



# Nursery News

## February 2021



### What's Been Happening?

Although the past month has been very strange due to lockdown restrictions, we have been making the nursery atmosphere as positive & as fun as we possibly can!



The children have been learning lots of new things & enjoyed exploring themed activities for Winnie the Pooh day, Martin Luther King day & Burns night. They also loved exploring the ice & snow that the very cold weather has brought us recently!



Please check out the blog for latest pictures of events at <http://blog.honeypotnursery.co.uk>

### Coming up this Month

LGBT History month

Big schools birdwatch continues

1<sup>st</sup> - Storytelling week continues

1<sup>st</sup> - Children's mental health week

2<sup>nd</sup> - Candlemas

4<sup>th</sup> - Rosa Parks day & Time to Talk day



5<sup>th</sup> - NSPCC number day

7<sup>th</sup> - Charles Dickens' birthday

8<sup>th</sup> - Sign2sing week

9<sup>th</sup> - Safer internet day

11<sup>th</sup> - International day of women & girls in science.

12<sup>th</sup> - Chinese new year begins - This year is year of the ox!

14<sup>th</sup> - International book giving day, Random acts of kindness week begins & Valentines day

15<sup>th</sup> - Parinirvana day - A buddhist holiday which commemorates the death of Buddha.

16<sup>th</sup> - Pancake day/Shrove Tuesday

17<sup>th</sup> - Ash Wednesday/Lent begins

20<sup>th</sup> - Love your pet day

21<sup>st</sup> - International mother language day

25<sup>th</sup> - Purim - A Jewish festival celebrating deliverance

**Please be aware if your child attends nursery on a funded hours/term time only basis, they will not attend nursery on the week commencing 15<sup>th</sup> February.**



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## Room News (Busy Bees)



Busy Bees have had a busy January exploring many things! They have all been fascinated with birthdays recently & enjoyed using their play dough station to make birthday cakes for everyone using different coloured dough, loose parts & of course candles! They also explored a themed tuff tray for Winnie the pooh day, the children showed some excellent filling & emptying skills! Busy Bees staff have also been busy enhancing the room, they have made changes to their small world/block play area, created a new cosy/reading area & have continued to further enhance their garden space. They plan to create a new mark making area, watch this space!

## Room News (Worker Bees)



Worker Bees have been busy exploring many different festivals & events, including Lohri, Martin Luther King Day & Burns night. For Martin Luther King Day the children learnt about him, his dreams & what it is to be kind. The children have been showing lots of interest in the home corner, particularly acting out different occupations such as a hairdresser! The Honey Pot Salon is regularly open! The children have also been fascinated with the ice & snow recently, they talked about its texture, how cold it was & this opened conversation about places in the world that are cold like the Antarctic.

## Room News (Wraparound)

Wraparound has been slightly quieter than usual due to schools being closed & only key worker children attending. However that hasn't stopped their fun! They have also enjoyed exploring outdoors when there has been ice & snow! They have also continued to make use of the hub, creating some lovely pictures & jewellery to take home. The group have also shown lots of interest in word searches & puzzles!



## Birthdays

### Busy Bees:

- \* Jacob & Isaac's birthday is on the 4<sup>th</sup>
- \* Abel's birthday is on the 7<sup>th</sup>
- \* Joshua's birthday is on the 8<sup>th</sup>
- \* Isaac H's birthday is on the 10<sup>th</sup>
- \* Reo's birthday is on the 13<sup>th</sup>
- \* Siddhan's birthday is on the 17<sup>th</sup>

### Worker Bees:

- \* Ellie's birthday is on the 27<sup>th</sup>

### Wraparound:

- \* Jesse's birthday is on the 1<sup>st</sup>
- \* Emily's birthday is on the 12<sup>th</sup>
- \* Phoebe's birthday is on the 13<sup>th</sup>

### Staff:

- \* Leanne's birthday is on the 25<sup>th</sup>



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## Staff Information

You may have noticed some different but familiar faces doing the wraparound drops offs and collections over the last month. Due to lockdown restrictions, Helen & Linda are unfortunately absent from work on a temporary basis. Naomi who is already a member of the wraparound staff team has been doing the drop offs & collections of children more often. Nikita, a member of our busy bees staff has also been helping out with wraparound care in Helen & Linda's absence.



## Employee of the month

### Jessica

Jess has only been with us a short time so far & is already progressing well in her role & with her childcare qualification.

