

Big News



Some of our Autumn Activities



- 'Caring is sharing and Giving is good'. Charity shop, community library, favourite breakfast cereal donations.
- Operation Christmas Child Appeal: decorate, fill and send a shoebox to a child in need.
- Italian culture: pizza maths and gelato ice cream role play, exploring tempo, pitch and rhythm with instruments.
- The wheels on the bus: enormous bus creation, vehicle song and rhyme, construction discovery walks.
- Discover numerical Autumn: counting the leaves, apples and our harvest of potatoes, using tens frames, songs and categorising to become masters of quantity.
- Rugby Tots with Alex and Splanglish with Rachel.

Thank you Henry and family for telling us about your Italian family heritage



Highlights

Autumn Menu of Activities

Keyworker catch up

Warm Welcomes

Makaton and Visuals

Reminders

Behaviour

We will be closed on bank holidays and for these dates:

Autumn: Closed 28th Oct – 1st Nov 2024.
Open Mon 4th Nov.

Christmas: closed 25th Dec 2024 – 1st Jan. Reopen Thurs 2nd Jan 2025.

Easter: closed Mon 14th – 21st April. Open Tues 22nd April

Summer: Closed mon 28th July – Fri 8th Aug. Open Mon 11th Aug 2025



Communication: Drop off's and picks ups can be busy and not always a good time to talk.

We want to be in touch with you. The more we talk, the better we understand your

child's lived experience and the more consistency we have in their care. Please let us know your preferred way to stay in touch. Email, video call, face to face meetings.

Thank you to all who joined our 'keyworker catch up' in

September. This was an informal, drop in hour for you to catch up with your keyworker, Sue, Leisa and other parents. We enjoyed the opportunity to talk to you and will have more dates for 'keyworker catch ups' in the new year.

Warm welcome to our new Little Incredibles



Events:

- * 21st and 23rd October: Child development meetings
- * W/c 21st Oct Food bank donations
- * 12th December: Christmas parade
- * 13th December: Tea with Father Christmas. Start 4.30pm.
- * 17th Dec 10am visit to St Peters Church

Violet continues to support the team in Wildlings on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.



Funding: If you wish to apply for extended entitlement for the Spring term you can do through the government link <https://www.gov.uk/apply-30-hours-free-childcare>. If you are claiming funding don't forget to reconfirm your eligibility when prompted by HMRC or you could lose your entitlement.

Inclusive practise:

At Little Incredibles we are privileged to support each child in the learning journey. Communication and language underpins all of our children's learning and their ability to express their needs, wants and understand what is happening or being asked of them. This has a big impact on their sense of security and self esteem.

We know that using sign language - such as makaton - and using visuals, supports spoken language development, sense of belonging and being listened to....



Makaton: Babies and young children naturally use a range of gestures and sounds to communicate before they have words. Therefore, signing is working on a natural communication strength.

Makaton can:

- Help children to understand what is happening as it gives them a visual reinforcement
- Support verbal communication. Signing does not stop a child from talking it just acts a bridge to spoken language.
 - Allow children to communicate their wants and needs.
 - Allow children to join in, in a conversation through commenting.
 - Help's to ease frustration related to communication.



Visuals: Many children will develop understanding ahead of their speech, which will leave them feeling frustrated as they may know what they want but are unable to express it.

When we talk, the words we say are abstract and disappear! Visual supports last for a much longer time as it provides something more concrete to aid understanding. When we use visual support at the same time as talking, we give children extra time to understand, prepare for change, and think about how to respond.

Using visuals can help our children:

- Become more independent
- Adapt to changes in routine
- Reduce anxiety
- Remain calm and focussed while completing tasks
- Follow instructions
- Learn the sequence of a new task eg independently brushing their teeth
- Transition to another task
- Learn new words
- Feel empowered and have a sense of control over their time.





Behaviour

Achieving positive behaviour through....

..... consistent and clear boundaries

Managing our children's behaviour is HARD and sometimes it is easy to just let them have the thing they want so they stop wailing at you. However, as you know, this just sends them the clear message that if 'I wail louder and longer I will get what I want'.

Children thrive from having CLEAR and CONSISTENT boundaries and expectations. It may feel like a battle of wills at times, but try to persist, don't give in to avoid conflict with your child.

..... developing child autonomy and decision making.

Pause, try to understand why the behaviour is happening, this may help you to respond appropriately and avoid an emotional outburst.

Avoid mirroring your child's emotions no matter how frustrated you are starting to feel.

Validate and label how your child may be feeling. This will give them the vocabulary to start to verbalise how they are feeling.

Remember that no matter how trivial the issue is to you, it is very important to your child, try not to undermine their strong feelings by calling them 'silly'.

Don't expect an older sibling to relinquish toys because 'he's only a baby'.

Practise turn taking with your child, with toys and in conversations.

Don't take something from your child if they are refusing to give it to you, this gives them the message that it is ok for someone bigger and stronger to snatch. They may be happy to put it away somewhere than give it to you directly.

....responding appropriately to behaviour that is NOT hurtful or dangerous.

Ignore? Sometimes bringing attention to the behaviour can exacerbate it.

Distraction: draw attention to something else, change your tone, start to whisper about something to draw them in or model your preferred behaviour.

Give clear instruction on what you want your child to do 'feet down' rather than 'don't put your feet on the table'. Try to avoid 'don't' 'stop' 'no'.

Stage your response to give opportunity to make a good choice:

1. Give a positive instruction with a short explanation.
2. Provide 2 options for the child to choose 'can I help you sit on your chair or can you do it by yourself'.
3. Standing on your chair is not safe, I'm going to help you sit on your chair.

...zero tolerance of emotionally or physically hurtful behaviour.

Hitting, biting, pushing, pulling, kicking, unkind words or actions should never be ignored. The smack in the face or the bite on the shoulder, may not cause you actual pain or upset or be intentional, but by modelling hurt and upset and labelling your emotions, you are establishing the group rules for behaviour and social interaction early.

1. Put your child down or move away from them immediately.
2. Look hurt.
3. Use simple phrases 'biting hurts' 'hitting hurts'.
4. I'm sad/angry/annoyed that you spoiled my game.
5. Saying 'sorry' does not excuse the behaviour. Children should understand there are consequences to hurtful behaviour.
6. Always make it clear that it is behaviour that is unacceptable and never label the child as 'naughty' / 'strop' / 'bad'.
7. Give the child time to reflect. Do NOT sit them on the 'naughty step'.
8. Depending on the child's stage of development insist that they remain in a designated space until YOU are ready to reengage with them (also gives you chance to cool off). DO NOT talk to them during this period of reflection.
9. When YOU are ready to accept an apology, you can reengage with your child.

Examples of simple phrases in response to biting....

- * Biting hurts.
- * I am sad because biting hurts.
- * I don't like it when someone bites me, it hurts.
- * Please do not bite me again, biting hurts.
- * I'm ready to play with you again and it will make me feel happy if you say/show me you are sorry for biting me.

PLEASE REMEMBER: if there has been an incident at the nursery and your child has hurt another, the incident has been 'dealt' with. If you decide to 'repunish' your child they will be less inclined to talk to you about incidents in the future.