



The Warbler- Wrens and Robins Newsletter

(part of our Bellbird Early Years offer)

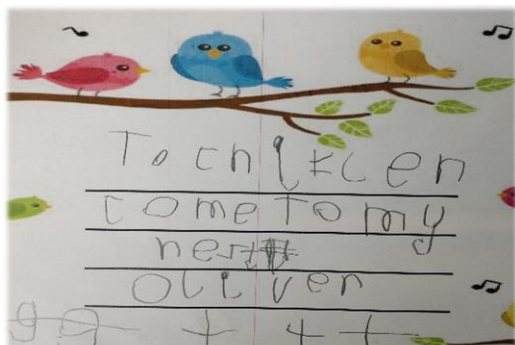
Summer 1- Weeks 1&2

Welcome to 'The Warbler', our very first Reception newsletter! We are excited to let you know about all the things that our littlest learners in Wrens and Robins have been getting up to over the last two weeks. Hopefully, you can have some sneak peeks at life in the classroom, as well as finding out about what we have been learning. There will be some top tips for things to do with your child at home too. We hope you enjoy it!

Mrs Lovewell and Mrs Smith

Spring has sprung!

Wrens and Robins have been investigating all the signs of Spring. We went on a Spring walk and spotted blossom, the fading of the daffodils, beautiful tulips, bluebells and grape hyacinth. We sang under the blossom tree before returning to the classroom to make pictures of the blossom trees and flowers we had seen. The children decided that it was time for the hibernating animals to end their winter nap, so they made things to wake them up! They designed alarm clocks to wake the sleepy bears, loud trumpets and instruments to rouse the squirrels and shakers to wake up the snoozing hedgehogs. The children also wrote postcards to the animals to tell them what the Spring season looks like.



Nesting birds

Wrens and Robins have been learning all about how Spring is a time for baby birds and chicks to be born. They had fun matching different types of eggs to the bird they belonged to. We read the book 'Mama Built a Little Nest' by Jennifer Ward and discovered the different ways birds make their nests. The children were particularly fascinated by birds using spider webs and bird spit to make their nests! Using their scientific knowledge, the children collected different materials to make a nest out of. We talked about what the materials were and sorted them into hard and soft. The children then constructed their own nests for an egg and made their own bird to nest in it. They wrote invitations to invite a bird to live in their nest. The children also made bird feeders to hang up in our woodland area.



Eid Mubarak!

Wrens and Robins enjoyed learning all about the celebrations of Eid that brought the month of Ramadan to a close. They had so many thoughtful and interesting questions which we explored together. A very big Eid Mubarak to all of our children who celebrated Eid last week.

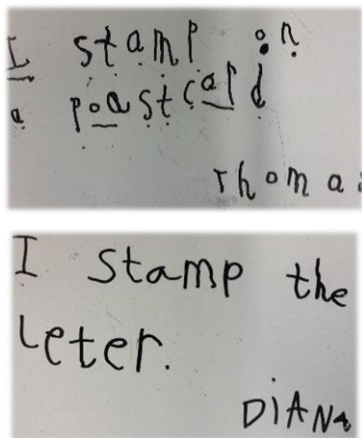


Don't forget:

Library book changes- Wrens (Thursday & Friday) and Robins (Monday)

A visit from Mrs Clayton

Wrens and Robins were excited to have a visit from Mrs Clayton in her second week at the Bellbird. She came to read the children one of her favourite stories 'Don't Wake the Bear, Hare'. The children loved it!



Phonics

In phonics, the children have now learnt all of their Phase 2 and 3 sounds. We have been practising reading words with two consonants together at the beginning or ends of words. These include words like dress, chimp, smash, bench, stamp and mammoth. We are continuing to 'chunk up' longer words to make them easier to sound talk and then blend together.

New tricky words: said so have like some come love do

Maths

In Maths, the children started off by revisiting repeating patterns. They recapped ABAB patterns before moving onto new patterns such as ABB, AAB and AABB patterns. The children explored how to make these patterns with different loose parts and made patterned scarves to keep them warm.

We have now moved on to learning about the numbers 11-20. We are learning to count to 20 and to count forwards and backwards from any given number. We build these numbers so the children have a deep understanding of what these numbers mean and what smaller numbers they are composed of e.g. 15 can be $10 + 5$ or $5 + 5 + 5$.



Things to try at home

- **Keep an eye on a nesting bird-** we have been following the progress of a bluetit in a nesting box who is looking after her eggs. It might be fun to have a look with your child. What questions have they got? We like Wildlife Kate's 'Nestenders 2023' <https://www.wildlifekate.co.uk/livecameras>
- **Keep on counting-** Keep practicing those careful counting skills by counting to 20 and back again.
- **Perfect patterns-** Can the children make some repeating patterns with objects around the house? Maybe it could be a food pattern on their plate, carrot, carrot, pea / carrot, carrot, pea for example. Can you make a repeating pattern and get them to continue it?