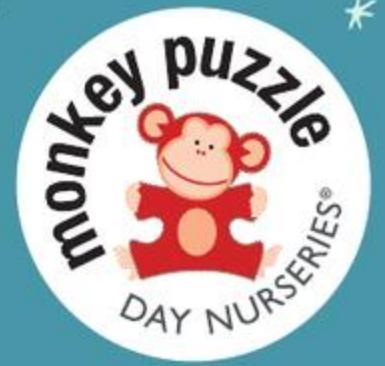


Astwick Newsletter



November 2024

Nursery Updates:

Throughout October:

- We had a great time celebrating our 5th birthday with you all. Thank you all for joining and the kind donations.
- Well done to those who took part in our pumpkin finding competition with the last newsletter. We hope the children enjoy the books you won them.
- We loved seeing all your creative pumpkins for our pumpkin patch! Thank you for helping us make it look so festive.
- Thank you all for your support with Wear it pink day. We raised £270 for breast cancer awareness ☐

Throughout November:

- We have parents evening this month. Each room has a clipboard outside the nursery for you to put your name down and reserve your slot. If you are unable to make it please let your child's keyworkers know so an alternative date and time can be arranged.
- We have our inset day on the 1st. The nursery will be closed for staff training and re-open on Monday 4th.
- Daises and Bluebells have their stay and play sessions. Please see dates in the newsletter and on Family. Email manager@monkeypuzzleastwick.co.uk to let us know you would like to come.
- We would love to see all your pictures from fireworks night. Please send them over on Family so we can print them out and share them with the children during our activities.

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.

important!

Just a reminder that we have our 2nd inset day on *1st November 2024* where the nursery is closed to children for staff training.

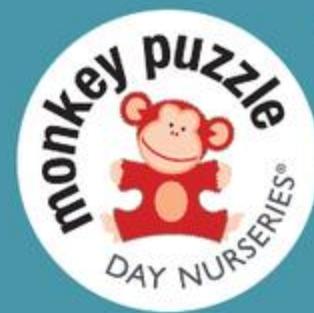
We will also be closing at *330pm* on 24th December 2024 (Christmas Eve) and then reopen on 2nd January 2025.



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

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

(3-5years)

Bluebells

Over the month of October Bluebells have been excitedly anticipating Halloween! To celebrate we have been making lots of spooky crafts including masking tape mummies and play dough spiders. Bluebells also loved making some yummy Halloween hot chocolate stirers to take home!

We have also been busy exploring Diwali, learning that this is the festival of light and about each day of celebration. We created our own diya lamps using clay and even added some little tea lights to explore the effects of light and dark. We created some beautiful rangoli patterns using a variety of colours and textures too.

Bluebells have also shown lots of interest to explore how textures change this month through lots of experiment activities! We have been creating some fizzing pumpkins through mixing together bicarbonate of soda and vinegar to watch the bubbly reaction. The Bluebells were each excited to predict what would happen!

We also explored how tooth paste protects our teeth from a variety of foods and drinks through an egg experiment. The Bluebells discovered that toothpaste prevented staining when exposed to these and we discussed the importance of brushing our teeth.

We look forward to sharing our upcoming November celebrations with you soon! 😊

(2-3 years)

Lilies

Lilies have had a busy October: There has been so many celebrations which have included harvest festival. For this we created soup with seasonal vegetables and mixing them in our cauldrons.

They have enjoyed a variety of animal related tuff trays too in relation to world animal day and created animal footprints and dinosaur swamps too! Lilies have also explored habitats of each animal, discovering where they live (farm, zoo, ocean) and where bugs live too.

For hand washing day Lilies washed their hands using the germ gloves, washing away all of the germs that were on them. They also enjoyed apple printing and creating chocolate apples alongside some other Halloween related activities!

