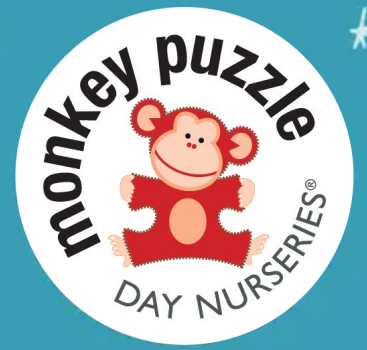


Astwick Newsletter October 2023



Nursery Updates:

Throughout October-

- We said goodbye to our school leavers as they start their new journey
- We wished Chelsea and Nav all the best for their maternity leave
- There has been lots of celebrations with two new baby's and two staff weddings

Throughout October -

- A new forest school area has been created by all of Bluebells. It looks great! The Bluebells room will be holding a stay and play to share it with their parents
- We have our inset day coming up. The under two's staff will be completing a new baby training course. The over two's will be completing a behaviour management course
- Parents evening clipboards have been placed outside the nursery to sign up for your slot
- Whilst celebrating this months harvest festival, we have decided to also support our community by starting a food collection box outside the nursery. We will then donate this to a local food bank/homeless shelter. Any donations would be greatly welcomed by the 15th of October
- To get into the Halloween spirit, we are going to hold a competition for the best decorated pumpkin. We will gather all your pumpkins in our front garden to create our own pumpkin patch! All pumpkins will need to be brought into nursery from the 25th October so they can be judged on Halloween (the 31st) 🎃 Happy carving/decorating....

Fees

As we have so many new parents at the nursery, this is just a polite reminder that fees are due on 1st of each month.

We are aware that tax free childcare payments can take a couple of days to get to us, we ask that you try and transfer these before the 1st to ensure they are in our bank on time but will give leeway by a couple of days due to this for these payments. Any payments not received by the 7th of each month will receive a reminder and may then incur a late payment charge.



We continue to strive to give your child the best experience at nursery. If you have any questions or suggestions, please send us an email/give us a call!

If you and your children are having a positive nursery experience please support us by leaving a review on Facebook, Google or DayNurseries.co.uk. These are really valued by us and give us feedback on what we are doing well.

Take a look at what the rooms have been up to:



Over Two's

From the month of October, we won't be following a topic of the month in each room anymore. We will be focusing on the children's interests and planning activities around these.

Please send over any interests your child has at home, along with pictures and we can plan some special activities for them throughout the month!

(3-5years)

Bluebells

In the month of September we have been learning "All About Me" as our topic.

The children have enjoyed many different activities around us. They have been looking at themselves in mirrors and the features that they have that make them unique. Whether this be the colour of their eyes, hair or glasses. From this we have been forming different style of self portraits including natural material collages, paintings and drawings. The children have been practising bandaging the babies and talking about what happens if we hurt ourselves and what we need to do. The children have also been looking at the effects on our bodies which has included activities around oral health and exploring how our heart rate changes with exercise and rest.

Michela has begun re-introducing Forest School sessions. She has been including different tools and specific outdoor learning sessions linked to the children's interests. They have particularly enjoyed using the bow saw to chop off slices of wood in which they have been decorating. Alongside Forest School we have been introducing Finger Gym fine motor skill weekly challenges. The children have really enjoyed threading hoops onto scarves, using pegs to transfer pom poms and using the conkers to make patterns.

In September the children have not only enjoyed the lovely activities on offer but they have also loved celebrating Pirate Day! The children enjoyed digging for treasure and using feathers to write like the pirates did!

We have also learnt about recycling during our recycling week. ♻️ Learning about the different categories we separate our recyclable items into and how to help save the planet. Alongside these exciting events, the children participated in their own Teddy Bears Picnic, bringing in their favourite teddies and going on a bear hunt in the field! Making their own teddy bear ears.

At the end of September, we said a sad goodbye to Chelsea who has left us to go on maternity leave to have her baby boy. However, We welcomed Amber from Lilies into our room. She will be joining the team from October!

Don't forget to sign up to our Stay and Play Forest School session by emailing manager@monkeypuzzleastwick.co.uk



(2-3 years)

Lilies

Throughout the month of September, Lilies have been exploring all things Space! We incorporated 'zero waste week' into this too, as Lilies made each of the planets out of recycled materials. As well as making a rocket using cardboard boxes! Lilies have explored galaxy slime; galaxy play dough and even galaxy themed tuff trays and water tray.

We have also been busy making fruit kebabs and we even turned them into rockets! We did this by placing the individual fruit onto our kebabs and a strawberry on the top. Lilies have also used cotton buds to make stars in a night sky using black card for the sky and white paint for their stars.

Our book of the month was 'how to reach the moon'. We enjoyed activities around our story like creating our very own rocket as mentioned above. This book is also about friendships and kindness, in which we have also based our activities on to. Such as, creating play dough together and implementing kindness every day during group games.