She has lovely positive interactions with all of the children in the nursery & is forming lovely relationships with them. She has also developed in confidence in speaking to parents during handovers. Well done Jess!



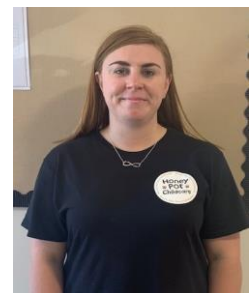
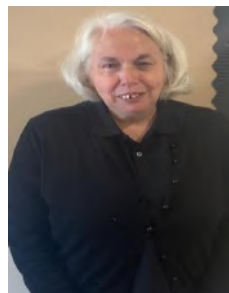
## Room of the month

### Worker Bees

The staff have done some lovely activities with the children over the past month & changed the room environment accordingly, including a lovely provocation ladder based on the childrens favourite book stick man & displays based around Martin Luther King & Burns night.

The staff have also been ensuring that children who are not attending nursery at the moment are kept updated with what they have been learning & have been sent ideas to use at home.

Well done Deb & Rhiann!



### Staff Holidays

- \* Leanne - absent w/c 15<sup>th</sup>
- \* Nikita - absent w/c 15<sup>th</sup>
- \* Debs - absent w/c 15<sup>th</sup>
- \* Rhiann - absent w/c 15<sup>th</sup>

### Staff Training

Megan & Jessica continue to study for their level 2 qualification.

Fatima has attended performance management training. Our whole staff team will be accessing a variety of online training as well as monthly training on upcoming changes to the eyfs.



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## Message from central support

Due to feedback received from staff and parents we have been looking for alternative childcare software to replace eyLog. Although eyLog has provided us with lots of benefits we have found that some aspects of it don't meet our needs and the needs of our parents. We have spent time researching a system which we feel will be more beneficial and have opted to change to Famly. This change won't happen immediately. Our core team are currently spending time on getting it ready for a smooth transition which we will happen in March. There is nothing you need to do at the moment and when the transfer is happening you will receive an email to sign up to Famly. We hope that you find this system more useful and we encourage you to give us your feedback once it's up and running. If you are interested in finding out more in preparation for the switch there is guidance for parents here <https://community.famly.co/hc/en-gb/articles/360002078477-Parents-get-the-most-out-of-Famly->

## Reminders

\* Don't forget we have a parent's group on Facebook, please search **Honey Pot Childcare Parents** to request to join. Staff will be sharing lots of ideas, challenges & reminders! Also don't forget to follow Honey Pot's main social media pages too for lots of ideas & updates.

\* **Extra sessions** - Please be aware that when booking any extra/additional sessions for your child/ren, they must be paid for in advance of the session.

\* **Late collection/Session times** - Please be aware that morning sessions finish at 1pm, short day sessions finish at 3pm & full day/afternoon sessions finish at 6pm. Please ensure you are collecting your children on time or you be likely to incur a late collection charge.

\* **Holiday club** - We will be running holiday club again during the half term holiday (15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> February). This is for school aged children & due to the current restrictions will be for children of key workers only. If you would like any further information, please contact the nursery.

## Other news/information

**\*\* Just a reminder to be aware of the measures that are in place at nursery due to covid-19:**

- Please ensure that on drop off and collection you are using the hand gel provided and are also distancing yourself from other parents who may be waiting.
- All parents must wear a mask when dropping up and picking up their children (Unless exempt), the children will wash their hands upon arrival, have their temperatures taken (Unless parents have stated otherwise) and be taken to their play room by a member of staff.
- To limit the time spent in contact with staff at the front door, handovers to parents will be strictly limited, staff will send out messages/diaries on eylog or call you if they wish to discuss anything with you or pass more information on.
- We encourage parents to post an observation via eylog or ring/text the nursery if you wish to speak to a member of staff/pass on information.
- In addition to this, please remember that children's accident forms & medication forms are completed on eylog; if your child has an accident in nursery you will get a notification.
- Please remember it is extremely important to inform staff if your child has had any medicine or accidents prior to nursery, you can do this briefly on handover, via eylog or by calling the nursery.
- As per our covid-19 policy, we will not be administering calpol to children in nursery, this is due to a high temperature being a covid symptom & calpol could mask this symptom.



**Ashley, Fatima & the HP Childcare team xx**



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