

Monkey Puzzle Colchester July 2024 Newsletter



Our Mission Statement:

"Working Together with Families, Staff & Children to Provide an Enabling, Safe and Healthy Environment where Children can Learn, Laugh & Grow with Us"

Welcome to our July edition of Monkey News.

Nursery Manager



June has been a wonderful month full of rainbows and lots of colours. This month the children have been exploring various colours and colour mixing which has been a fun interesting topic for them. Upstairs in the pre school rooms the children have been using primary colours and have been combining them to create secondary colours, this has been done in a variety of ways such as 'walking colours' which was a fantastic way to develop their communication and colour recognition skills. Downstairs in the younger rooms the children have been creating rainbows using paint and doing this free hand enables them to work on their physical development and also their communication skills. Pre school have been on an exciting trip to the zoo this month and had a fantastic time along with the staff and management team. The children got to enjoy looking at all the different animals and had a yummy picnic prepared by the kitchen staff here at monkey puzzle. I am sure they told their mummies and daddy's all about it when they got home. We have also celebrated Father's Day where we invited dads and grandads to come and join us in the garden for a lovely afternoon in the sunshine where the children could enjoy spending time with their loved ones at nursery eating a delicious lunch which Sandy and Manjit kindly put on for them. This was cooked by our wonderful chef who had a great time serving up the bbq food. Next month in July we will be learning all about the theme 'summer' this is a lovely time for the children to share about any holidays they might have gone on or our going on. Please share any pictures on parent zone for the children to talk and share with their peers and practitioners. As always if you have any questions, concerns or queries please do not hesitate to get in touch via phone, email or in person. Amy

SUN SAFETY: At Monkey Puzzle your child's safety is paramount to us, and this also includes looking after their skin when the sun is out. We would require you to supply a named bottle of sun cream for your child which will remain at the nursery (Please check the ingredients within the bottles as some do contain traces of nuts) Sun cream will be applied when the UV levels go over 3.

Monkey Puzzle Parents Football Team.

On Thursday 29th February the Monkey Puzzle Parents football team played their first game.

The team has continued to play on a Thursday evening, and is continuing to do Monkey Puzzle proud by winning!!

Good Luck on your next match.

Overflow Carpark

We are pleased to announce that Stanway Evangelical Church have said we can use their car park Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 4:30-6:30.

Directors



Welcome to all new children and parents who join our existing Monkey Puzzle community.

Hello I am Mario and I regularly visit the nursery to meet and see the children. When I am at the nursery I am always supervised by the management team when I am walking around the nursery or with the children.



Nursery Parent Number:

01206 560695

Birthdays

We have had lots of birthdays to celebrate in June across the nursery and would again like to wish a massive 'Happy Birthday' to...



Henry, Noah, Eleen, Theo, Sophie, Jackson, Constance, Isaiah, Mollie, Beauden, Corey, Wynter, Noah H, Erica, Alfie, Yusra, Finley.

All payments to be received on the 1st of each month or first working day after.
(All late payments will result in a £25 late charge)

WE WOULD KINDLY ASK ALL PARENTS TO PLEASE TELEPHONE THE NURSERY ON 01206 560695 BY 9AM IF YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE ATTENDING NURSERY ON THAT DAY. IN ADDITION WE WOULD ASK YOU ALL TO READ AND FAMILARISE YOURSELVES WITH OUR SICKNESS EXCLUSION TIMES ON PAGE 9 THANK YOU

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Nursery News:

Father's Day BBQ:

Thank you to all the Dad's that attended our Father's Day BBQ, it was so nice to see so many dad's take time to come and join us!

Colchester Zoo Trip

We had a lovely time with some of the school leavers for the annual Zoo Trip. We hope all the children enjoyed their time looking at the animals.

Who to contact regarding your issue?

Manjit: Regarding any issues / questions regarding occupancy of the nursery, increasing / decreasing your child's days, funding, and finances.

Amy: General nursery matters regarding your child, reporting if your child is sick or not going to be attending Nursery.

Pick up and Drop off at MP:

Due to busy times at pick up and drop off please be advised that your child's key person is unable to give you a detailed and lengthy handover. We have informed our staff to keep handovers to around 30 seconds, unless there are forms such as accident / medication / funding to be signed. All information regarding what your child has eaten, how they have slept etc is all on the parentzone app.

