



# HEDGEHOGS NEWSLETTER

## FRIDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

Welcome back to Nursery and a very happy New Year to you all!

We hope you had a lovely Christmas break. Thank you so much for all the kind cards and thoughtful gifts. It has been so lovely to see the children again and to feel the Nursery come back to life with their smiles, chatter and busy play.

We have had a very busy week learning all about Winter, Winter animals and hibernation. We talked lots about what the weather is like now that we are in Winter, what the trees look like, whether it feels hot or cold, what activities we can do in Winter and what we might wear or do to keep warm.

We then moved on to learning about hibernation, what it means and which animals hibernate. The children have loved using natural resources alongside Lego and Duplo to create homes for different animals. They also enjoyed role-playing together as the animals, talking about what they needed to collect to build their homes for the Winter. We discussed how different animals use different materials, such as hedgehogs using leaves, mice using grass and bats finding caves or dark spaces to hide in.



**Oliver's Battery**  
PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

# EXPLORE. LEARN AND DISCOVER!

Towards the end of the week, the children explored using clay to make their own hedgehogs. We talked lots about rolling and squishing the clay to create the right shapes, discussed the different features that hedgehogs have, and then used small pieces of spaghetti to make the hedgehogs' spikes.

## A HELPING HAND FROM HOME

As the children continue to develop and we move further on into the year, we will be making some changes to our Nursery room and adding new activities and areas to our provision. We are planning to introduce a Mark Making Station, which will encourage children to make their own marks and help older children focus on their pencil grip in preparation for Reception. We are also creating a Playdough Station and a Fine Motor Station, both designed to help build strength in the children's hands. These areas will be available to the children throughout the Nursery day, giving them plenty of opportunities to explore and practise their skills.

If you have any resources at home that you think could be used in these new areas and are no longer being used, we would love to hear from you! Items such as wooden rollers, natural objects for printing into playdough, wooden trays or bowls, wooden lacing activities, playdough cutters, pens, pencils, crayons, or different types of paper would all be very welcome and would find a happy home in our Nursery.



## GENTLE REMINDER

As the weather continues to stay cold and wet, please could we make sure that all children have a warm, waterproof coat suitable for outdoor play, wellie boots, and waterproof trousers and jackets for Forest School.

Hats, scarves and gloves are also really helpful during the colder winter weather. We try to spend time outside in all weathers whenever possible, but children may not be able to take part if they do not have the correct clothing to keep them warm and dry.

We would also like to kindly remind families that children's water bottles should contain water only. To help avoid items getting lost or misplaced, please could toys, books, lip balms and any other personal items be kept at home rather than brought into Nursery. Thank you for your understanding and support.

**HAVE A LOVELY WEEKEND  
SOPHIE AND THE TEAM**

