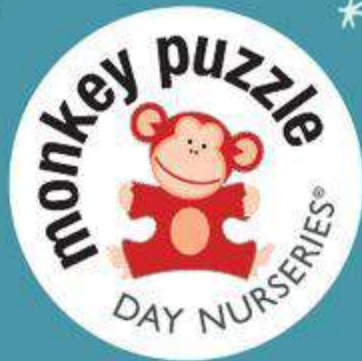


Astwick Newsletter



May 2025

Nursery Updates:

Throughout April:

- We have enjoyed lots of Easter fun! From easter egg hunts to messy crafts and a little party.
- The children have been so excited visiting the sheep and baby lambs. The cows are also back too!!
- We loved all the Easter Bonnet entry's, you all did a great job!
- The rooms have been enjoying this warmer weather and being outside longer. We have managed to spot lots of different wildlife so far too!
- Thank you for such lovely parents evenings, we hope you enjoyed talking to your child's keyworker about their progress

Throughout May:

- We will be looking at sun awareness with the children during sun awareness week. Talking through the importance of shade, water and sun cream.
- Throughout May, we will be going on a plant hunt... Searching for all the pretty flowers, different colour trees and objects we can see this time of year. We would love to get you involved at home too. There are some plant tick lists available for you to take home and use during your weekends. Please send in some photos of your tick list and your adventures for us to share with their peers.
- Between the 12th of May and 12th of June we will be raising awareness for National Smile Month which is a charity campaign championing the benefits of having good oral health and promoting the value of a healthy smile.



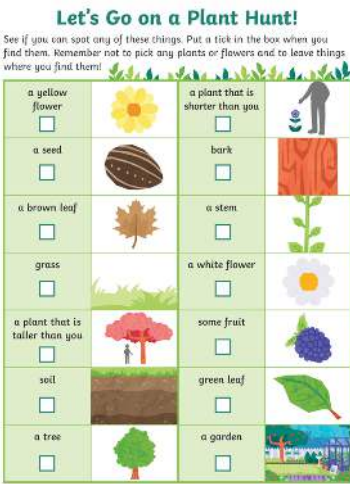
Fees -

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!

Inset days

Tuesday 28th October 2025



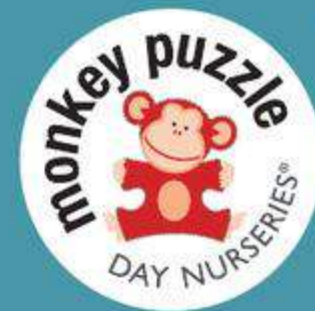
Here is what our plant hunt looks like ..



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

This month Bluebells have been exploring life cycles, healthy foods, colours and taking part in activities all around this month's celebrations.

When it came to healthy eating, we discussed the healthy and non healthy foods. The children learnt about which foods give us energy to play and are good for our teeth. They also learnt about which foods aren't as good for us and can damage our teeth and energy levels. We have used pictures to place into the correct box for good food or bad food and they all got the hang of this very quickly.

We learnt about the life cycle of a frog. For this we looked into the different stages of the lifecycle and what it looks like. The children explored textures around frogspawn and discussed how small a tadpole is when it's ready. The children enjoyed seeing the process of the tadpole and what it looks like as it grows legs to turn into a frog.

For St Andrews day we created our own England flags, leading into the celebrations that take part for this event and why.

For world art day, we chose the Mona Lisa to explore. The children discussed colours and facial parts seen in the images. They then had a turn at creating their own Mona Lisa paintings with a variety of tools.

Throughout the month we also explored the colour monsters and each emotion. We have been working on emotions to enable them to discuss how they feel at any point throughout the day. The children have learnt which monster belongs to which emotion and can link a colour to how they are feeling.

Bluebells have also had lots of fun in forest school, learning how to use tools with Harriet and taking part in obstacle courses that they made.

(2-3 years)

Lilies

Throughout April, Lilies have explored lots of new and exciting activities!

As it has been getting warmer, we have been on lots of walks and many picnics! The children loved watching the lambs prance around while having a picnic! During our walks we have also done some lovely activities such as seed bombs that you can plant to grow some exciting flowers! We have also been planting lots of things such as cress and doing experiments to watch seeds grow!

Lilies have also done more exciting science experiments in a colour mixing tray and skittle colour experiment! We had so much fun in Lilies for Easter with a visit from the Easter Bunny! This year the Easter Bunny left us some new friends, the chicks, and the children loved playing with them! We also enjoyed our Easter lunch while wearing our Easter bonnets and bunny ears that we have made! And of course we did a few Easter egg hunts on the field and garden!

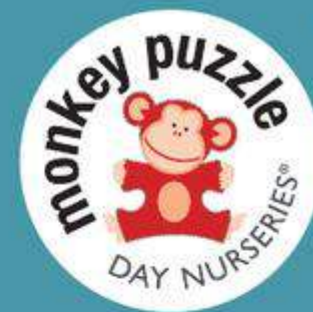
They also made stories for World Story Day and the children were brilliant at colouring them in! The children have begun to learn what is healthy and unhealthy food by discussing in circle times and with a great posting activity!

