



Monkey Puzzle Ware

Newsletter edition 123

23.10.2020

Dates for your diary

Halloween Party

Wednesday 28th October

Christmas Closure

21st December-28th
December inclusive

31st December

Inset Day (nursery closed)

Dear Parents,

The Halloween party is next Wednesday, this unfortunately is not open to parents and only to children in on the day. There will be a party tea and we encourage the children to come in in fancy dress. We will still have messy play for the morning though so if you only want your child to wear their costume for the party (14.30-16.30) please let the team know.

We have decided to enforce mandatory welly boots and for the garden, we do not have spare welly boots so please ensure your children have these with them everyday and some normal shoes for inside, preferably not slippers as they do not protect well for water play.

Hopefully, you have seen the lost property email, we still have some unclaimed items so do let us know if you recognise anything as yours. You have until 30th October to claim any items before they get sent to the charity shop or in the bin.

Amy is on annual leave next week so if you have any invoice queries please note they will be answered on Tuesday 3rd November.

In other news Melissa (Mel) started in the baby room on Monday, she's begun making some firm bonds with the babies and will start introducing herself to parents next week, look out for her picture in the staff section of the website.

Sadly, Krissy will not be returning from her maternity leave as she's chosen to spend more time with baby Louis. Emma who is currently our lunch cover for the pre-school room will also be leaving us, her last day will be 20th November.

Kind Regards,

The Management Team

What's for lunch?



Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast	Cereal + Toast Fruit selection Gluten, Dairy	Cereal + Toast Fruit selection Gluten, Dairy	Cereal + Toast Fruit selection Gluten, Dairy	Cereal + Toast Fruit selection Gluten, Dairy	Cereal + Toast Fruit selection Gluten, Dairy
AM Snack	Hovis biscuits and cheese Gluten, Dairy	Fruit selection	Malt loaf Gluten, Dairy	Fruit selection	Bagels with jam or marmite Gluten, Dairy
Lunch	Spaghetti bolognese Yoghurt Gluten, Dairy	Lamb Tagine and cous cous Fruit Salad Gluten,	Cheesy vegetable pasta bake Pineapple Cake Pineapple, Gluten, Dairy	Homemade pizza and salad Yogurt Dairy, Gluten, Raw tomato	Jamaican fish curry and rice Carrot cake Gluten, Dairy,
PM Snack	Fruit selection	Bread sticks & Humous Gluten	Fruit selection	Rice cakes with cheese spread Dairy	Fruit selection
Tea	Ham wraps and salad Banana cake Gluten, Dairy, Raw tomato	Sausage rolls and salad Yogurt Dairy, gluten	PARTY TEA!	Tuna and mayonnaise bagels Chocolate and Banana cookies Gluten, Dairy, Egg	Chicken pittas and salad Yogurt Gluten, Dairy

What have we been up to in Baby Room...



The babies have been exploring flour this week, they feel the texture between their hands and make marks in the flour. Practitioners introduce them to new language.



The children have been mark making using pens. The hold the pen using the whole hand grasp and the older children may be beginning to show a preference for a dominant hand and may even tell you what they have drawn.



The babies are learning how to interact with one another, these babies hold hands to sing 'row, row, row your boat'. Practitioners model appropriate interactions and encourage friendly behaviour.

What have we been up to in Toddler Room...



Pumpkins were added to the children's environment this week, the children took the opportunity to draw on the pumpkins!

The children are beginning to learn how to hold writing utensils correctly and practitioners' model this for the children. Practitioners also encourage the children to ascribe meaning to the marks they make.



The children also made some dens using the tables and used these for their imaginative play. They made their dens dark and decided that they were camping in a tent!



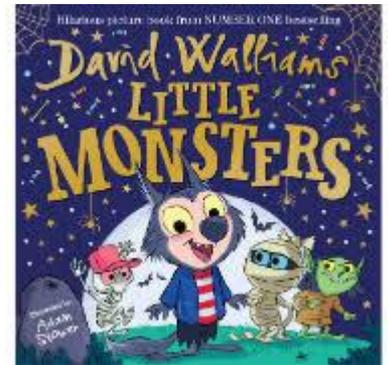
The children then decided to smash the pumpkins and explore the innards, they counted the seeds and felt the texture of the pulp. Practitioners offered help with descriptive words and assisted in counting when the children reached a number they were unsure of.

What have we been up to in the Pre-School Room...



This child is having her own tea party, she fills her teapot and pours out enough cups for her guests. She's very careful and doesn't spill any despite the size of her 'teapot'.

Our pre-schoolers should be able to pour their own waters at the dinner table before they head off for school, this is something we work on from the time they are 2yo.



Then children have been reading a new story this week, they have read the story to help them understand Halloween a little better.

The children have spoken about what costume they will wear and what activities they might play with at the party.



With Mel on holiday this week we put our pre-schoolers to work and they made their own biscuits for pudding!

They measured and weighted their ingredients and made sure the mixture was the right consistency. They rolled their mixture out and cut it into shapes.



This child concentrates intently on cutting her string, she holds the scissors using two hands, after this a practitioner demonstrated the correct way to hold the scissors and when that didn't work they facilitated in holding the string still.



We have been trying to instil some independence into our pre-schoolers, we always encourage them to try to put their items for the garden on themselves before they ask for help.

This child persevered and managed to put his shoes on himself with no help from an adult! The child welcomed praise and was very proud of himself!

Activities for home...

HALLOWEEN!

Pumpkin Hammering

Grab some nails, hammers and pumpkins and let your children attempt to hit them into the pumpkin. This a great activity to promote risk and challenge and will keep the children busy for a while.



Pumpkin Carving

Another great way to challenge children, you can get children's carving tools or if your child is older a safety knife may be best. If you don't want to actually let them carve, they can decorate instead.

Eyeballs in Jelly

Let your little one enjoy the sensory experience of jelly while trying to fish out the eyeballs, give them some tools if they are a little older to encourage motor skills.



Pumpkin Pie

As Halloween comes to an end use an old pumpkin to make pumpkin pie, research a recipe together, measure ingredients, make a shopping list and head out to buy the things at the shop.

Potions

Make some witches potions together, add food colouring, some textures such as rice, cornflour and let your little one's imagination take over. A good book to accompany this activity would be 'There's a Witch in your Book'.