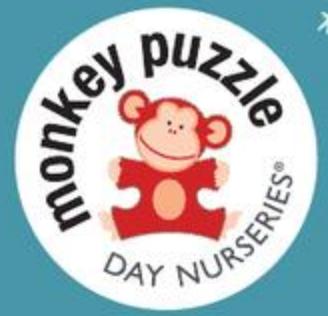
Happy Halloween!

November is a busy month, we have Diwali and Bonfire night in which we will be exploring activities to celebrate this. Lots of fireworks themed activities too!

This month we also looked forward to learning about Remembrance Sunday, road safety week and nursery rhymes week.



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



Under Two's

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

(15 months - 2 years)

Daisies

This month the children in Daisies have been exploring the Autumnal weather and textures that come around this time of year. We have used the items such as pine cones to get messy and creative with, making pictures by rolling them around on paper.

There has been visits to the park where the children have enjoyed the slide and swivel chairs. During our walk to the park we have seen different coloured cars to talk about, Dogs out for a walk and airplanes.

We have also been to visit the horses, getting close enough to stroke them and also talk about what colours they are. Some of the children even discussed what the horses were eating as they noticed them picking up grass.

Halloween has been fun!! We have really enjoyed the activities and decorating our room pumpkin for the pumpkin patch. Painting ghosts with cotton wool was great! The children loved dabbing it in the paint and onto their ghost to decorate it. They could even identify the ghosts eyes.

We look forward to some firework activities and the different colours we can mix together. The Daisies love nursery rhymes too so nursery rhyme week is going to be lost of fun.

If you visit any fireworks we would love to see your photos and use them in our activities so they can talk about them with each other.



(3 - 15 months)

Tulips

This month in Tulips we have been getting very creative whilst celebrating Halloween. We have been exploring the different Halloween tuff trays with pumpkins, leaves and straw.

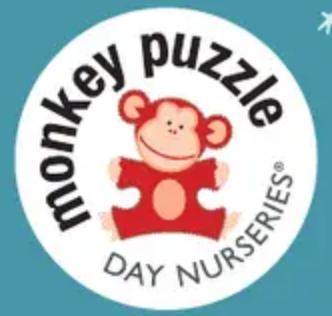
During the celebrations this month we have created lots of art work, like making spiders by using our hands! The children enjoyed the experience of having their hands painted and helped place their hands down onto the paper. We have also been decorating our pumpkins, making ghosts and doing Halloween printing with sponges.

This month We have also been exploring the outdoors and what Autumn brings. The children have enjoyed trips to the park, where we have been on the swings as well as as looking at the different colours of the trees and collecting leaves and stick's. When we got back to nursery we used the items we collected to do some mark making! This was a great sensory experience.

Next month we have lost of things to look forward to and can not wait for our nursery rhyme tuff trays.



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.



Bonfire night - 5th November

Bonfire Night, also known as Guy Fawkes Night, Marks the failed Gunpowder Plot in which Guy Fawkes and his co-conspirators attempted to blow up the Houses of Parliament. We will be creating firework themed activities for the children to take part in and we can not wait to see your firework night pictures.

Remembrance and world science day- 10th November

Remembrance Sunday is a day of commemoration to remember the sacrifices made by servicemen and women during times of war and conflict. World Science Day, also known as World Science Day for Peace and Development, is an annual event celebrated on November 10th. The day aims to highlight the importance of science in society and to promote public engagement in scientific issues.

The rooms will be taking part in science experiments and also talking about the importance of remembrance day in the older rooms.

Nursery rhyme week - 11th to 15th November

This week is to celebrate the nursery rhymes we all know and love. Every generation has grown up learning and teaching them to their families.

During this week we will be providing lots of nursery rhyme themed activities.

World kindness day - 13th November

A week where everyone celebrates the kindness we receive and also passes on an act of kindness to another. The children will be talking about what things makes them happy when a peer is kind to them.

We will also be creating activities around kindness and turn taking.

