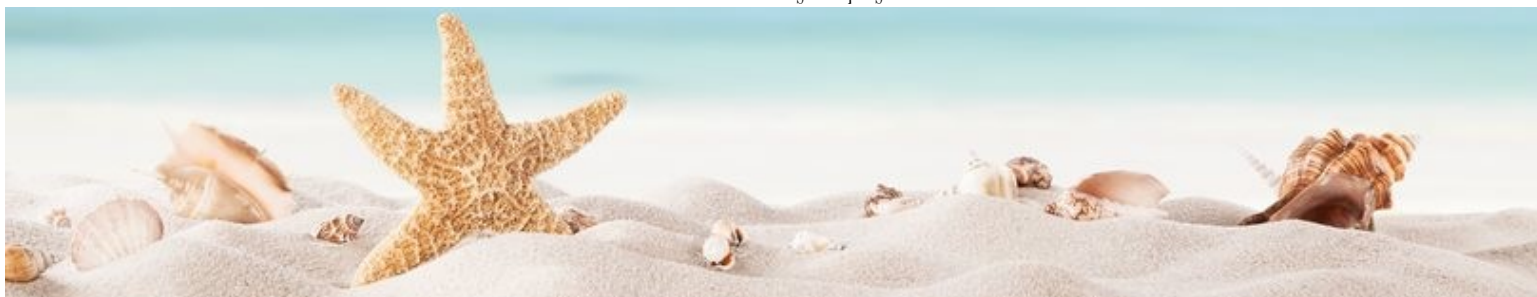


GARDENING

Garden based activities are a great way to keep children occupied and will provide them with a sense of responsibility and patience as they care for the plants. They will also develop a deeper understanding of cause and effect, for example, plants die without water, and this contributes to children's well rounded knowledge of the world around them. Growing plants and vegetables is a great way to introduce concepts of sustainable and healthy living. It can also help build positive attitudes towards healthy eating habits.

SAND AND WATER PLAY

Playing in sand is a fantastic activity for developing motor skills, including hand-eye coordination and strengthening muscles. It also offers a sensory, immersive and calming experience that cannot be replaced with modern technology or TV. Sand play can also offer the unexpected benefits of increased immunity. Research shows that children who play outdoors in the grass, sand or dirt have healthier immune systems than children who are constantly in sterile, indoor environments. Water play is a great sensory experience that can be used for effectively calming children that are overwhelmed. It can offer a whole host of learning opportunities; water play allows children to practice skills like problem-solving, logical thinking, maths, science, language and social skills in a hands-on way and in a real-world environment. Water play lets children use large and small muscles and is a great way to develop their motor skills, for example, as they fill up and pour from buckets or ring out sponges.





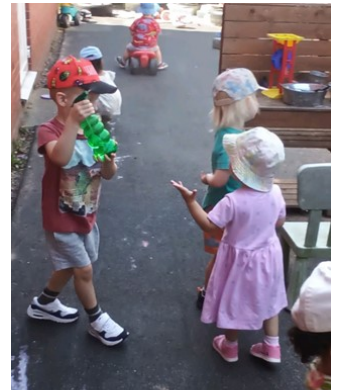
At **Old School Nursery** we have been celebrating new life and learning about life cycles through experience. The children have observed the changes of caterpillars to butterflies, tadpoles to frogs and eggs to chicks. They were able to discuss the changes as they were happening whilst also learning about how to care for living things. Alongside learning to care for living things, the children have been regularly watering the plants that they planted in the garden during spring, knowing that they need water and sunshine to grow. We have already harvested the potatoes, some strawberries and raspberries and have many more fruit and vegetables growing.



To continue to support the children's interests and development, the staff at Old School Nursery have recently completed a mud-run to raise funds to improve the growing area within the nursery garden. They were able to raise an outstanding amount of £940 which will go towards transforming the growing area ready for next summer.

During the extremely hot weather that we have experienced recently, the children have been learning about how to keep themselves cool and hydrated. They have participated in ice play activities, water play activities and during the extremely hot afternoons, they have had some quiet time indoors, making marks on a large scale and decorating boxes to create "robots".

In preparation for the school transition, the children have been exploring the school uniform within the home corner where they are able to practice dressing/undressing and becoming familiar with the uniform that they will be wearing in September. We are all looking forward to celebrating the children during their graduation and we wish them a happy and successful transition to school.



This term at **City Nursery**, Preschool children have been learning all about how butterflies grow before watching them being released. They enjoyed spotting lots of different butterflies on our walks to the cathedral. We have said a sad goodbye to our school leavers where we held a graduation party with a bouncy castle and goodie bags. Butterfly room have been enjoying lots of water play trying to keep cool in the heat, we too have watched our caterpillars grow and change into beautiful butterflies.

This term we have enjoyed adventures to Salisbury Cathedral, where you have had balls and bubbles which you could chase after. We have created new sensory opportunities-sensory bags and bottles for the children to explore, we also have a new mud kitchen in the garden with lots of natural resources to add into their play.





At **Bemerton** we have had a very busy last term. We have watched caterpillars transform in to butterflies, made the most amazing models from our recycling, have tried lots of different foods with our Healthy Eaters project, had a wonderful graduation for our leavers and all 3 classes have had their end of term parties complete with games, prizes and lots of yummy food. We are looking forward to a nice break over the summer and we wish our leaving families all the very best and look forward to welcoming back our returning families alongside lots of new families in September.



Here at **Trinity**, we are really enjoying the lovely sunny weather in our garden space, even though at sometimes it has been too hot to stay outside. The children have been involved in a wide variety of activities including outside art, printing, building houses and more importantly paddling in water to cool down and eating nice cold lollipops.

