



Hartley Wintney
April 2017

Monkey Puzzle Nursery News

by Sarah Worthington

This Month...

This month we will be celebrating Easter.



We will be doing lots of Easter crafts with all of the children. There will also be a new activity in our Activity Bags!

What have we been learning?

All of the children have been really busy this month. We have been talking about Ireland and Wales, making lots of



Mother's Day Crafts for all of our wonderful Mummies, as well as watching how the beginning of spring has been changing the world around us.

Throughout the rooms, we have

been starting this year's growing and planting activities. For example, this week, the children in Hedgehogs have planted some of the tree saplings we will be selling.



Also in Hedgehogs, the children have been enjoying lots of dancing to music and practicing listening for instructions (e.g. can you touch your nose?).

In Squirrels, the children have been talking about the story of the 'Three Little Pigs'. They've made the pigs and wolf using paper plates and egg cartons and have begun constructing the houses too. The children have also been enjoying building towers, drawing spiders and talking about special people at home.

Owls children have been talking about insects and sea creatures after seeing these animals in books or outside. They've been going on bug hunts and roleplaying with animal figurines in water. The children have also been doing lots of listening games;



recognizing animal sounds, looking for rhyming words and enjoying rhyming stories such as 'Cat in the Hat'.

Progress Reports

In December 2016, we used EYLog to share your child's progress reports with you. Although these reports worked well for summarizing your child's development, lots of you fed back that you were unable to access these reports easily using the EYLog Mobile App.

With new reports due, we have decided that this time, we will be producing paper-based reports. These reports will

be photographed and put on EYLog as an observation as well as copied and given to you.

As always, any information you are able to share with us about your child and what they get up to at home, is valued. Therefore, a form will be attached to your copy of your child's report to complete and return, or simply comment on the Report Observation on EYLog.

Staff News

We are pleased to introduce two new staff members to you this month:

Jack McKee joined us on Monday 3rd April 2017 as our new nursery Chef. Jack is a professional and highly qualified Chef with lots of experience in the kitchen. He is passionate about creating high quality homemade meals that not only taste good but are nutritious and will help the children experience new foods.

From Monday 10th April, we would also like to welcome Margaret Gibson to our team. Margaret is qualified in childcare and has spent 17 years child-minding. She has come to join our Squirrels Room (Toddlers) team with lots of enthusiasm and is keen to get stuck in with the children.

Supply Staff

Up until recently, we have been using regular people from agencies such as Simply Supply and Gainpath to cover any staffing gaps (i.e. when regular staff are on holiday or at training), but unfortunately, these regulars are becoming less available to help us.

We believe that for the children to feel settled and comfortable, it is important that those covering any staffing gaps are familiar to the children. Therefore, we have recently been recruiting for a team of Monkey Puzzle Supply Staff to join us.

So far we have recruited two people to join our Supply Team. They are:

Kelly Mahmood – Kelly is qualified with a level 5 in childcare and education and

has two of her own children. She has many years of experience working in nurseries in senior roles.

Henry Wise – Henry is our most recent addition to the Supply Team. Although he is unqualified, Henry is keen to learn more about the childcare and education industry.

OFSTED Update

On Monday 6th March, OFSTED visited us to re-inspect the nursery. With support from our staff team and parents, we are delighted to announce that Monkey Puzzle Hartley Wintney is now graded: **"GOOD"**!



If you would like to read the full inspection report, this can be found at: <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/CARE/EY497493>

We would like to thank everyone for your support and encouragement.

We are holding an open day on Friday 21st April and will shortly be distributing flyers advertising our successful OFSTED and the open day. We would really appreciate any positive reviews from our parents.

Reviews can be submitted at: <https://www.daynurseries.co.uk/daynurseries.cfm/searchazref/65432214078#submit-review>

and on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/monkeypuzzlehartleywintney/>

Trees for sale!

From Friday 31st March 2017, we will be selling tree saplings. There are a variety of saplings for sale and a list of what trees we have will be sent round to you all.

Each sapling will be sold for £5 each (cash only please). Funds raised will be used to buy some exciting new equipment for our outdoor spaces.



Dates for your Diary

10/04/2017 - 21/04/2017 Easter Holidays – please note: children in receipt of term time only funding are not funded for this period. If you require extra sessions during this time, please let us know. All extra sessions are chargeable.

Friday 14th April 2017 - Good Friday (Bank Holiday) – Nursery is closed.

Monday 17th April 2017 – Easter Monday (Bank Holiday) – Nursery is closed.

Friday 21st April 2017 – Nursery Open Day 9am-11am or 2pm-4pm – Please invite any friends or family looking for childcare to come and view our nursery. No appointment necessary.

Sunday 23rd April 2017 – St Georges Day – More information to follow on how we will be celebrating this.

Monday 8th May - Muddy Puddle Walk – More details to follow...