Road safety week -17th to 23rd November

A week where we focus on road safety rules and how these keep us safe. The older children will be going over the rules and looking at road safety on the farm. The younger rooms will be taking part in road safety activities.

important!

Stay and Play for November 230-330pm

Daisies room - 6th November



Bluebells room - 19th November

Please email Manager@monkeypuzzleastwick.co.uk to book in



your space



Upcoming Nursery events

Stay and Plays for 2024

November - Daisies Wednesday 6th - Bluebells Tuesday 19th

December - Tulips Wednesday 4th - Daisies Tuesday 10th - Lilies Tuesday 17th - Bluebells Monday 2nd

Please note we are releasing these dates in advance following the recent feedback from our questionnaire. We will not be taking bookings for your child's room in advance and will be waiting until we release the dates on Famly via a post.

Parents Evening

Parents evening is here already Please make sure to book your slot on the clipboards out the front of the nursery. Each room has their own clipboard and each keyworker has their won time slots.

If you are unable to make parents evening but would still like to book in, please speak to your child's keyworker to arrange an alternative date for a meeting.

Please note: Children are not to attend parents evening and each slot is 10 minutes long. If you would like to continue discussions with your child's keyworker after your time slot is up, an alternative date will be arranged due to others awaiting their turn.

7th November - Bluebells and Daisies

13th November - Tulips and Lilies

Inset days

Our next inset day will be on the 1st November 2024. On this date the nursery will be closed for staff training and reopen Monday 4th November 2024.

Christmas Celebrations

Christmas Jumper and party day - 12th December
Christmas dinner day - 18th December

Christmas Holidays

The nursery will be breaking up for Christmas on the 24th December and we will be closing at 3.30 on this date.

We will then be returning in the new year and see you all on the 2nd January 2025!

NEW

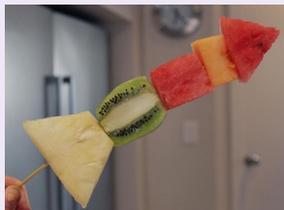


PANCO - Katie

Meet Katie our nursery PANCO

What is a PANCO? - The Physical Activity and Nutrition Coordinator (PANCO) is a named and qualified member of staff. They lead on health and wellbeing throughout the nursery and champions the best practice within an early years setting. Katie supports all the rooms with activity ideas and nutrition.

Katie is going to be providing activities, quotes and advice in this section of the newsletter for you all to get involved with too!



November's activity - Rocket fruit kebabs-

Here's a fun speedy activity to celebrate bonfire night which you can enjoy at home, on the go and makes a great party snack too. All you will need is some wooden skewers and your favourite fruits!

1- Wash and chop your fruits into safe sized pieces. (Grapes should always be cut lengthways into quarters for younger children.)

2- Thread your fruits carefully onto the wooden skewer to create a colourful pattern. This is also a great fine motor skill to practice.

3- Enjoy! You could also add some coloured paper or streamers to the end for extra decoration. 😊

SENCO - Nadia and Carrie

Meet Nadia and Carrie our Nursery SENCO's. Nadia works in our 2-3's room and Carrie works in our 3-5's room.



What is a SENCO? - A special educational needs Co-ordinator (SENCO) is a qualified member of staff who is there to support children and families at the early stages of an educational challenge in a child's development.

Sometimes the noises from fireworks can be scary or too loud for children. Something to help them get ready for fireworks night can be an activity at home with pots and pans. Turn them upside down and turn them into drums or even act out a firework flying, then beating the pan for the bang. This can help them feel more prepared for what's to come. Another good idea is ear defenders so the noise doesn't scare them and they still get to experience the pretty display.

Carrie is also our children's wellbeing champion:

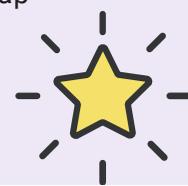
This month we have been doing lots of different activities around health and wellbeing. One of which was breathing bracelets for calming and we have also been discussing different emotions by making emotion monsters and lolly pop sticks which encouraged the children to have a go at drawing their emotion they are feeling and to also talk about how they are feeling.