Nursery Gifts:

The team would like to thank everyone who has given gifts to their child's key person, this could be due to the child leaving the setting or transitioning rooms. As much as they love receiving the food based cakes and treats. They are unfortunately not able to enjoy these due to allergies in the nursery. If you would like to give individuals gifts could we suggest a voucher / personal items instead of food based gifts. Thank you in advance.

**Nursery Parent
Number:**

01206 560695

INFORMATION

Basic Care:

At Monkey Puzzle we strive to deliver exceptional care towards all the children within our care with basic care being the top of our agenda.

If you do have any concerns regarding the basic care of your child please do not hesitate to get in contact with the management team who will quickly look into and deal with any issues.

Mealtimes at MP

Please be advised we have set mealtimes at Monkey Puzzle. This is to help build routine and consistency at the nursery. The times are as followed.

Breakfast 7:30-8:30AM (last sitting around 8.25ish)
AM Snack: 10AM
Lunch: 11.30AM
PM Snack: 2PM
Tea: 3.30PM

Important Dates for 2024!

Our inset days for 2024 are:

Tuesday 27th August 2024

(Please be advised the nursery will be closed on both inset days)

Preschool Graduation:

Thursday 22nd August 2024

WE WOULD KINDLY ASK ALL PARENTS TO PLEASE TELEPHONE THE NURSERY ON **01206 560695** BY 9AM IF YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE ATTENDING NURSERY ON THAT DAY. IN ADDITION WE WOULD ASK YOU ALL TO READ AND FAMILARISE YOURSELVES WITH OUR SICKNESS EXCLUSION TIMES ON PAGE 9 THANK YOU

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What will we be learning this month?

Monthly Theme:

Summer

Home Learning:

The theme of the month is 'Summer'.

For the home learning this month it would be nice if the children could visit some outdoor summery spaces, such as parks, beaches etc.

We would love to see your pictures.

Books of the Month:

What the Ladybird Heard at the Seaside:

by Julia Donaldson

When we Go Camping:

Sally Sutton

Staff Spotlight

Hello, I'm Amanda and I'm an Early Years Educator Level 3, Teacher Training and Early Childhood Methodology Level 4 qualified practitioner who working at Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery in Colchester. It's been an enriching journey, and I look forward to continuing to make a positive impact on the lives of the children under my care.



Staff Birthdays:

Throughout June we have celebrated lots of staffs birthdays. We at Monkey Puzzle love celebrating a birthday and would like to wish the following another 'Happy Birthday' ...Abigail



Dates for your Diary:

1st July - Canada Day

1st - 14th - Wimbledon Tennis

4th July - Independence Day

16th July - World Snake Day

29th - International Tiger Day



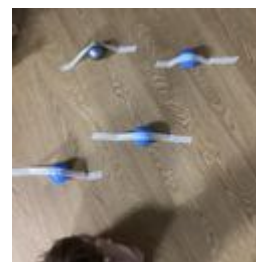
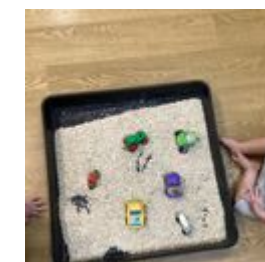
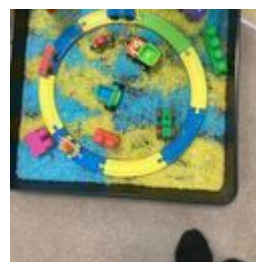
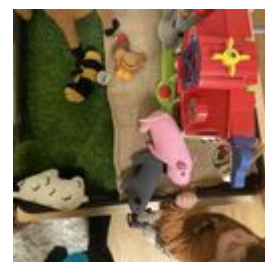
June Recap

Starfish

This month in star fish we have had some lovely activities for our babies to engage in, we have had a lot of sensory play activities such as 'oat play, dinosaur printing and painting and other various set ups'.

We have also had some visual and other sensory type play involving pushing and pulling a ball through the tape which was really fun.

Well done star fish.



Jo Jingles will be coming to visit the Starfish this month

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June Recap

Rainbow Dolphins

June newsletter This month our topic has been Colours and All About Me. We have had many exciting and fun activities looking at both primary and secondary colours Red, Blue and Yellow for Primary Colours and Green, Orange and Purple which make up the secondary colours.

We have had pasta threading and matching colours with cars as well as colour coded musical instrument fun with the scarves as well and looking at the colours on the laminates. We measured our heights and looked at how tall and small the children were and compared the results.

