



October 2025



Senior staff on site

Bryony Durnell will be taking on the Deputy Manager Role once Claire leaves us at the end of October. Bryony works everyday during term time and will also be doing hours in the holidays. Bryony will be working closely with Ruth and one member of Senior Staff will always be on site.

Staff Training Update

The staff have been busy behind the scenes updating their training. Bryony recently completed a course run by the Autism Trust which covered supporting children with transitions. Bryony also delivered the annual safeguarding update to Leanne and Naomi. The staff have been busy working on our online training covering a range of course such as Prevent, Manual Handling and Food Hygiene. Emily and Claire have continued to work on the Maths Challenge CPD programme, and we are excited to now be trialling using some of these new resources in the setting to support our children.

Website

We have been working hard on updating our website and we now have a curriculum section online where you can view our curriculum at anytime. We have also made some updates to our policies online so please refer to the website to read these so that you are familiar with any changes to our procedures and terms and conditions. Please find these at the following link:

[Policies, Procedures & Guidance - First Steps Nursery](#)

Pre School Learning Journey

This term our topic is Marvellous Me. This month we have been learning all about each other's interests and settling into our new routines and rooms. The preschoolers have started using their book bags and doing their name cards each morning. They have enjoyed taking on the responsibility of the sunshine person where they are leader of the line and help lay the table.

The chicks have settled well in the Pre School room and have been joining in with our group times where we talk about the days of the week, weather, season and our number of the week. We have found out all about our bodies, as well as our emotions. The Colour Monster book has supported the children in being able to recognise different emotions and they spent time creating their own colour monsters for our emotion boards.

We have also discovered lots about Autumn by going on a hunt for signs of Autumn. We have created Autumn inspired artwork and experimented with colour mixing. It has been lovely to have our children also bring in Autumn items which they have found in their local areas.



Nursery Learning Journey

This term our topic is My Body and My senses. This month we have been learning all about each other's interests and settling into our new routines and rooms. We have provided a range of different activities for the children to use their senses to explore. This included lots of tuff trays including cereal, water and gloop where they have used their hands to squash, squeeze, and splash.

The children who have joined us this term are settling in well, navigating their surroundings and forming bonds with the adults across the setting. We have been enjoying circle time where we are signing ourselves in on our board and learning our routine. The song "Big Red Combine harvester" was a hit with all the children and is often the song chosen by the children during our circle time.

The Nursery room joined the Pre School room on an Autumn Walk one morning where we collected a variety of different sized conkers, leaves and sticks ready for our new topic of Autumn starting next week.



New Winter menu coming soon

Our new Winter menu will be starting from after October half term. We will share this with you in our next newsletter.

Pumpkin Competition

We are excited to invite you to enter our First Steps Pumpkin competition. We are inviting the children to decorate a pumpkin and ask you to upload a photo to their tapestry account. We will then award a prize to our favourite entry in both the Nursery and the Pre School room. Entries to be submitted by Monday 3rd November 2025.



Sami's Maternity Leave Celebration

Sami has now left First Steps to begin her maternity leave. Sami came in for a small celebration so that the children could give her some cards and presents, as well as saying good luck.

We wish Sami, Alex and Frankie the best of luck with the new arrival in the coming weeks.



Session drop off and collection times

As part of our morning routine we carry out a group time at 9am where we sing hello to all the children to welcome them to their session. We also complete other valuable adult-led learning during these sessions. Where possible, could your child please arrive prior to 9am so that they can take part in this important part of our routine.

A polite reminder to also ensure you are on time for collecting your child at the end of their session. If you require a detailed handover then please ensure you arrive in plenty of time to discuss your child's day with the staff before the setting closes.

Staff are always available to book telephone appointments should you require further details about your child's sessions or their learning and development.

Updated Resources and Room Layout

During our inset day at the end of August, the staff spent time redesigning and revamping our learning spaces. We have also purchased some new resources such as a new mini tuff tray, our fantastic new placement rug for Pre School, as well as some new measuring resources for maths including scales and different sized beakers. The children have really enjoyed accessing these new resources and exploring their new spaces.



Session availability

If you are looking to increase your child's sessions, we have limited availability from January. Please contact the office to see what sessions are available for your child.



Wednesday 10th December. Further information to follow.
Preschool children ONLY Christmas Concert morning 9:45am-10:30am

Friday 12th December - Santa Visit - book by appointment -
details to follow

Tuesday 16th December at 12.30-1.30pm -
Christmas lunch Nursery parents Only. Dine in with your child-
further information and appointment sheet to follow.

Wednesday 17th December at 9:30 - 10:30am.
Preschool festive parent stay and play session.

Wednesday 17th December at 2.30-3.30pm.
Nursery festive parent stay and play session.

Friday 19th December at 12:30pm-1:15pm -
Christmas lunch Preschool/chicks parents
further information and appointment sheet to follow

Wednesday 24th December First Steps will close for Christmas at
12:30pm

Monday 5th January 2025 First Steps re-opens to the children.