Communication champion - Navreet

Meet Navreet our Nursery communication champion.

What is a Communication champion? - A Communication Champion is a key advocate for the development of speech, language and communication for all children within an early years setting. Navreet supports all the rooms with different ways to work on the children's communication and inputs ideas into their routines when noticing a gap in an age group.

November's activity - Lets get creating fireworks pictures at home with the craft you can find around the house eg: paint, crayons, sticking!! To support children's communication its important to repeat words whilst doing actions such as " tap tap " " boing boing " or even talking about the colours you can see. We would love to see pictures of your fireworks craft at home.



Physical activity for early years (birth – 5 years)

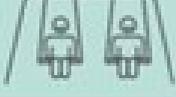
Active children are healthy, happy,
school ready and sleep better

 BUILDS RELATIONSHIPS & SOCIAL SKILLS	 MAINTAINS HEALTH & WEIGHT	 CONTRIBUTES TO BRAIN DEVELOPMENT & LEARNING
 IMPROVES SLEEP	 DEVELOPS MUSCLES & BONES	 ENCOURAGES MOVEMENT & CO-ORDINATION

Every movement counts

Aim for at least
180
Minutes
per day
for children 1-5 years

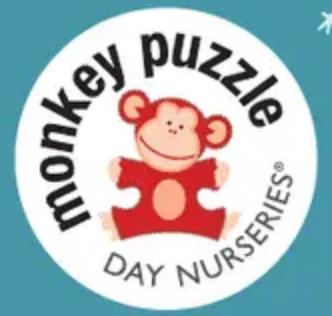
Under-1s at least 30 minutes across the day 	 OBJECT PLAY	 DANCE	 GAMES	 PLAY
	 SWIM	 WALK	 SCOOT	 BIKE

 PLAYGROUND	 JUMP	 CLIMB
 MESSY PLAY	 THROW/CATCH	 SKIP

Get Strong. Move More. Break up inactivity

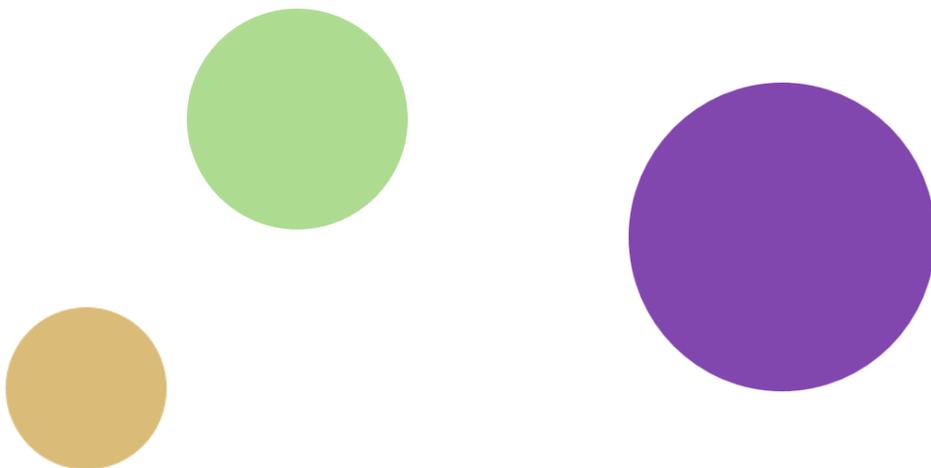
UK Chief Medical Officers' Physical Activity Guidelines, 2019

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....



THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT
**Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery
Astwick**
HAS BEEN RECOGNISED AS A
Top 20 Rated
Nursery in
East of England

Huge thank you to those who have taken the time to review us. We are so grateful to be voted as a top nursery in East of England.



daynurseries.co.uk

