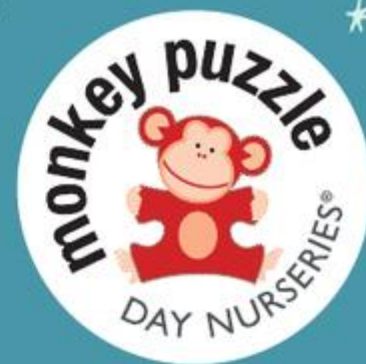


Astwick Newsletter



September 2024

Nursery Updates:

Throughout August:

- Lilies enjoyed a visit from Louisa's kittens and Zoe's dog. They were learning about the two animals during internal cat and internal dog day.
- We welcomed our new Early years teacher to Bluebells and helped her settle in, getting to know all the children.
- We managed to take lots of trips to the field in all the rooms thanks to the lovely weather.
- We supported our school leavers and said goodbye to all our lovely children who are ready for their next adventure.

Throughout September:

- During this month we welcome back our Forest school leader Harriet, who will be returning from maternity leave and ready to get stuck in at the end of the month!
- All the rooms will be holding a grandparents stay and play session, please check the dates in the newsletter for your child's room
- We start to prepare and plan for the nursery's 5th Birthday! Please keep your eyes peeled for upcoming announcements on what celebrations we will be holding for you to join in with
- Following your feedback from the parent survey, We have added new bits to our newsletter for you all to know in advance.

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.



Camelle our Early Years Teacher in Bluebells

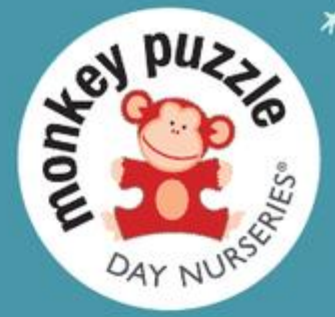


Harriet our Forest School Leader in Bluebells

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

In the month of August the children have loved spending time in the garden, getting messy, cooking, speaking about summer and seeing the sheep.

The children have been using their imagination in the new mud kitchen where they have been cooking up a storm of food! They have loved going on walks to the forest area and exploring some outdoor learning. We have been speaking about the start of autumn and things that change as we have come across lots of conkers and acorns - using the shells as fairy cups.

The children have also been carrying out some oral health activities where they had the timer for 2 minutes and pretended to clean and floss the teeth. We have had lots of messy activities including hand painting, gloop and slime, exploring these in all different areas, including when on walks.

The children have been doing some cooking of their own too, including making pizza for their tea, for cookies and peppermint creams. They have enjoyed weighing out the ingredients and seeing the process of making these, before and after cooking.

We said a sad goodbye to all of our school leavers this month but wish them all the best for when they start school in September!

Just a reminder to ensure all clothes and water bottles are labelled due to items going missing or not going home.

The Bluebells team



(2-3 years)

Lilies

During August Lilies have had such a busy month.

We had a visit from two cats and a dog. Lilies were so excited to see them, they stroked them and even took the dog out for a walk too!

Lilies have explored several tuff trays to celebrate orangutan day, world elephants day, world lion day and rice pudding day as well. We spoke about all the things that made us laugh and went on a big walk to find birds and tried to find owls for owl awareness day. Lilies created Indian flags and created a flag with rice to celebrate Indian and Pakistan independence day.

During September, Lilies have a lot of celebrations to explore.

There are many in which we look forward to creating activities around, zero waste week where Lilies are going to take a walk around the units and farm and collect the litter. Read a book day where we will discover different themed tuff trays and story sacks. Letter writing day where Lilies are going to practice their writing skills and post them into a recycled post box.

We're going to wear jeans for genes day and of course Autumn begins through out September too. So many more celebrations we look forward to you seeing.



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 we have enjoyed lots of exciting activities from scavenger hunts in the field to find objects, mini golf games, our parents stay and play and a visit from Bella the dog.

During our scavenger hunt, the children have demonstrated such brilliant listening skills and searched the field for an object mentioned by the practitioner. They then brought it back and ticked it off their list.

The children really enjoyed our mini golf games this month. We created them their own stick and they carefully used it to hit them ball. After a practitioner demonstrated to the children how to play, they were able to do this independently by themselves!