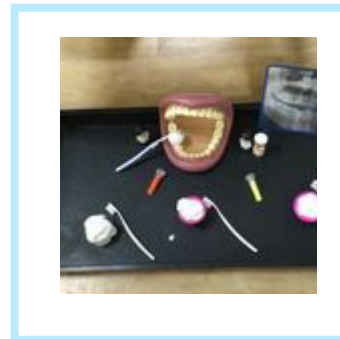
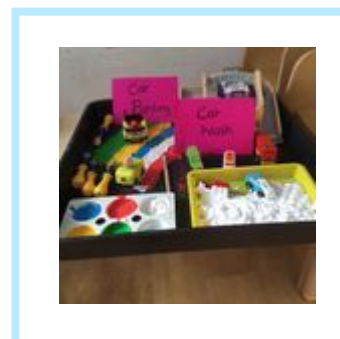
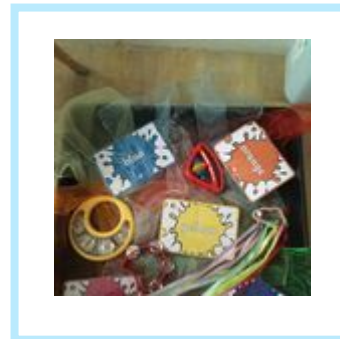
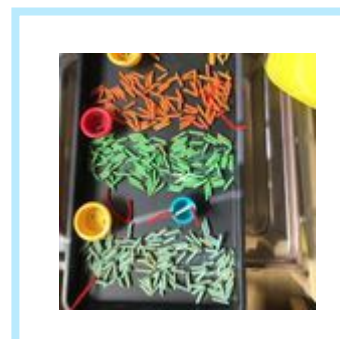
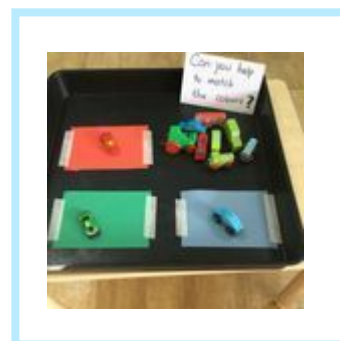
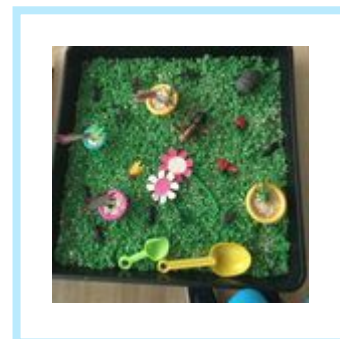
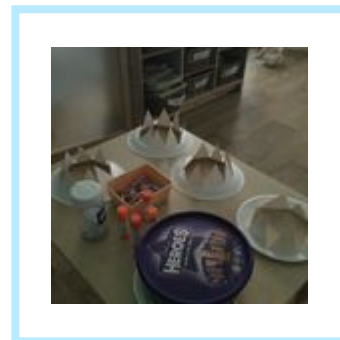
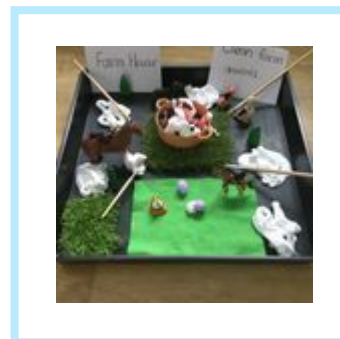
We also looked at teeth hygiene and used shaving foam as makeshift toothpaste to learn what we need to do to keep our teeth healthy while doing our all about me sub topic. We painted the cars different colours and then put them into the car wash to clean them.

We have also celebrated the king's birthday and made crowns to commemorate this momentous occasion.

We have had fun exploring oats with the bugs using the spades to dig up the hidden mini beasts.

Our book of the month was Elmer and we looked at all the colours on the patchwork Elephant. We have looked at colours during our circle time and we can identify most of the commonly seen ones now.

Also during this month we have celebrated Father's Day and made lovely craft medals for all the daddies as well as had a lovely barbecue outside as well. It's been a busy month full of fun and laughter well done Rainbow Dolphins.



