

# December 2025 Newsletter

Chair of Governors: Sarah Walker

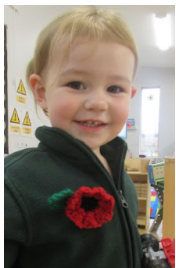
Governors: Jade Brown, Joseph Burton, Adam Campbell, Grant Chaney, Suzi McIntosh, Amaritpal Uppal, Hannah Wadsworth and Claudia Wallis

Welcome to our latest newsletter.

## Saplings News

We have had a busy, fun, glitter filled term of learning and achieving. We started the term off by welcoming our new practitioner Ewa, she brings a wealth of experience and we are happy to have her join the team! Our learning power this term is knowledge. Through activities, play and group work the children have been developing and learning skills such as ability to follow rules, independent hand washing, number recognition and enjoying stories.

Our first week kicked off with lots of firework's activities. We made firework paintings, learned about how to stay safe on bonfire night and had lots of messy tuff trays. We also started to learn about Remembrance Day and made poppies for our display.



For our next week we continued our learning around Remembrance Day and observed a 2-minute silence and watched a lovely video which explains what it means to children. We also had Children in Need week and made some fabulous Pudsey creations, messy play, dough disco and squiggle while you wiggle during group times.

## Saplings Reminders

- Please remember to name your child's clothes, bags, outdoor wear etc. We are a very busy setting and things get misplaced; this makes it easier to reunite lost items with their owner.
- With the colder weather in full swing, please ensure your child is always sent in with weather appropriate clothing and outdoor wear, including wellies. We spend a lot of time outside at Saplings and this can help to keep the children warm and dry.
- Bring a named water bottle in daily for your child so they can have easy access to water freely.
- Please note the below visual in relation to children being well enough to attend Saplings. Illnesses do spread quickly and we have to ensure the children are okay to be here and keep all staff and children safe and healthy.

### Should My Child Attend Today?

#### PLEASE STAY HOME

- Temperature above 37.5c
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea
- Rashes, spots or contagious conditions
- Sticky, red, runny or sore eyes
- Needs Calpol (or equivalent) to get through the day)
- Dry constant or barking cough

#### PLEASE DISCUSS BEFORE DROPPING AND BE ON CALL TO COLLECT IF NEEDED

- Sporadic Cough
- Runny nose, which is green/yellow
- New Medicine prescribed
- Fever free 24 hours
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea free for 48 hours
- Unable to join in all activities

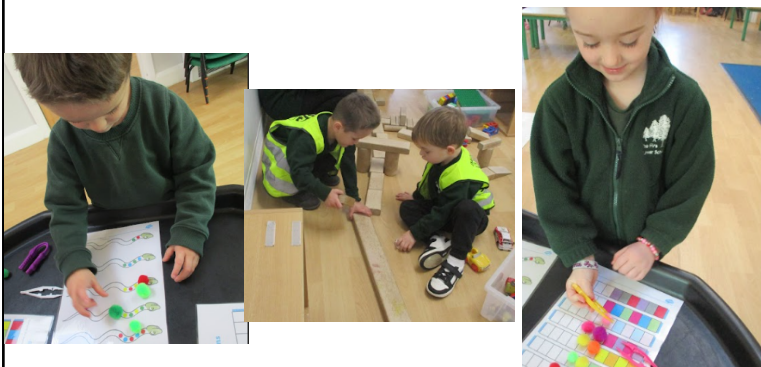
#### OK TO COME AND PLAY TODAY

- Mild cough
- Runny clear nose
- Can join in all activities





The third week we explored colours and patterns. The children enjoyed lots of learning through creative activities, pattern matching and fine motor skills development. The children also took part in a Lockdown drill, and they showed great understanding and listening skills during this.



### Reminder of session times AM/PM

- Gate opens 9:10am – 9:20am for morning drop off.
- Lunch time gate is open 12:10pm – 12:20pm.
- End of day gate is open 3:10pm – 3:20pm.

Please do contact us via phone, Class Dojo or email as soon as possible if you will be late, or your child is absent.

We have recently sent out a parent survey via google forms to gain some feedback from yourselves on Saplings. This helps us to make positive changes where needed going forwards and implement new things. We would really appreciate if you could take a few minutes to do this.

Thankyou!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc-NDn0oXxHoDiQ5iGihJfomqEIDlfr5z3krUboxMqQm6RA/viewform?usp=header>

### Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Return to Saplings

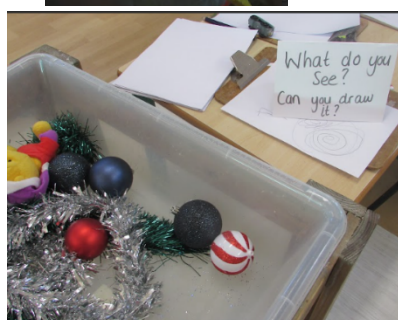
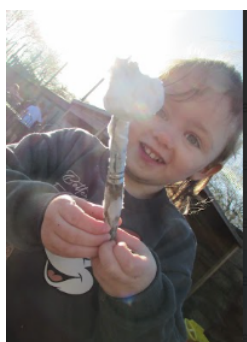
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Last day of term



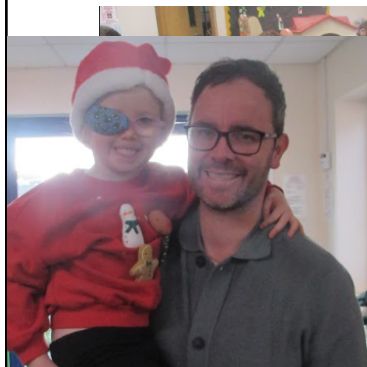
Next week we started on Christmas activities and The Gruffalo story. The children enjoyed many a craft activity making different cards, decorations, paintings, gingerbread men...! We enjoyed The Gruffalo story with puppets and the children loved helping to retell the story using a character.



Our fifth week we delved deep into Christmas magic! We made clay decorations, ice play with winter animals, snow playdough, and lots of obstacle courses outdoors. We also started learning some fabulous Christmas songs, and enjoyed stories such as Stick Man, Gruffalo and Snow bear.



The next week was our wonderful Christmas craft week and the children enjoyed their sessions making crafts with their families. In Saplings, we explored activities including making Santa letters, peppermint playdough and feeding Rudolph. The children worked really hard on their counting and number recognition skills this week too.



Our last week of term we continued in the festive spirit and learned about the nativity story. We had lots of sensory play including coloured rice, shaving foam and glitter. We focussed on practicing our numbers, counting and colours during group times too. The children enjoyed a fantastic magic comedy show from Krisgar which was a treat from our PTA on Tuesday. Christmas jumper and lunch day was a wonderful fun time all round, followed by a special visit on the last day of term!





We do hope you have a wonderful Christmas break with your families, and we look forward to seeing you all back in January.



## Upcoming Learning

Next term the learning power will be independence. We will help the children develop skills such as following routines and boundaries, fine motor development and communicating with peers. Our weekly topics will be around winter and new year activities.

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