During April we had a very special visit from Louisa's cats, for national Pet Day, and the children were so calm and happy while stroking the cats! For world Art day we did a collaborative crafts sticking board where we were exploring different textures too! During April we had a lovely stay and play session where we did lots of brilliant spring activities, such as a flower and water sensory play, and decorating vases with flowers!

There are lots more exciting events happening in May! We have space day where we can talk lots about rocket ships and planets! We also have other celebrations such as world bee day, national numeracy day, hedgehog awareness week and Europe day!



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

The Daisies have enjoyed visiting the sheep and lambs this month. We were able to visit them at the field and talk about what we could see. The children learnt about sheep and lambs being different and also the different colour sheep in the field.

Alongside this, we also managed to get close to the cows as they came to get a drink of water. The children were very excited and we spoke about them eating grass and drinking water for their mealtimes.

There has been visits to the local park, enjoying the sunshine whilst on the swings and the slide. As well as visiting the horses and having an easter egg hunt around the church.

During April we have explored different textures in tuff trays and helped to make the tuff trays too! The children have started to get involved with collecting objects to add to our tuff trays and becoming part of the building process!!

There has been lots of mathematical activities to explore and learn from during easter fun. We have learnt about colours whilst creating our own easter bonnets and eggs. There has also been textures and discussions about soft and hard through creating the easter bunny with a variety of arts and crafts items.

For St Georges day the children made a room flag out of cereal boxes and paper. They all worked together to paint the flag using different tools. After we spoke about the flag and they all had a turn at walking around the room parading it.



(3 - 15 months)

Tulips

This month in Tulips we have enjoyed making the most of the lovely weather with trips to the park, playing in the garden and visiting all the lovely little lambs in the field.

We enjoyed doing some creative artwork where we painted pictures of sheep. We did some butterfly printing and painted some spring flowers too.

We celebrated Easter by doing little Easter egg hunts in the garden and then following this we created Bunny footprint pictures. We made some lovely Easter nests by mixing the ingredients together and placing mini eggs on top. The children have also made beautiful Easter cards for their families.

Alongside this we have also been celebrating other cultural capital events like world earth day, where we explored pictures of the Earth and also had some created out of playdough. The children were able to explore the colours and textures from this.

For St Georges day the children made flags by painting them using tools and the flag colours. There was also gloop, flour and playdough to create the flag out off in different tuff trays throughout the day.

Finally for world dance day, we celebrated by listening to music and dancing along to it. We also used musical instruments and sang to our favourite songs.



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!

Spring/Summer:

As we slowly approach the warmer weather, we ask that you start to plan ahead for your child's day at nursery. We will start to need sun hats for our walks and garden time (if they are not already at nursery) and lighter spare clothing in their bags. 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.



May day – 1st May

May Day is an ancient pagan spring festival, traditionally celebrated across Europe with maypole dancing and the crowning with a floral crown of a May Queen.

World laughter day - 3rd May

The celebration of World Laughter Day is a positive manifestation for World Peace and it builds up a global consciousness of brotherhood and friendship through laughter.

Sun awareness week – 5th - 11th May

Organised by the British Association of Dermatologists, the aim of this day is raising awareness of the dangers of excessive sun exposure and how to avoid sunburn and skin cancers.

International nurses day - 12th April

Held on the birthday of Florence Nightingale to mark the contributions that nurses make to society. It is a day to recognise the important role of nurses around the world.

National children's day – 18th May

National Children's Day UK is all about the importance of a healthy childhood and protecting the rights and freedoms of children so that they can grow into happy, healthy adults.

World bee day – 20th May

The purpose of World Bee Day is to raise awareness of the importance of pollinators, the threats they face and their contribution to sustainable development.