We said goodbye to our tadpoles and released them back into their pond environment. Some of them had made the change to froglets, which the children were astounded with.

On Friday we will be having our Graduation party with our older children and their families where there will be food, cake and presents before they go off onto their new adventure, "Big School", in September.

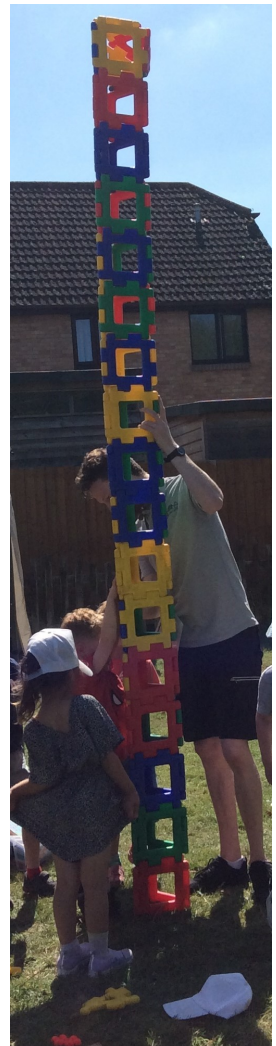


All the children will be missed terribly and we wish them the most happiness in their new school.





At **South Hills Calne** this term, we've been delighting in our garden space and making the most of the glorious sunshine. The children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the lemonade stand in the mud kitchen and discovering how to make potions and creations. The vocabulary and descriptive language used by the children clearly shows how much they have progressed. They have been developing their gross motor skills and trying out new sports. Term 6 is always bittersweet, as some of our Explorer room children transition to our Adventure room, and our Adventure room children prepare to leave for school. We are exceptionally proud of all our children and feel incredibly fortunate to have been part of their journey. We know that our Big Adventure room children will have a wonderful time at school. We will miss them and wish them the very best for their next adventure! We hope you have a lovely summer holiday!



At **Burcombe**, all the children took part in a sponsored bike ride to raise money for the end of year party. Everyone did so well and raised lots. As it has been so hot we have had lots of water play to keep cool which the children enjoyed. We visited the farm and played in the outdoor school as well as feeding the goats. We even gave the chickens some frozen fruit to help cool them down too. As we approach the end of the school year we had a teddy bears picnic at the park and we are all looking forward to our end of year party. Have a great, fun and safe summer holidays and we will see you all in September.





At **Froxfield** we have enjoyed a busy Summer so far. Babies & Toddlers have been enjoying sensory play using their hands and feet. Activities such as exploring their new home



made holistic bags and bubble wrapping their feet, to then stamp in paint and mark make on paper have been enjoyed by all.

Lower Nursery have been exploring natural materials. Everyone has enjoyed play in the sand pit, games with tweezers and slippery ice cubes in the ice tray and also with leaves and twigs which everyone brought in from their gardens.



Upper Nursery have been using Summer as their focus. They have visited their home made beach for rock pooling and splashing.

They have been buying ice creams, using real pennies to count and pay for their cones. The flowers we planted have all needed watering and after Sports Day we started to prepare for our Summer Leavers Show which is a musical version of the story of Noah's Ark!

Good luck to our Big School leavers we will miss you all!



All of the children and staff have had a very busy term here at **South Hills Wilton**. It has been lovely to see the sun shine and we have certainly made the most of the fabulous weather.

The children have been using their senses in many ways when exploring activities. There have been lots of water play, both indoors and outside. Some water trays had ice mixed with a variety of herbs in it and some mixed with various coloured paints. Tough trays with beautiful flowers in and coloured water exploring smell and textures. The children had fun with spray bottles filled with water and painting with water on the playground and watching their pictures disappear before their eyes.



Role play areas in all rooms have regularly changed to incorporate the children's interests and they have explored hairdressers, camping, fish & chip shop & an ice cream parlour.



We had a fantastic sports day this year with a wonderful turn out from parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles etc: The children all took part and had a great time getting involved with all of the races.

The Barn children put on an end of term play this year about 'Superworm', they looked magnificent in their costumes and sang the songs and said their lines beautifully.



All of the team and children at South Hills Wilton wish everyone a fun and happy summer and we look forward to next terms adventures.





South Hills **Rowde** is ready to open its doors to everyone in September. Based within the Primary School, it caters for children aged 2-5 years. Over the last few weeks, we have held a number of successful stay and play sessions, which have included activities such as playdough, craft, water play with flowers, and mark making. The children have particularly enjoyed playing in our indoor sand pit, and the curiosity corner where they have had fun playing with the guitar, the bongos and the manual typewriter. The children have enjoyed an introductory music session with Jo. We have a wonderful outdoor space with a rustic mud kitchen and a garden area which we are going to cultivate into a flower and vegetable garden with the children taking the lead on how we develop it. We are both excited to welcome the children in September.



Winding down towards the end of term and enjoying each other's company, in the beautiful sunshine that we have been to lucky to have, before our Preschoolers say a bittersweet farewell. The rain blew over and **St Peter's** were able to enjoy



a super successful Sports Day; after weeks of practice, strengthening those all-important gross motor skills, also helping to develop a child's confidence, the children did us all proud. And from the sounds of happiness and the smiles on their faces, it was very much apparent that they too were also just as proud of their own accomplishments. To continue the theme of celebrations, and ending on a high, we will all come together for a final celebration, our pre-school leavers party; the extra special, inflatable- themed event being made possible thanks to our sponsors and donors after we hosted our recent 'cake sale' and 'Teddy Toddle.'

