

Monkey Puzzle Colchester April 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 April edition of Monkey News.

Nursery Manager



What a busy month March was for the nursery and the children. We have been busy firstly celebrating all our amazing mum's and female figures in our children's lives and then celebrating Easter.

The children throughout March have been learning about and exploring our topic of Spring by looking at and talking about the natural world around us. The children have especially enjoyed exploring plants and animals and have been talking about these with their key people within the rooms, with lots of lovely discussions and activities happening throughout the rooms.

On Wednesday 20th March we held our annual Mothers Day afternoon tea and was joined by lots of our parents. It turned out to be a very special day with the opportunities for lots of parents to meet and converse with other parents within their child's rooms as well as meet some key individuals that work with and support the children.

The children have enjoyed exploring and talking about Easter this month and have created a wide range of artwork and cards that they took home to show you all. The children have been finding out about Easter and have especially enjoyed talking about the Easter bunny when he came. We hope you all enjoyed your Easter gifts from us at the nursery.

As the nursery moves into April we look at exploring our new topic of 'Transport' with the children taking part in a range of activities based around this.

As always please do not hesitate to get in touch with me at nursery in person or via phone, if you have any queries, questions or concerns.



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 March across the nursery and would again like to wish a massive 'Happy Birthday' to...



Adaline, Sanaya, Tommy, Sophie, Zac, Eliza, Nellie, Oliver, Noah, Frederick, Oliver, Ayda-May, Rosie, Harry, Reign, Theodore, Theo, Lorenzo, Charlie, Florence, Rex, and Brodie.

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 FAMILIARISE YOURSELVES WITH OUR SICKNESS EXCLUSION TIMES ON PAGE 9 THANK YOU

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Nursery News:

Mothers Day:

On Wednesday 20th March we held our annual Mother's Day Afternoon Tea.

We were joined by lots of parents who celebrated with us, with lots of yummy cakes and plenty of conversation the 3 Afternoon Tea events was a success. Even the weather was kind to us and stayed sunny.

Thank you to everyone who came and we hope that you all had a lovely Mother's Day.



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

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What will we be learning this month?

Monthly Theme:

Transport

Home Learning:

As the weather is becoming nicer and the sun is out for longer why not take a walk to your local park / green space and talk about the different items and objects that you can see there.

Books of the Month

You Can't Take an Elephant on the Bus:

by Patricia Cleveland-Peck

Let's Go For a Walk:

by Ranger Hamza

Staff Spotlight



This month we have a special staff spotlight. Many of you may have already seen that Sylvie won our employee of the year for 2023.

Sylvie has been a valued member of our team. Sylvie's dedication and passion to delivering great care and education to all the children within the nursery is the reason why the rest of the team nominated and voted for her.

Well Done Sylvie.

Staff Birthdays

Throughout February 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' ... Manjit, Anu, Roxy, and Ashton.



Dates for your Diary:

2nd April: International Children's Book Day

9th / 10th April: Eid-ul-Fitr

13th April: Vaisakhi

22nd April: Earth Day

23rd April: St George's Day

25th April: First Day of Passover



March Recap

Starfish

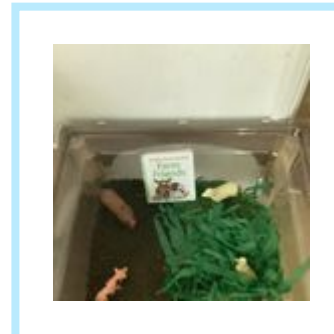
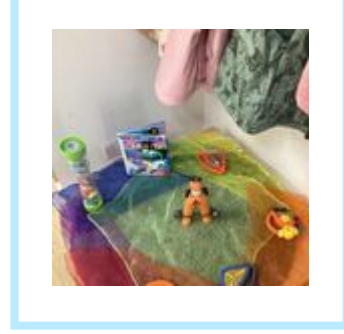
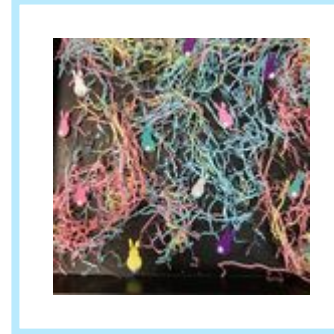
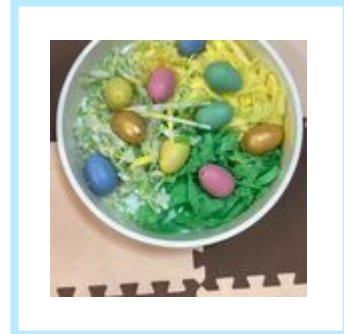
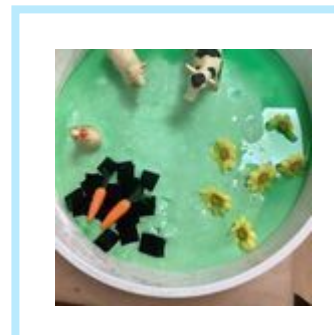
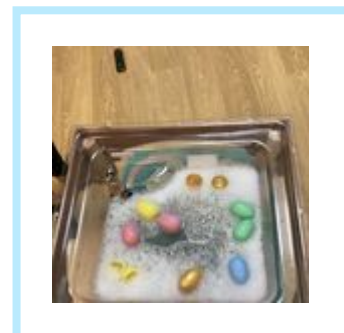
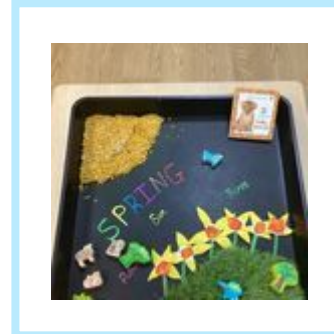
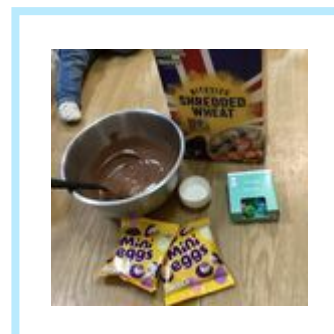
Throughout the month of March in the Starfish room we have been very busy celebrating a wide range of different activities.

