



Nursery News

February 2021



What's Been Happening

This month we have been enhancing our communal areas within the nursery.

We have focused on our Library upstairs and our block play area.

Our children have loved our rhyming provocation set up, with song cards and props.



Our children have also enjoyed exploring our measuring tools and loose parts in the block play area.



Coming up this Month

- 1/2/2021-28/2/2021- LGBT Month- Our children will learn about the history of LGBT rights, which is also related to the civil rights movements. The main and overall aims of the month are to promote two things: equality and diversity. We will be using resources such as books and the interactive screen to support children's learning about equality and diversity.
- 1/2/2021-7/2/2021- Children's well being week- We will be providing children with opportunities to highlight the importance of mental health within children and young people. Children will have opportunities to take part in yoga, read some well being books in their bubble and much more.
- 4/4/2021-4/4/2021- Time to talk day, as we have signed our pledge with time to talk we will be holding activities for both children and staff and our aim is to get people to choose to talk about mental health and by doing so help change lives.
- 9/4/2021-9/4/2021- Safer internet day- Children will have opportunities to use the internet safely on the interactive screen and staff will offer stories in regards to internet safety
- 12/2/2021-28-2/2021- Chinese new year- children will have opportunities to learn about Chinese new year and the year of the Ox. We will provide children with activities such as lantern making, dragon making and tasting Chinese cuisine with chopsticks
- 14/2/2021-14/2/2021- St Valentines day- Children will be provided with activities and tuff trays with a valentines day theme and will have opportunities to talk about special people in their lives
- 16/2/2021-16/2/2021- Pancake Day- we will be providing children with a cookery session with Moe, to make pancakes and choose different toppings to add to their pancakes.



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Room News (Bumble/Honeys Bees)

Our Bumble and Honey bee's have loved exploring bubble play this month. Our children have used their skills to catch and pop the bubbles.

We have also been exploring the word POP which a lot of our bumble bees are now confident in saying.



We have started to sign the word POP with our Bumble and Honey Bee's



Room News (Busy Bees)

Our Busy bee's have enjoyed exploring a set up based around health eating. The staff set up an area with cook books, water play to wash the fruit and vegetables, empty food boxes to explore the ingredients and a chopping station for children to develop their cutting skills of fruit and vegetables.



Room News (Worker Bees)

Our preschool children have loved exploring the unexpected ice and snow in the garden. They enjoyed collecting the snow and ice and they used it in a tuff tray with dinosaurs. They spoke about the textures and where the snow came from. They enjoyed asking lots of questions to gain a better understanding of the weather changes we experience.



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Staff Information

Upcoming Staff Holidays

W/C 1/2/2021- Natalie, Sasha, Georgia

W/C 8/2/2021- No staff holidays

W/C 15/2/2021- Suzie

W/C 22/2/2021- Mary

Staff Training- New staff have recently attended paediatric first aid training as part of our commitment to Millie's Mark. Management have started their performance management training. Due to the EYFS being revised in September 2021, staff have started to take part in a monthly training based around the seven areas and their aspects of learning, in preparation for this.

Room of the month

Honey Bee's

Nicola and her team have worked together really well to prepare for their bubbles on a daily basis. They are always prepared with child/ ratio numbers for management. Honey Bee's have also welcomed and settled new children and their families in to our nursery and their room so well.

Well done Honey Bee's



Employee of the month

Sophie Bacon



Sophie has been awarded employee of the month for January. Since Sophie has returned from maternity leave, she has fallen straight back in to her role, she has built up a fabulous bond with the babies in her room and has kept consistency in her room leaders absence.

Well done and Thank You Sophie

Children's Progress

Areas of strength at Honey Pot Garston:

- 33% of our children are above the local average for writing
- 15% of our children are above the national average for Reading

Areas of improvement at Honey Pot Garston:

- 2% of our children are below the local average for Health and self care

These areas will be a focus for our children this upcoming term



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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->



Unfunded week this month

Just a reminder funded only children will be absent from nursery w/c 15th February for half term. Children will return from w/c 22nd February

Staffing Updates

We would like to welcome Missie, Vincenza and Beth to our team. Our new staff members will be studying for their NVQ in early years. Missie will be working in our Bumbles Bees room and being supported by Michaela. Bethany will be working in our Busy bee's room and being supported by Lauren. Vincenza will be working in our Worker bees room and will be supported by Nicola and Suzie.

The girls have really settled in to Honey Pot well and are building wonderful bonds with children in their room.



Many Thanks
Alison, Suzie and the Garston
team xx



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