Next month we will be exploring Autumn and we look forward to discovering all the seasonal events that will be coming up such as, harvest festival and Halloween, as well as grandparents' day too!



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(15 months - 2years)

Daisies

This month Daisies topic was "nursery rhymes". Throughout the month we explored a variety of activities all based around our favourite nursery rhymes in the room. The staff teamed up in pairs to create a new exciting activity based on a chosen nursery rhyme for the children to experience and engage in.

There was lots of interesting and exciting things taking place such as: being aliens and creating our flying saucers, creating turtle shells and bathing our turtles in the water play, creating space ships and sensory space tables, to using our hand eye coordination to go fishing!

Alongside our nursery rhyme topic, we also enjoyed our teddy bears picnic, sharing our special teddies with each other and dressing up for Pirate day!

Throughout October we will be looking at Autumn and the different changes around us in the environment eg: colour changing of leaves, animals we can see on the farm during a walk and lots of new tuff trays!

We would love to see any pictures of you out on an Autumn walk! We will also be collecting sticks and pine cones. If you manage to collect any extra on your walk, we would love to make use of them at nursery.

We are also looking at creating a new area for our family photos, please could you send them over to us via family.

Don't forget to book onto our stay and play session on October 19th



(3 -15 months)

Tulips

This month our Topic has been " people who help us"

Throughout the month we have explored: Beauty - hair, vets, grooming, Police, traffic, lollipop person, Builders, Doctors, nurses, paramedics.

We have enjoyed some great tuff trays such as faces with foam hair and our First aid tuff tray. The children explored the different textures throughout the trays and all the different colours involved. To be doctors, we attended to our animal teddy injuries and attempted to apply bandages.

The children have shown a great interest in building, using different types of blocks. When we set up a tuff tray consisting of large soft blocks and toy tools, it was certainly enjoyed by all. During this, the children learnt how to build small towers and how to hold/role play with some of the tools. Of course they all enjoyed banging the tools to make loud sounds. Tulips also had a dental tuff tray to explore where they used tooth brushes to clean our laminated shaped teeth. They quickly learnt what we do with the tooth brushes.

We have enjoyed lots of messy activities too, such as painting. As much as we like using our hands, we have been making marks using different vehicles and stamps. We have also been busy exploring gloop and playdough. We are getting very good at using resources such as rollers and cutters.

Alongside our topic we have enjoyed celebrating rabbit day by Painting rabbit shapes, Pirate day where we decorated our own Pirate ship using shapes and dabbers and during reading day we enjoyed lots of our favourite stories

We can't wait for next month. Lots of fun activities waiting for us.....



Friendly reminders and upcoming events



Parent Observations Parent/home observations are a great tool for us to be able to see your child's interests at home. It is also lovely to see the things that they are achieving whilst with you!

To add an observation for the key worker to see it :

- Go to journey - Go to new - New observation

It should then pop up as a parent observation on the screen and you can add your observation along with photos and videos by clicking the camera icon. It would also be great if you could share your input into our home activities by uploading photos of your child completing these at home.

New starters:

Please can all new families make sure you have returned your registration forms to us along with a copy of your child's birth certificate and bring their red book with you to their first settle. If you have any questions about your child's room, the way we plan, assessments and more please do not hesitate to contact us by giving us a call!

Autumn/Winter:

As we slowly approach the colder weather, we ask that you start to plan ahead for your child's day at nursery. We will start to need wellies for our walks (if they are not already at nursery) and a thicker coat. Please make sure there are enough changes of clothes in your child's bag so we can change them when needed.

Clothing:

Please can you make sure all clothing items are labelled with your child's name or initials so we can make sure they are returned to the correct family at the end of each session.

Harvest Festival - 1st October to 15th October

Harvest festival is an annual celebration that occurs around the time of harvesting crops. Showing our gratitude for the food we have from a farmers successful harvest. The rooms will be learning about the different things that are harvested and how we can eat them.

World space week - 4th October to 10th October

An organised celebration each year to celebrate the contributions of space science and technology. The rooms will be creating lots of space themed activities for the children to explore

World Animal day 4th October

This is celebrated annually to help raise awareness of animal welfare. Being on the farm we teach the children about the safety of animals around us and how we can help them. The children will be looking into different areas on the farm where wild animals may live.

World Teachers day - 5th October

A day in which we celebrate teaching others to help further knowledge and share experiences. The older children will be exploring how teachers help them

Grandparents day - 10th October

A day of celebrating our grandparents and that special bond we have with them. We will be holding a grandparents afternoon tea, where they can come and join the little ones for some afternoon food.

Halloween - 31st October

The world wide celebration of all things spooky and scary. Each room will have lots of Halloween activities throughout October. On Tuesday 31st, we will be dressing up and having a Halloween party

Thank you



Thank you all for your continuous support and participation within the nursery!

Follow our social media pages!

Tap on the Icon below to explore....