At the start of the month it was Red Nose Day which in starfish room we focused on the book, The Three Little Pigs, we all came into nursery all dressed up as little pigs or the wolf. We then explored a super fun tuff tray filled with lots of different textures expanding our learning. We enjoyed reading the story while role playing with the puppets in the tray.

We also have been focusing on the exciting beginning of Spring :) We explored a beautiful tuff tray with the theme of Spring, filled with flowers, the sun, some baby animals and some exciting coloured words to link in with spring. We enjoyed recognising some different colours and our favourite, recognising and making lots of animal noises.

Towards the end of the month we then had lots of fun celebrating Easter! We really expanded our learning by cooking our own mini Easter nests. The Easter nests were made out of, shredded wheat, milk chocolate and some yummy mini eggs to top it off :) The children enjoyed using their great physical development to mix, decorate and even have a cheeky taste. The children also enjoyed using a wider range of speech repeating some more difficult words such as "chocolate", "eggs" and many more. All of the children sat very beautifully next to one another waiting for their turn using some great social personal and emotional skills.

We then enjoyed celebrating Holi Day an exciting festival of colours. The children loved to explore some coloured moon sand using their different senses to feel the different textures. The children enjoyed recognising some different colours and using their fine motor skills to expand this activity using some different sized pots and scoops to scoop up the different colours and fill up the cups to then empty them out again :) To also celebrate Holi Day we enjoyed listening to some dance music and dancing with some different coloured scarfs.



Jo Jingles will be coming to visit the Starfish this month

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March Recap

Rainbow Dolphins

What a super busy month March has been for us here in Rainbow Dolphins. We started this month off with introducing Spring. We have had lots of activities relating to spring, the children have been in the garden looking at flowers and we have been learning about how flowers begin to grow in the spring.

One of the favourite activities has been looking at the baby animals with the farm set ups and learning all the different animal names.

We have celebrated St David's day by creating and painting our own version of a daffodil and the children made wonderful creations.