Jo Jingles will be coming to visit the Rainbow Dolphins this month

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June Recap

Dolphins

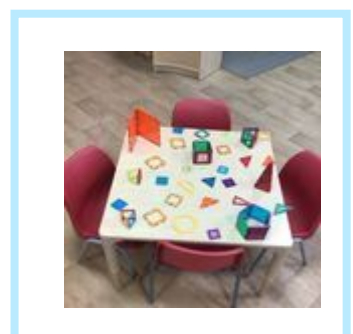
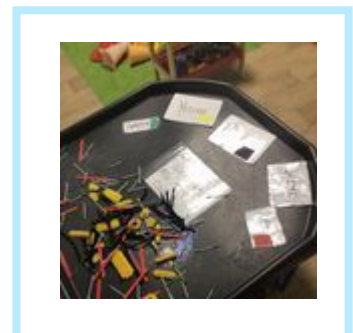
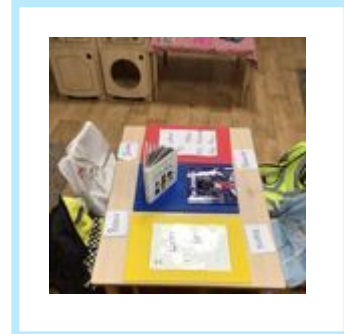
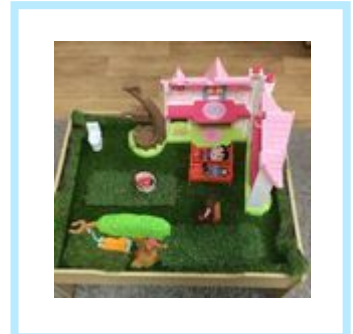
This month in dolphins we have had some great yet fun creative activities including our topics of people who help us and our primary and secondary colours.

We have also enjoyed cleaning our messy farm animals from their fun in our "mud" messy play which all the dolphins really enjoyed.

We have also role played being pirates too, we spoke about what pirates wear and how they sail on a boat on the water and shout "Arrghh".

We have also spoke about night Time so for this we made stars and moons and clouds out of rice play and spoke about how the sky turns bright in the mornings and dark at night ready for the next day.

Some of dolphins also wanted to pretend to make their own cakes using flour and glitter and cake cases. Well done dolphins.



o Jingles will be coming to visit the Dolphins this month

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June Recap

Octopus

In the first week, we explored the theme of Primary Colours. The children enjoyed a variety of activities that helped them learn and play with colours. We did a colour splash painting activity, where the kids created beautiful art using primary colours. They also practiced cutting and pasting different shapes, which combined art with some basic math skills. Another fun activity was mixing primary colours to make secondary colours, which was a great way to introduce basic science concepts. The children also used primary coloured playdough to cut out letters, supporting their literacy development. Additionally, we made rainbows, which combined art and colour learning. For an extra treat, some of the children visited the library to read and borrow books for storytime at nursery.

In the second week, our focus shifted to Secondary Colours. The children created beautiful butterfly art by mixing primary colours to make secondary ones. They also did a "walking water" colour mixing science activity that was both educational and fascinating to watch. We painted a big rainbow in the garden using both primary and secondary colours, which was a wonderful group activity. Lastly, we made a colour wheel to help the children understand how different colours are created and relate to each other.

The theme for the third week was "All About Me." The children learned about oral health by practicing teeth cleaning activities. They expressed their emotions through playdough activities, which helped them understand and communicate their feelings. We explored different foods with a "My Favourite Food" tuff tray activity. The children also had fun with an obstacle course in the garden, learning about what their bodies can do. Additionally, they explored body parts through a tuff tray activity, enhancing their knowledge about themselves. This week also included a special outing to the zoo for some of the children.

The final week's theme was "Keep Our Body Safe." We continued to focus on oral health with tooth brushing activities. The children learned about healthy eating through a tuff tray exploration. They also created a mouth full of teeth using shapes, combining mathematics and art. Hand washing and killing germs were emphasized in another tuff tray activity, teaching the importance of hygiene. The children also learned about skin care through a "Baby bath time" doll washing activity. An extra science activity this week was a fun volcano eruption using baking soda and vinegar. Additionally, some children had another library outing to read and borrow books for storytime.

Throughout the month, the children engaged in various ongoing activities. They practiced pre-writing skills, used scissors, participated in messy play, and did finger gym exercises. Role play and construction corner activities were also a daily part of their learning and development. These activities supported their overall growth and helped them develop important skills in a fun and engaging way.

Preschool Uniform:

If you would like to purchase a preschool top at a cost of £13 please speak to Manjit.

The polo tops come in two sizes: 3-4yrs / 5-6yrs.

taking part
in a range of Science, PE and 'Letter and Sounds'
activities.

