

# Next Steps @ St Johns



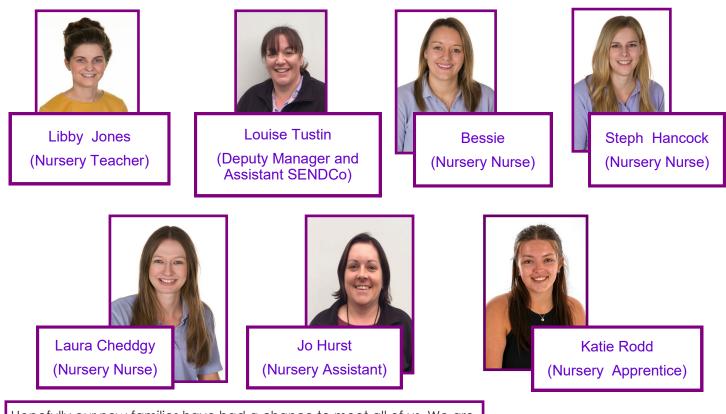
Working together to build a firm foundation for learning and caring

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## **This week at Nursery ...**

#### 8th September 2023

### Meet the team!



Hopefully our new families have had a chance to meet all of us. We are all happy to answer any questions you may have and look forward to getting to know you all better.

This week at Next Steps we have been getting to know our new families and welcoming back our current children. This time of year is always busy and the children have shown so much maturity over welcoming new members into our Next Steps family. The new term of course means new year groups. Therefore many of our 'little ones' are now beginning their pre school year!

The group times have been focussed on getting to know each other's names and introducing new routines. The pre-schoolers have been enjoying a shared story and group discussions about what the new year will look like for them before introducing the phonics program. Our younger ones are exploring the new items we have in the sensory room, and have been enjoying shared experiences of singing, story times and music and movement sessions.









We have welcomed a new member of staff into the team. Katie has joined us as an apprentice. She will be based at college on a Monday and at nursery full time the rest of the week. She is busy getting to know lots of names and new routines also! You may have noticed that Steph is getting nearer to her due date! We are very lucky to have her here with us for a few more weeks, to help settle Katie into her role and to hand over her key group to other members of staff. We will keep you updated on her planned leaving date and of course any news!

It has been a very fun-filled week! We have followed the children's lead and have had the chance to explore all the lovely things we can offer here at Next Steps.

We have spent time outside - the children love the cascading water tray and the weather has been on our side to dry their clothes! We have been creating delicious mud pies in the mud kitchen (and muddy milkshakes!) and using lots of resources to build ramps for cars and balls. We have explored paint, play dough and mark making, learnt new songs, shared stories and made new friends! That's a lot to fit into four days!

Our topic is "All about me", giving the children a chance to get to know each other better and learn about themselves. Our Christian Value is "Love." We will explore this through group times, PSED activities and related stories, but also through the values we promote through play and relationships.

Please can we ask that all items are labelled clearly, particularly water bottles.

#### Advance Notice: Open Mornings

If you are considering your child joining St. John's School in September 2024, you are invited to join us at one of our Open Mornings which will take place on:

- Tuesday 17th October, 9.30am
- Tuesday 31st October , 9.30am
- Friday 3rd November, 9.30am

Please book your place with the School Office on 01761 412019.











#### DATES FOR THE DIARY

Monday 18th September: Photos individual and with pupil siblings. If your child does not normally attend on a Monday morning, you may bring your child into nursery at 8.15 am for these photos. Those who are normally in will have their photos taken during their session time.

#### **REMINDER:**

#### Funding:

If you are hoping to claim 2 year old or 3 year old funding for the Autumn term, please ensure you have provided us with a fully completed declaration form.

If you are unsure how to complete this, please speak to a member of staff as soon as possible and please do not leave any sections blank. Thank you.