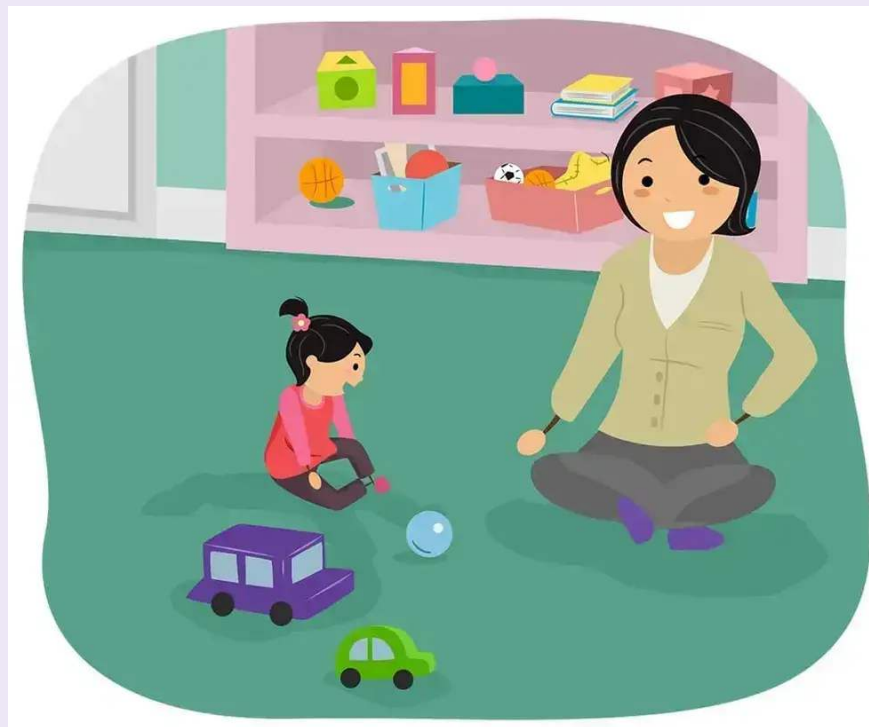
World turtle day – 23rd May

The aim of World Turtle Day is to bring attention to, and increase knowledge of and respect for, turtles and tortoises, and encourage human action to help them survive and thrive.

important!

Stay and Play 230-330pm

Bluebells - 20th May



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



your space



Upcoming Nursery events

Stay and Plays for 2025

Following on from your parent survey results, Our stay and play sessions are now one room a month. Please see below for the first 6months:

May - Bluebells 20th

June - Tulips 6th, Daisies 11th, Lilies 23rd, Bluebells 20th

July - Tulips 1st

August - Daisies 7th

September (Grandparents day) - Tulips 25th, Daisies 17th, Lilies 15th, Bluebells 9th

October - Lilies 14th

November - Bluebells 14th

December - Tulips 3rd, Daisies 5th, Lilies 9th, Bluebells 17th

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.

Inset days 2025

- Tuesday 28th October 2025

On this date the nursery will be closed for staff training and reopen the following day.

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!

May -

Between the 12th of May and 12th of June we will be raising awareness for National Smile Month which is a charity campaign championing the benefits of having good oral health and promoting the value of a healthy smile.

The key messages of the National Smile Month campaign are-

- * Brush teeth for two minutes, last thing at night and one other time during the day, with a fluoride toothpaste.
- * Clean between your teeth with interdental brushes or floss, and use fluoride mouthwash every day.
- * Cut down how much and how often you have sugary foods and drinks.
- * Visit a dentist regularly.

We will be busy with lots of activities around oral health throughout the month at nursery and would love for you to share with us any fun tooth brushing songs or games you practice at home too! We would also love for you to share any photos from dentist visits on the famly app to talk about within our circle times. Here is some Oral health advice ->



SENCO - Nadia and Carrie

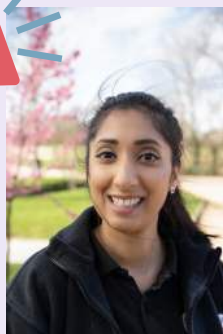
Meet Nadia and Carrie our Nursery SENCO's. Nadia works in our 2-3's room and Carrie works in our 3-5's room.



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.

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.

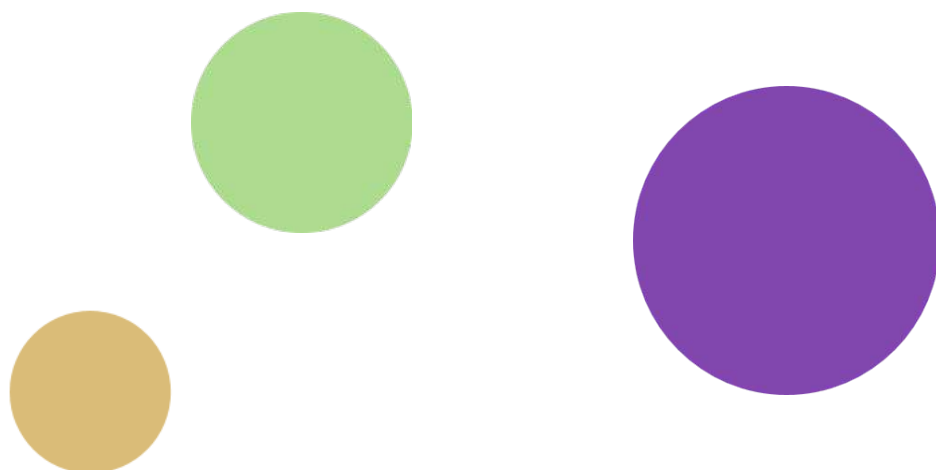


Thank you



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

Follow our social media pages!
Tap on the Icon below to explore....



Over the next few days we would really appreciate if you can leave us some reviews via the QR code.
Last year we were named in the top 20 nurseries in the East of the England and we would love to retain this but need you to share your experiences to do so!



daynurseries.co.uk

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO
REVIEW US

Scan the QR code below and enter your review on daynurseries.co.uk for Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery Astwick



Alternatively, visit daynurseries.co.uk/submitreview or pick up a daynurseries.co.uk review card