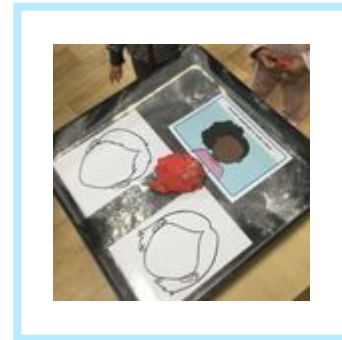
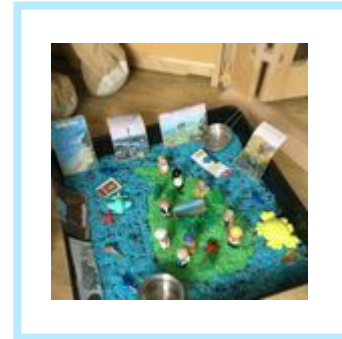
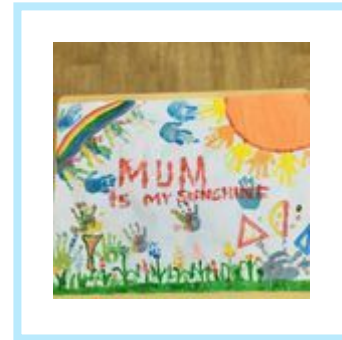
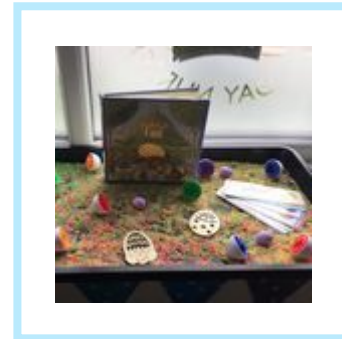
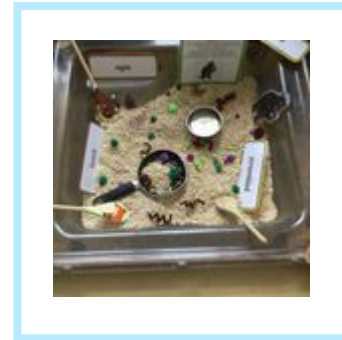
Mother's Day has also been celebrated and each child made their mummy and beautiful hand made card to take home. We have also been very lucky and some of the children got to enjoy a yummy afternoon tea with their mummy's at the nursery, lots of yummy cakes were eaten. The children in Rainbow dolphins created a beautiful poster altogether to show their mummy's are afternoon tea.

Also this month as a nursery we celebrated Red Nose Day and we made our own red noses with playdoh and some paintings with red noses on. The children were also encouraged to come into nursery wearing red.

A big topic to look at this month has been Easter, each child has created a lovely Easter card and we have been creating activities to help with the learning and understanding of Easter. The children have taken part in a Easter egg hunt outside in the garden, we have also been looking at bunny rabbits and lambs. They have also been very lucky and each got a chocolate egg to take home from Monkey puzzle.

At the end of this month as a nursery we have celebrated the festival Holi. This has been a wonderful opportunity to learn about the different colours and the children in Rainbow Dolphins had a great time creating a messy painting activity outside using lots of different colours.

The Rainbow Dolphins team.



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

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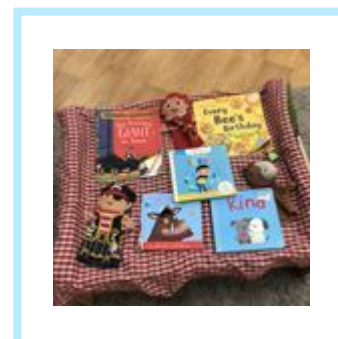
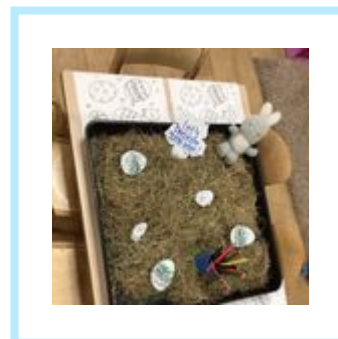
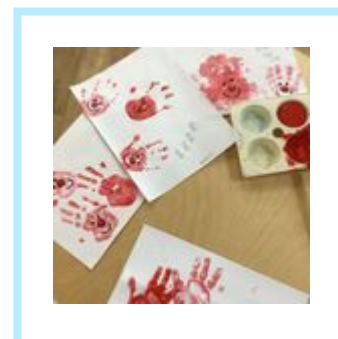
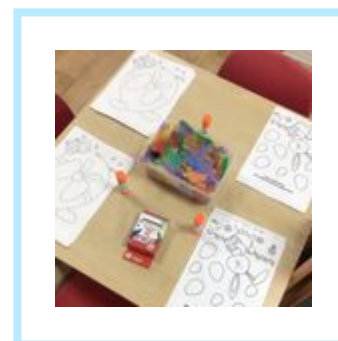
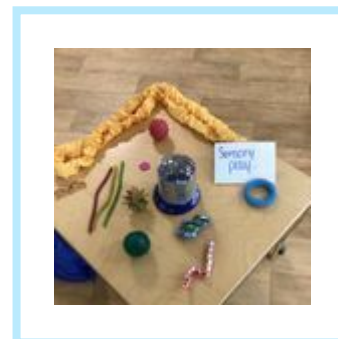
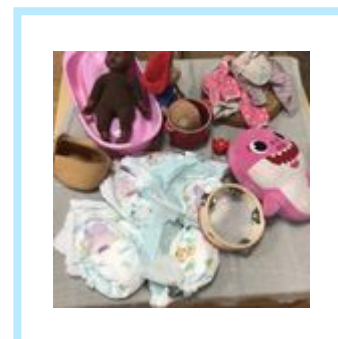
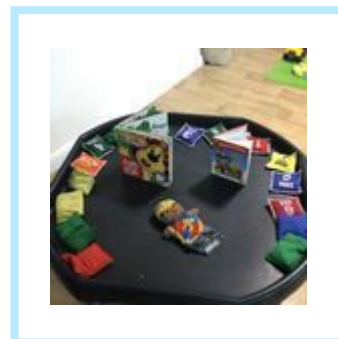
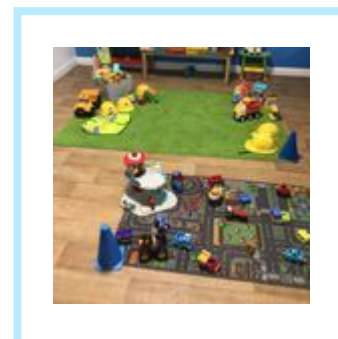
March Recap

