[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=animated%20bear&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwj6lbC9vujMAhXnKcAKHcwxCH8QjRwIBw&url=http://www.canstockphoto.com/happy-teddy-bear-5785455.html&psig=AFQjCNF6bPfOlzvHEtS4VkDFlnfAD-Yu2w&ust=1463828017761619)

**Nursery Big Bears Newsletter**

**Helping your child settle into nursery.**

Dear Parents,

Welcome to our first term in Nursery. We hope your child has enjoyed their start/return to nursery. We previously sent out an introductory letter including staff photographs.

In this letter we hope to provide you with useful advice on how best to support your child at home during the settling in period.

* Display the previous newsletter containing staff photographs in a place accessible to the children. Look at the pictures together, reminding your child of teachers names and talking about what they have done during their day.
* In nursery we would like to further support this link with home and school by asking each parent to send in a family photograph. We have a ‘Family Tree’ set up in nursery containing all of the pictures we have received so far. In previous years we have found it significantly helps the children to settle into nursery when given this opportunity to talk about their own families and home lives with familiar staff. If it is easier for you to email your family photographs please email them to [mrbear@lidgetgreen.com](mailto:mrbear@lidgetgreen.com)
* In nursery we encourage our children to be independent learners. You can support us in instilling this independence into your children by encouraging it at home starting with the most basic skills for example, attempting their own coat, shoes and socks.

**Nursery is the start of your child’s learning journey through school. Towards the end of this journey we hope your children will excel in the core skills of reading, writing and mathematics. You can start supporting your child with this now by;**

* **Reading;** Encouraging a love of stories is the first step in developing confident readers. You can support this at home by engaging in rhymes and songs and regular book sharing for example, reading a story and talking about the pictures. Bedtime is the perfect opportunity to do this.
* **Writing;** The very first step in developing the fine motor skills required for writing is to allow your child to experiment with marks. You can encourage this by ensuring they always have access to a range of mark making materials such as pencils, crayons and felt tips. Make sure your child sees you enjoying using these tools. This can be done by making a shopping list together or simply by drawing alongside them. Praise your child for their efforts and talk to them about what they are doing. Displaying their creations around the house will help to build their confidence in this area.
* **Mathematics;** Remember maths is fun and can be incorporated into any play or everyday routine. So when you are handing out pieces of fruit, climbing the steps or bouncing on the trampoline try counting with your child at the same time. This will help them to develop an understanding of number.

**We hope this advice will help you to support your child at home and would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support.**

**Nursery Staff**