We really enjoyed our stay and play and it was so lovely to see you all. Thank you to those who could make this one.

The children loved their visit from Bella the dog. They were all so good and were quiet for her to enter the room. They were able to watch Bella perform some tricks and then give her a treat. There was lots of gentle stroking, cuddles and trying to give Bella a toy or read her a book.

We look forward to all our September activities as we start to introduce Autumn to the children.



(3 - 15 months)

Tulips

What a fun August we had 😊

We have been very lucky to have gorgeous sunshine to enjoy our outdoor surroundings.

We enjoyed a trip to the field for a picnic and a play. We also had some walks to the park and of course plenty of play in the garden.

Water play was thoroughly enjoyed by all with lots of splashing to keep cool.

We have also been busy with a lot of mark making where we have been practicing our fine motor skills. We have been using different resources such as cotton wool/pegs, sponges, kitchen utensils and animals.

We have also been busy Practicing our physical abilities as we have shown a lot of interest in the soft play. Lots of climbing and pulling up.

We have loved hearing about the holidays had and seeing all the different pictures. ☐

To keep the holiday theme going, we have created beach and sea tuff trays consisting of different materials and textures such as water, sand, foam and gloop.

We look forward to all of next months celebrations and fun activities.



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.



Zero waste week - 2nd - 6th September

The aim of this international social media campaign is to help householders, businesses, schools and community groups increase recycling, reduce landfill waste and participate in the circular economy. The children will be learning about what we can and can not recycle.

Read a book day - 6th September

This one is easy, just put your feet up and curl up with a book today. Reading is a fantastic way to stimulate the mind and it can also slow down the mental effects of age and dementia. The children will all pick a favourite book and we will be making our way through them throughout the day.

Grandparents Day - 8th September

September is when the US has its celebration of grandmothers, grandfathers and all grandparents. It is a day to appreciate and show your love for your grandparents. We are holding grandparents stay and play sessions to share some nursery fun with them.

Autumn begins - 20th September

This date marks the first day of astronomical Autumn in the northern hemisphere, also known as the Autumnal Equinox.

We will start looking into Autumn and discovering what happens when the season starts to change.

International day of sign language - 23rd September

A UN designated day to raise awareness of the importance of sign language in the full realization of the human rights of people who are deaf. All the rooms will be discussing the importance of sign language to support others and our under two's will be learning a new sign of the day.

International rabbit day - 28th September

Celebrated on the fourth Saturday of September each year, this day celebrates the value and contribution that rabbits make to our lives, and the care of both domestic and wild rabbits. We will be talking about Rabbits as pets as well as rabbits we may see in the wild and whilst out on our farm walks.

important!

**Stay and Play sessions for September
230pm-330pm**

Grandparents stay and play!

Tulips room - 5th September

Daisies room - 9th September

Lilies room - 18th September

Bluebells room - 27th September



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



your space



Upcoming Nursery events



Stay and Plays for 2024

October - Tulips Thursday 17th - Lilies Monday 21st

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.

Nursery's Birthday!

To mark the occasion we will be having birthday celebrations on the 2nd October! The office's next door have kindly allowed us to use their space to help celebrate the nursery's 5th birthday together. We are putting on drop in party sessions for each age group next door where you can come and join in even if it is not your child's usual day.

Under 2's 10-1130am
Lilies 1-230pm
Bluebells 3-430pm

We will have soft play, activities for the children to do, Photo Booth and tea, coffee, soft drinks, nibbles & cake! We will also have a donation pot to raise money for SANDS which is a charity very close to our hearts.

We'd love as many of you as possible to be able to join us. Please can you inform us via email at manager@monkeypuzzleastwick.co.uk by 18th September so that we can make sure we have catered for the correct number of people and any dietary requirements.

Thank you!☺

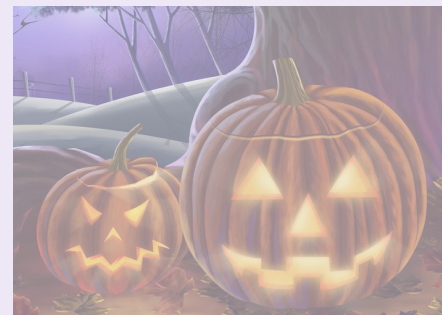


Photographer

10th October - Post to follow on Famly to arrange bookings if your child is not in on that date.

