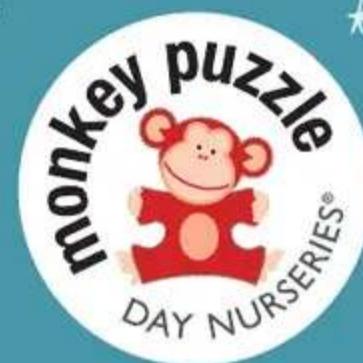


Astwick Newsletter

Proud to be a
Top 20 Nursery

daynurseries.co.uk



August 2025

Nursery Updates:

Throughout July:

- Bluebells said goodbye to the 2025 school leavers! Thank you all for a beautiful graduation evening. The Class of 2025 will be very missed.
- Building work started for our extension next door. We can not wait to see the final result!
- Zoe and Kaitlyn ran their 10k for cancer research and completed it in 1hr 17mins Thank you for all your kind donations ☑ They managed to raise £1045 for Cancer research

Throughout August:

- Zoe's dog is visiting us for National dog day! The children loved taking her for a walk last year and she will be back for more fun with them this year!
- On the 15th August for national relaxation day, the rooms will be having mini spa days with the children. They will be sending posts out nearer the time to inform you on what will be involved
- The last few school leavers will say goodbye before starting school
- Daisies have their stay and play session... Please check back of newsletter for date

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



A huge thank you for your kind donations, we are very proud of ourselves for running this 10k for Cancer research x

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 in bluebells we have explored many different activities for lots of different celebrations some of which were, chocolate day, shark day and we had our Graduation. We did lots of different science experiments and lots of cooking and baking. There were many different activities set around these celebrations as well as our general day to day activities to help with the areas for the children.

The children have enjoyed taking part in many different science experiments this month. Arthica and Nadia have show the children many different experiments where they were learning all about sinking and floating and the children had to figure out which different objects sink or float. They really enjoyed creating a lava lamp with Arthica where the children watched the food colouring water bubble in the oil. The children also did an experiment where the practitioner had water into a cup and added cinnamon into the water. The children then placed their finger into the water and cinnamon to which their finger came out dry!

We have also enjoyed lots of many different baking and cooking activities where the children created their very own Jam with Kristie. The children have also made some sweet potato pizza where they made the base of the pizza out of sweet potato and flour. They children picked up some parsnips from their walks with Arthica and created their own veg crisps. Bluebells added some different seasonings onto the cut up parsnips and carrots.

The older children had their graduation this month which they created their own Graduation hats for and had been busy practicing a song to sing to their parents. The children had such an an amazing time at their graduation, they got to have glitter tattoos and there was lots of pictures to taken too. All of the children had such a special day and we are all very sad to see them leave nursery to go off to school but the schools are all very lucky to have them and hope they all enjoy school as much as they have loved and enjoyed being at Monkey Puzzle.

(2-3 years)

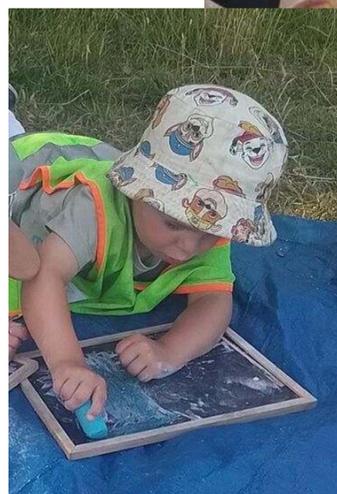
Lilies

We have been very busy this month in Lilies! We have had so much fun on our walks by running through the long grass. The children have also been exploring the grass to paint with, which made some lovely marks.

This month there has been lots of tractors and lorries passing by the field, to which the children have loved waving to them and find it hilarious if they beep there horns! We had a fairy party this month on the field where we made crowns and decorated them with natural materials. We then put some fairy glitter on them! We have also had lots of races such as running and football for sports month in July! We made chocolate chip cookies for chocolate day and did lots of play dough and crazy foam play to make ice creams, for ice cream day!

In circle time we had a discussion who our friends are which was so lovely to hear from the children, for international friendship day! For snake day we did some clingfilm painting too. Our signing this month has been about the teddy bear picnic and some friendships! We have continued our oral health learning by showing them how to brush their teeth on cut outs, which they are really improving on! We have also had lots of different tuff trays this month, some being; wiggly worms in the mud, colour mixing, and vegetable washing!