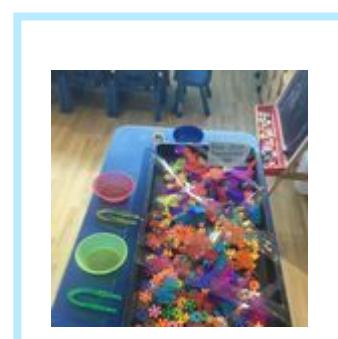
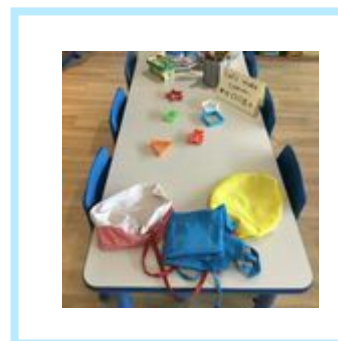
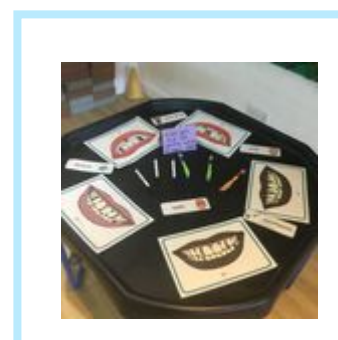
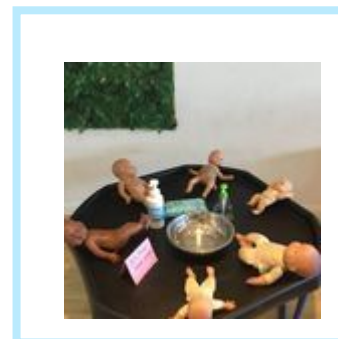
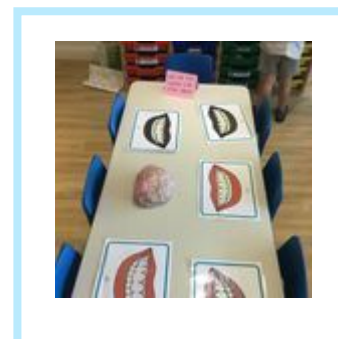
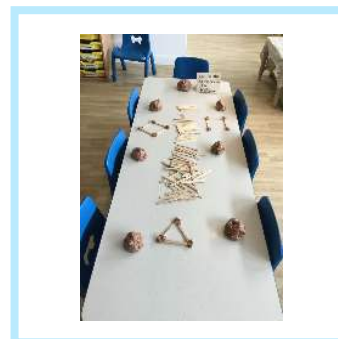
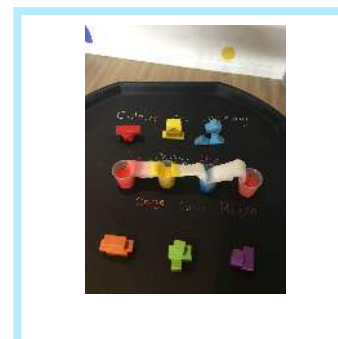
This Month:

Jo Jingles will be coming to visit the children in Octopus.
The children in Octopus will be taking part in a Tennis

lesson.

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June Recap

Coral Reef

In the month of June, we have been learning about different topics and different activities related to the topics.

At the beginning of the week, our little learners became scientists and they explored a fun activity called "walking colours" It was a fun and fantastic way of making them understand colour recognition and develop their communication skills as well. The children were busy describing the colours they saw and had lots of fun experimenting. Our children in Coral Reef explored the magic of mixing blue and red primary colours. They were amazed by getting a beautiful purple shade. This simple experiment not only introduced the concept of primary colours but also sparked creativity and a love for exploration.

The children have been exploring many more colour-mixing activities with playdough as well. They created a lovely rainbow with primary colours and secondary colours. These activities provide a fun and engaging way for children to explore the world of secondary colours. The children had fun exploring a science activity with milk, food colouring and some soap in a tray. As the soap disrupts the milk the colours mix and create a beautiful rainbow effect and they really enjoyed this fun experiment.

The children in Coral Reef were busy exploring all about themselves and we have been learning what makes us unique and special. We sang songs with actions and read stories about our body parts. We even made self-portraits and highlighted our features like hair colour and eyes. We discussed our favourite toys and our favourite fruits and vegetables and why they are special. Also, we discussed some new vocabulary for describing ourselves like tall, big, short, long etc. We had a fantastic week celebrating ourselves in Coral Reef.