Halloween

Each room will be holding a Halloween party and the dates are to be confirmed. We will be doing our annual pumpkin patch in the front garden during the week of the 28th October. We cant wait to see all your decorated pumpkins (post on famly to follow in October)



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!





HM Government

Help for Households

From April, government childcare support is expanding.

Don't miss out, register for updates at childcarechoices.gov.uk

Childcare Choices

Thousands of 2-year-olds in England accessed 15 hours childcare from April. This is the first phase of the childcare support expansion.

This offer is expanding to eligible working parents of children aged 9 months old.

Apply for your childcare code by 31 August to start a place in September.

Visit the Childcare Choices website to check what support you might be eligible for

www.childcarechoices.gov.uk



HM Government

Get help to juggle work and life

Government support for childcare costs for working parents

15 hours childcare for children aged from 9 months starting in September

Government childcare support

From September 2024, eligible working parents in England with children aged 9 months and older will be able to get 15 hours childcare per week.

This means you could access 15 hours childcare over 38 weeks a year for children from 9 months until they turn 3 years of age.

Don't forget the existing offers for 3 and 4 year olds, helping even more families to save money on their childcare costs.

You may be able to get this expanded 15 hours childcare if:

- ✓ You have a child aged between 9 months and 3 years of age.
- ✓ You live in England.
- ✓ You and your partner (if you have one) each earn at least the equivalent of 16 hours a week at the National Minimum Wage or Living Wage on average, but no more than £420,000 per year.

How to get your code

- 1 Visit the Childcare Choices website. Check your eligibility online.
- 2 Speak to your provider. Check that they can offer your child a place and check what their arrangements are.
- 3 Apply for your code online. You will find the link on the Childcare Choices website. You'll need your National Insurance number (or unique taxpayer reference if you are self-employed), the date you started or are due to start work, details of any government support or benefits you receive, and the UK birth certificate reference number (if you have one) for your child.

1 Give your code to your provider. You may find out if you're eligible straight away, but it can take up to 7 days for your code to come through.

5 Reconfirm your details on your Childcare Account every 3 months.

Scan for more information

Childcare Choices

Did you know you can use 15 hours childcare alongside Tax-Free Childcare or Universal Credit Childcare?

If you are an eligible working parent with a child who is or turns at least 9 months old on or before 31 August, you can now apply for 15 hours childcare to start in September.

Remember to check your details on your gov.uk account are up to date every 3 months.



UK Government

Help for Households

Looking for support with childcare costs?

Get help that fits your family

Find out more childcarechoices.gov.uk

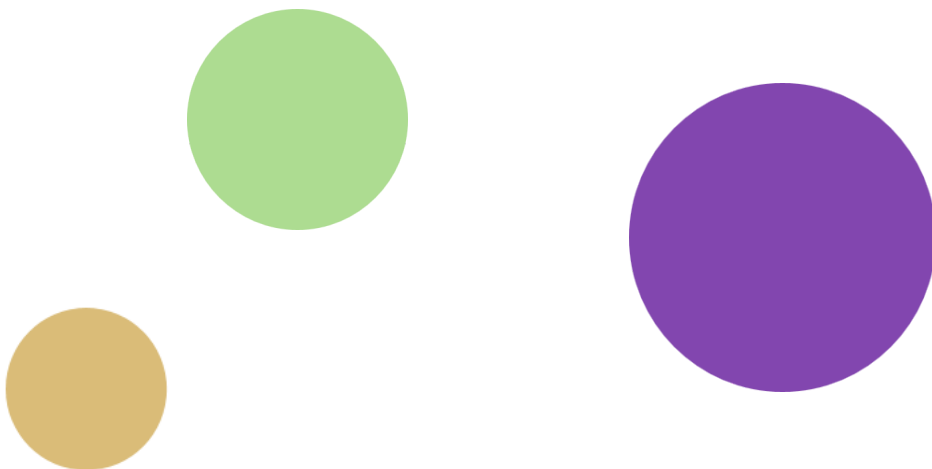
Childcare Choices

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.