Coming up in August we have lots more celebrations! World owl day on the 4th August! World elephant day on the 12 and lizard day on the 14th, where we can learn how the animals live in the hot countries. On August the 16th it's world honey day so we will be exploring how honey is made and how tasty it is! And on the 19th of August it is photography day where we will be making cameras with a view finder for the children to use!



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 our Daisies have been exploring healthy foods and learning about the foods that give us more energy. During this they also worked on matching colours! The children looked at what colour fruit or vegetable they had, then tried to match this to the coloured paper. Daisies also made their own healthy plates by sticking items onto the plate that they would eat.

under the sea has been a popular theme this month. They children painted their own star fish, used the magnet fishing rods to select sea animals with the practitioner and worked on their fine motor skills by using tweezers to pick up the fish in the crazy foam sea.

Daisies went to space! exploring a tuff tray with aliens masks and tin foil objects. They used the climbing frame to climb on and off their space ship before walking around space to find hidden objects!

To explore our senses this month, we have been working on finger painting. Using a mixture of normal paint, bubble paint and cling film painting, the children have got used to a variety of textures whilst creating a masterpiece and enjoying the process. Some children were happy sticking with cling film painting, not getting messy but exploring the feel of moving paint under the cling film to make a picture. Others started off with support needed before getting stuck in by themselves dipping their fingers into paint and onto the paper.

We are looking forward to all the animal and pet celebration days next month as the Daisies love animals!

We are also excited for national relaxation day, to hold a mini spa day with the children.



(3 - 15 months)

Tulips

Throughout the month of July in Tulips we have been exploring different sensory play. We played with the sensory scarves, playing "peek a boo" and enjoyed the different light up toys. We also played with our sensory bottles, shaking them along with our musical instruments and dancing to the sounds.

Tulips have enjoyed doing some summer shape printing, using different shapes and sponges. We also had fun making some textured art, using glue and sand.

We have celebrated some different cultural capital events, including Wimbledon, where we played ball games and created strawberries by painting them. We used our fingers to make the seeds.

We celebrated world chocolate day by helping to make krispies cakes and cornflake cakes. We practised our mixing skills and explored our senses with chocolate playdough. We also did block printing to make it look like bars of chocolate.

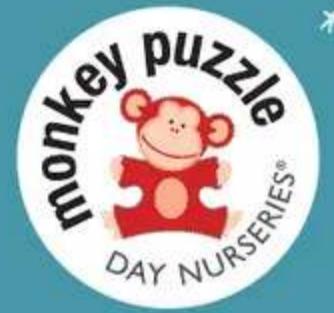
We celebrated shark awareness day by creating a beach scene with sea life animals. And we also practised our large motor skills and movements with an obstacle course.

We have been enjoying time outside, splashing in some puddles and having turns on the skuttle bugs and tricycles.

Tulips have enjoyed our stay and play, having our lovey mummy and daddy's in to play with us. The children were showing them what we got up to at nursery.



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.



International owl day – 4th August

International Owl Awareness Day aims to celebrate one of the most iconic bird species and raise awareness to their plight in the wild and what we can all do to help protect them.

International cat day - 8th August

Organised by the International Fund for Animal Welfare, this is a day to think about your furry friend and appreciate everything you love about them.

World Lion day – 10th August

Founded by Big Cat Rescue to highlight the importance of the lion globally and to raise lion conservation awareness worldwide.

World Elephant day – 12th August

A day to bring attention to the urgent plight of Asian and African elephants. World Elephant Day asks you to experience elephants in non-exploitive and sustainable environments where elephants can thrive under care and protection.

National relaxation day – 15th August

A day to slow down, unwind and talk to children about the importance of taking care of yourself! This event serves as a reminder to create calming and relaxing spaces for your children to promote regulating emotions, reducing stress levels and fostering positive mental health.

Summer bank holiday – 25th August

Today is the last bank holiday in England and Wales before Christmas. It marks the end of the summer holidays for school children and is the weekend when the famous Notting Hill Carnival takes place.

International dog day – 26th August

A day to celebrate man's best friend. The day intends to highlight the condition of dogs and to encourage the adoption of dogs from shelters.

important!

