



Nursery News

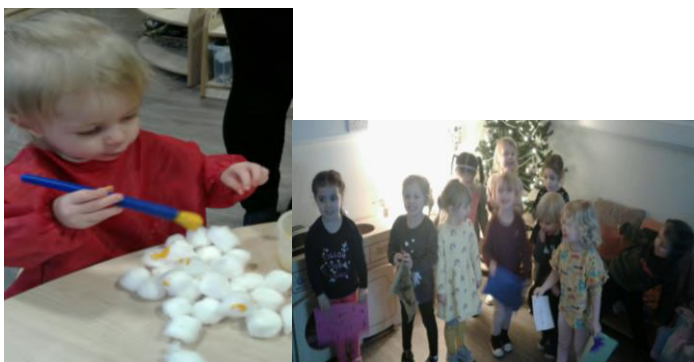
January 2021



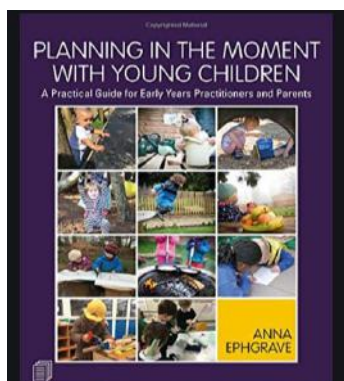
What's Been Happening

During the month of December, we have been celebrating different festivals, including Hanukkah and Christmas.

The children have enjoyed taking part in lots of creative activities, exploring media and materials. The children have also been very proud of decorating the Christmas trees in their rooms.



We have also changed the way we do observations, looking for teachable moments, following the children's lead.



Coming up this Month

World Braille Day – 4th January – Children will have the opportunity to feel some braille and learn about the history of braille.

Martin Luther King Day – 20th January – The children will learn about Martin Luther King and given the opportunity to talk about their dreams and engage in creative activities.

National Handwriting Day – 21st January – The children will be provided with lots of opportunities to make marks in their own ways, using a variety of materials and exploring different print.

Australia Day – 26th January – During Australia Day, the children will learn about the history of Australia and the Australian culture.



From all the staff team at Honey Pot Garston, we hope you all have a Happy New Year and here is to a successful 2021!



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Room News (Bumble/Honeys Bees)



Our Bumble Bee's have shown a great interest in nursery rhymes and have engaged in lots of nursery rhymed themed sensory activities.



Our Honey Bee's have been exploring winter themed tuff trays. This has been supporting them in developing their communication skills.

Room News (Busy Bees)

Our Busy Bees have been continuing to work on their fine motor skills through different activities.



These included cotton bud painting, playdough, exploring loose parts and finger painting.

Room News (Worker Bees)

Our Worker Bee's have been developing their writing skills and writing their own letters to Father Christmas.



They enjoyed posting them in our postbox and hoped elf of the shelf would take them to the North Pole.



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Staff Information

Upcoming Staff Holidays

W/C 4/1/21 – Mary all week

W/C 11/1/21 – No staff holidays

W/C 18/1/21 – No staff holidays

W/C 25/1/21 – Zara all week

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

Room of the month

Busy bees

Our Busy Bee's room have been awarded room of the month. They have spent a lot of their own time enhancing areas of their room to allow children to independently access all areas of provision. They used the knowledge that they gained from the In the Moment planning training to do this.

Our Busy Bee's team have provided some brilliant learning experiences for the children, based around their interests and following their lead.

Well done Busy Bees



Employee of the month

Sophie Mackellar



Sophie has been awarded employee of the month for December. Sophie has settled into Honey Pot and the Busy Bees room and always shows a positive attitude. She has also been taking a wonderful leading role in the room leaders absence.

Well done 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

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our children and families a Happy New Year! We hope that you all had an enjoyable festive period and we look forward to a successful 2021. We would like to thank each of you for your continued support at another difficult time in the current pandemic. We will continue to do our best to ensure continuity and stability for your children, placing their health and well-being as a priority. We will also continue to do our best to look after our families and urge you to get in touch if you have any worries. Keep healthy and stay safe.

Unfunded weeks 2021

- w/c 15th February 2021
- w/c 29th March 2021
 - w/c 5th April 2021
 - w/c 3rd May 2021
 - w/c 19th July 2021
 - w/c 26th July 2021
- w/c 2nd August 2021
- w/c 9th August 2021
- w/c 16th August 2021
- w/c 23rd August 2021

Funded only children will finish on Friday 17th July 2021 and return w/c 30th August 2021.

School Leavers who are funded and non-funded will receive a contract until Friday 30th July 2021 (created for the final summer term based on 13 funded weeks and 5 unfunded weeks) The remaining 4 weeks of August are payable in full. Should they wish to use childcare during these weeks it is a continuation of their contract with no breaks during the weeks. Parents of school leavers have to indicate prior to 31st March 2021 if they require the final 4 unfunded weeks during August 2021.

Funded children will not attend nursery on these dates.

Staffing Updates

We would like to welcome Ellie, Natasha and Natalia to the team. Natalia and Ellie will be studying for their NVQ and based in the preschool room working alongside Suzie, Nicola and Leah. Natasha will be studying for her NVQ working in our Honey Bees room. Nicola Devin will be returning to Honey Pot Garston and will be a full time member of staff in the Honey Bees room. Katie will be moving to our Aigburth site and we are very sad to see her go.



Many Thanks
Alison, Suzie and the Garston
team xx



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