Dolphins

This month in dolphins we have been all creative with our activities relating to topics such as st Patrick's day and Red Nose Day which all the children really enjoyed doing. We have also enjoyed learning our colours and discussing shapes with our building blocks and building houses.

We have also enjoyed using our puppets and reading aloud to the stories that the children have chosen. Dolphins have also really enjoyed role playing with the babies by pretending to feed them and do their nappies and walking them in their buggies.

We have also been enjoying our sensory bag too, using our light up light we have turned our room light off and watched the colours from the light go round the room while playing with the sensory toys. Well done dolphins.



Jo Jingles will be coming to visit the Dolphins this month

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March Recap

Octopus

March has been a very busy month. The children in Octopus have been very busy celebrating different events and learning about our topics. Our topics this month have been nature and plants, Spring and Easter.

The children have been learning about the different things that we find in the natural world. The different insects and plants and textures that we find in woods and forests. We have been exploring different textures in our tuff tray messy activities, textures that we would find outside like bark and soil.

We have also been making pictures of trees and flowers as well as having a small world messy play farm where we explored what happens on a farm in springtime. The children really enjoyed these topics and got lots of learning from them.

We have of course been celebrating Easter with lots of activities, we have been designing our Easter eggs. We have had an Easter exploration tray activity where the children could explore all things Easter. We have also had a numbered Easter egg hunt. The children had to find numbered pictures of eggs in the right order, they really enjoyed this.

As well as all of this we have also celebrated St Patrick's Day and St David's Day as well as Red Nose Day and world book day. We have done craft activities for all these occasions, we made flags and four leaf clovers and also had a red nose play dough factory! The children all looked amazing in their costumes on World Book day, our theme in Octopus was Alice In Wonderland. We had some amazing Alice, Rabbit and Mad Hatter costumes, as well as many more lovely outfits.

We have had a fantastic March that has been packed full of fun and learning and celebration!

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.

Throughout each week the children in Octopus will be 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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March Recap

Coral Reef

Throughout March, the children in coral reef have been very busy taking part in a range of different activities, fundraising days and learning about a range of different festivals.

To begin the month, the children learnt all about St David's day, the children enjoyed learning all about wales and created some beautiful daffodils using junk modelling, as well as this, we learnt all about spring, the children enjoyed creating some beautiful spring pictures as well as exploring all things spring such as the spring animals and the different plants the grow during spring, allowing us to plant lots of seeds ready to watch them grow as well as learning all about the life cycles of the different plants.

This month we have also celebrated international women's day, the children learnt all about women who have made a difference and created some lovely pictures of women who are important to them, we have also celebrated Mother's Day where we sent some lovely cards and gifts home to our mummy's and Red Nose Day, allowing us to take part in all things red, we explored red playdough, paint and everyone was dressed in red clothes.

During March, we also took part in world book day with our theme being 'Alice in wonderland' the children painted their own playing cards, cut out their own lollipop stick puppets and enjoyed reading the story during carpet time, it was lovely seeing so many children dressed up looking amazing!

Nearing the end of the month the children have learnt all about st Patrick's day, we created some lovely shamrock pictures and learnt all about Ireland, the children also celebrated 'holi' and worked together to create a wonderful large scale rainbow!

This month, we have of course been very busy taking part in lots and lots of Easter activities! The children have been exploring the Easter themed tuff trays and created some amazing art work and pictures to take home to their families.

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.

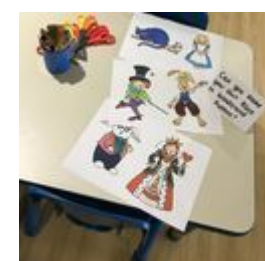
Throughout each week the children in Coral Reef will be taking part in a range of Science, PE and 'Letter and Sounds' activities.

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.

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!



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.

Monkey Puzzle Colchester

April 2024 Newsletter



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.