Stay and Play 230-330pm

Daisies -7th August



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:

September (Grandparents day) - Tulips 25th, Daisies 17th, Lilies 15th, Bluebells 9th
October - Lilies 14th
November - Bluebells 14th
December - (Christmas) 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!

August -

Cycling is a great physical activity for children and has many physical benefits including supporting balance and muscle strength. It also has great benefits to mental health too such as aiding sleep and concentration. Please see a link below with some support for cycle safety whilst out on your cycling trips.☺

tap
here →

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.

August:



As the weather has warmed up, all rooms across the nursery have been taking advantage of all the outside space we have! During this time, the children have been able to explore the world around them using multiple senses. At nursery, we have used different natural materials to use in activities throughout the nursery. In preschool, for example, the children have enjoyed exploring the farm and finding vegetables that we have washed and made into crisps, using taste to explore different ways vegetables could be made.

During the summer months, you could collect different materials whilst at the park or on a walk to create wands, bookmarks or bracelets! As you do this, encourage your child to try and use multiple senses and use describing words to explain what they are feeling (modelling this language to younger children). Talking about sight, feel, hearing and smell will help to enhance this vocabulary too!

Take a picture and send your creations via the family app, we'd love to see them!

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.



Lavender Aromatherapy Dough



This aromatherapy modelling dough is a great natural way to aid stress relief. After a busy day at school or an evening of revision, this aromatherapy dough is a great tool to help you unwind and relax. It takes a few minutes to make and the calming aroma of lavender really helps to relieve any tension and stress.

You will need:

- 140g plain flour
- 35g salt
- 1 tbsp oil
- 2 tbsp cream of tartar
- 225ml water
- 10 to 15 drops lavender essential oil
- 1 tbsp dried lavender flowers (optional)



Instructions:

1. Place all the ingredients in a medium saucepan.
2. Place the pan over a medium heat and stir constantly.
3. As the mixture thickens into a dough, it will become difficult to stir. Continue to heat until it is a solid ball that holds together.
4. Remove from the heat and let it cool.
5. Now, squish, stretch, squash and squeeze as needed to help relieve stress.

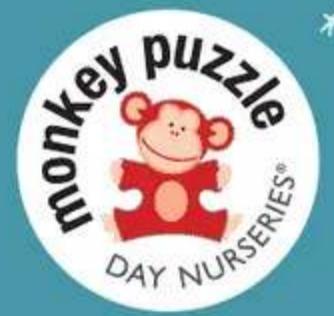
Tip

- You can store your dough in the fridge for a longer life.

Here is a playdough recipe for national relaxation day - try this at home to add some aromatherapy to their play.

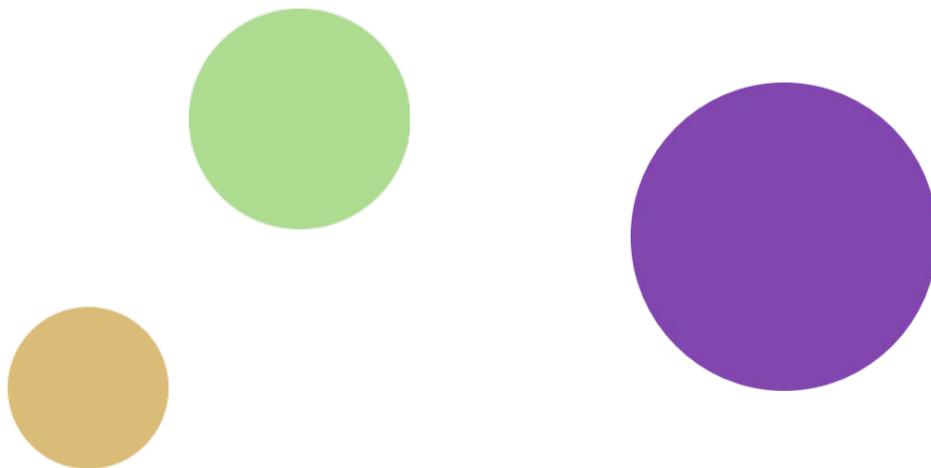


Thank you



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

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



Thank you for all your lovely reviews on Day Nurseries.
We are proud to announce that we have been voted in the top 20 again this year!!

