Stafford Newsletter

February 2022

Welcome to our monthly edition of Monkey Puzzle Stafford news!

So, what have we been up to in February?

February has sure been a busy month for the Monkey Puzzle Family…with several events being celebrated throughout nursery! Our celebrations included Chinese New Year, Children's Mental Health Week and Valentine's Day!

We have also had building works conducted in our kitchen and baby sleep room.

Cheeky Chimps

Our babies have been focusing on the topic 'weather', which is a new theme inspired by last months Woodlands topic! Our Cheeky Chimps in baby room have been participating in various activities related to weather such as messy play with rainbow spaghetti, wellie boot printing and exploring our fab sensory bags for sunshine, rain and cloud!

Our babies have also had a go at creating their own clouds for the new display wall by spreading glue on paper and then sticking cotton wool down!

During Children's Mental Health week the baby room looked at emotions- in particular the emotion spoons that the staff have developed. These have been used during morning and afternoon circle time to help the babies express their feelings.

To celebrate Valentine's Day, the babies took part in producing painted cards for their loved ones and decorating biscuits with red icing….yum yum!

Mischievous Monkeys

Our toddlers have carried on with activities linked to last month's topic 'the very hungry caterpillar! They have made their own caterpillars with paper plates and enjoyed painting these with our new paint pens!

For Children's Mental Health Week we have focused on emotions in this room. Each child is present with different emotion faces to choose from during circle time. We then have looked at turn taking and talking about how we are feeling and why they have chosen a happy or sad face.

Many of the Mischievous Monkeys decided to dress up also during this week to express what they wanted to be!

To celebrate Chinese New Year our toddlers enjoyed painting and decorating lanterns with glitter and then hanging them up! They also enjoyed colouring their own Tiger…. to celebrate the year of the Tiger!

For Valentine's Day the children enjoyed making hearts out of playdough! They also enjoyed making their Valentine's Cards.

In Mischievous Monkeys we have a new theatre area – the children have enjoyed dressing up as different characters to make up their own story! Playing parts as actors and the audience! Looking forward to seeing how this area further develops!

Our toddlers are becoming more independent! They now bring their empty plates after breakfast, snack, lunch and tea to the trolley and put their used cups in the sink for washing. Great skills being used. Hopefully they can continue this at home helping their mummy's and daddy's!

Groovy Gorillas

Our Pre-Schoolers have been focusing on their new topic Space! They have been learning about different planets, rockets and the moon. They particularly enjoyed making moon rocks out of foil and then counting how many they had made. The Groovy Gorillas enjoyed making a rocket out of cardboard boxes and then taking turns to go into the rocket. They also all contributed to painting and decorating a rocket for the wall display….great team work!

To celebrate Chinese New Year the children enjoyed painting and colouring their own tigers! They also tried some sample Chinese food for afternoon tea. Groovy Gorillas also enjoyed learning how to use chop sticks to pick up spaghetti!

To celebrate Valentine's Day the Pre-Schoolers enjoyed different activities such as using heart stamps to make a picture, cutting and sticking hearts and of course making their own Valentine's cards! (photos overleaf)

Our Pre-Schoolers are now back to becoming more independent and with restrictions lifted are now back to clearing their own plates and learning to use a dish cloth to wash their plates in a tub after lunch and tea!

Our new kitchen!

We are pleased to showcase our new kitchen! The internal wall between the kitchen and stock room has been knocked down to allow for a bigger and more efficient kitchen. Karen, our Nursery Cook, is loving the space and now has more room to prepare and cook for our growing nursery!

Feel free to pop in and have a look!

Happy Birthday!

We have been celebrating lots of birthdays in February across the nursery. Happy Birthday Emilie, Nevaeh and Scarlett! Also, a very Happy Birthday to Jo, our Pre-School Practitioner!

Employee of the Month!

The Management team are always thankful to all the staff that work so hard to care for our Monkey Puzzle children and develop their learning. Our staff have voted Carren, Nursery Assistant, as employee of the month due to her commitment and dedication to always supporting her colleagues within all nursery rooms.

Well done Carren!

Upcoming Nursery Events!

16th March to 7th April - Discover Monkey Puzzle Stafford & Kide Science Event – Parents of Pre-schoolers only (pre-booking essential)

Wednesday 23rd March 3pm to 5pm – Calling all Mums to join their little one's at Monkey Puzzle Stafford for a Mother's Day Afternoon Tea (pre-booking required)

Dates for your diary!

1st March – Pancake Day
1st March - St David's Day
3rd March – World Wildlife Day
3rd March – World Book Day
8th March – International Women's Day
17th March- St Patrick's Day
18th March – Holi Festival
20th March – International Happiness Day
21st March – World Poetry Day
27th March – Mother's Day

Important notes for parents:

Please ensure you keep an eye on our Famly App for announcements and messages!

If there are any changes to your child's contact details or or emergency contact details then please can you advise management of this.

Our new policies are now available online on our website under Parents Page. The policies are password protected but will be shared with parents via Famly! There will be more new policies being added in the coming months.

We are proud to be rated 9.9/10 on daynurseries.co.uk. Thank you to all our parents/ carers who have reviewed our nursery!

Don't forget to add your pictures onto our Famly app, so that practitioners can share your child's experiences and achievements with their friends and on their journal.

If you have any questions then please message us on Famly or call us during opening times on 01785 250188. We are always here to help.

Your management team:

Gaitri Sharma
Director

Barb Homer
Nursery Manager

Hannah Kilford
Deputy Manager

You can leave a review on Day Nurseries at www.daynurseries.co.uk