Last week of June, in Coral Reef we have been focusing on a very important topic, "Keeping our body safe" We learned all about how to be strong, and healthy and how to love ourselves. We discussed the importance of drinking water to stay hydrated. We did several activities related to this and the children discovered that water gives us energy and power to stay healthy. We discussed the ways of protecting our body parts, eg our teeth need looking after to stay strong and healthy. The children realized to brush their teeth twice a day once in the morning and once before bed to fight with sugar monsters.

Preschool Uniform:

If you would like to purchase a preschool top at a cost of £13 please speak to Manjit.

The polo tops come in two sizes: 3-4yrs / 5-6yrs.

in a range of Science, PE and 'Letter and Sounds' activities.

This Month:

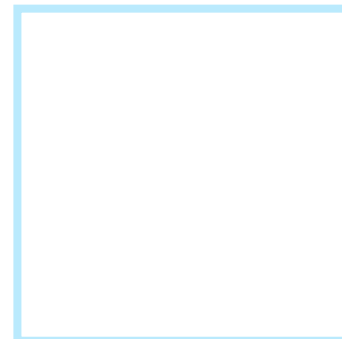
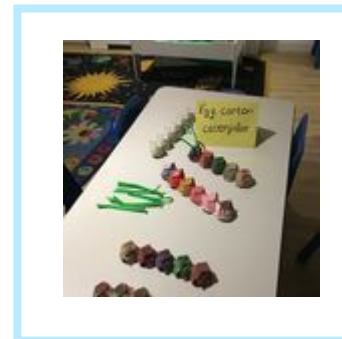
KidsLingo will be visiting the children to teach them Spanish.

Jo Jingles will be coming to visit the children in Coral Reef.

The children in Coral Reef will be taking part in a tennis lesson.

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Refer a Friend.

Refer a friend to the nursery and if they register you will receive **£100 off of your next month's fees.** *(T&C's Apply)*

Important Notes for Parents

Facebook



Have you checked out of Facebook page yet?

Like us on Facebook for regular updates on the nursery and a chance to win in our quarterly prize draw.

www.facebook.com/monkeypuzzlecolchester

Please check your ParentZone updates and emails from the nursery regularly.

Please ensure that all of your contact details and your child's emergency contacts are up to date.

Please check the parent / carer area on the website regularly for updates.

Please ensure that your child has the appropriate clothing and footwear for the weather outside, we will be accessing the garden in all weathers.

Day Nurseries

We are proud to be rated 10/10 on daynurseries.co.uk and voted as a Top 20 day nursery in the East of England.

Thank you to all of the parents/carers who have already reviewed our nursery!



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ILLNESS / INFECTION EXCLUSION PERIOD

Chicken Pox	Minimum of 5 days from the onset of the rash and all spots must be fully scabbed over before returning to nursery.
Diarrhoea and/or Vomiting	Whilst symptomatic and for 48 hours after their last bout of sickness or diarrhoea.
Hand, Foot and Mouth	All blisters must have dried out before returning to nursery, usually this is after approximately 4-6 days.
Headlice	There is no recommended exclusion period, however, parents are requested to regularly check their children's hair for head lice and we would be grateful if nursery are informed so that other parents can be alerted to check their child's hair.
Impetigo	Until the lesions have crusted or healed.
Measles	Excluded for 4 days from the onset of the rash.
Scarlet Fever	Excluded from nursery for the first 24 hours after starting treatment.
Whooping Cough	Excluded for 2 days after starting treatment, or 21 days from the onset of symptoms if no antibiotics.
Prescribed Medication	Children must be taking any medication for a minimum of 24 hours before coming in to nursery. Medication can only be administered after the 24 hour exclusion even if your child has previously taken the same medication. All medication must be in its original packaging with the prescription label attached and clearly showing child's name.
Immunisations including Flu nasal spray	If your child has had any form of immunisations, including the Flu nasal spray, they are not permitted to attend nursery for the following 24 hours due to possible allergic reactions.
Infant Suspension - Calpol	If a child develops a fever whilst at nursery the staff will use natural methods first, such as removing clothing, to try and reduce the temperature while closely monitoring the child and contacting the parents. If a child does require emergency Calpol due to a high temperature of 38 degrees or above the parents will be contacted prior to ensure all details are correct and that they agree with the dosage being given. Parents will then be required to collect their child.

