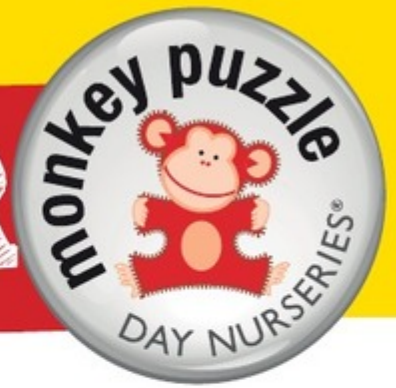


WELCOME TO

November 2022

NEWSLETTER



WELCOME TO OUR MONTHLY EDITION OF MONKEY NEWS

Nursery Manager



Welcome to our October Newsletter.

We at the nursery have been very busy throughout the month of October looking at and exploring Harvest, Autumn, and the different fruits and vegetables you would find. The children have especially enjoyed using their senses to explore these different vegetables and this has been witness throughout the nursery. The main item for this month was obviously the pumpkin. The children enjoyed exploring this, and especially loved putting their hands into the middle of the pumpkins to feel and touch the seeds and insides. Our older children then looked at how pumpkins and vegetables grow, and the lifecycle of the different vegetables. We were even lucky enough to try some 'Pumpkin Crumble' for our pudding!

The nursery celebrated and looked at a few festivals this month. The children enjoyed exploring and talking about 'Diwali' the festival of light, which we celebrated on the 24th October. This allowed lots of activities involving light, bright colours, and the reasons behind the importance of the festival. The children created lots of different colourful rangoli patterns using a range of sensory materials, and even created their very own candle pictures.

The nursery also celebrated Halloween this month, and the nursery got into the spooky festival by creating a wide range of artwork around Halloween, displaying these artwork on the boards and of course exploring and craving pumpkins. The starfish children even ventured on an outing to Sainsburys to choose and purchase their very own tiny pumpkins. The team got into the spirit of Halloween and dressed up in a range of lovely costumes, and even took part in a team challenge to create their own pumpkins... A huge well done to Dolphins who created the winning pumpkin.

As we move onto November we will be looking at and exploring our theme 'Sports/Exercise', this will allow the children throughout all age groups to explore the different sporting events and also explore the World Cup which starts on the 21st November.

I would just like to remind you that as the weather is becoming much colder and wetter to send your children into nursery with appropriate clothing. We are an all weathers nursery so will be exploring and taking part in outdoor play even when it is cold and raining.

I hope you have all had a lovely October and look forward to seeing what November brings. Don't forget I'm always around if you have any questions, concerns or feedback. Please don't hesitate to get in contact.

Directors



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

We would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to Max, Grayson, Phoebe, Evelyn, Rafe, Isaac, Rosie, Franco and Joshua who have joined our Monkey Puzzle family this month.

We have also had lots of birthdays to celebrate in September across the nursery and we would like to once again wish a happy birthday to Neeva, Evelyn, Jessica, Adam, Jacob, Zoe, Isaac, Elijah, Evie, Jasmine, Ronnie and Layla.



WE WOULD KINDLY ASK ALL PARENTS TO PLEASE TELEPHONE THE NURSERY ON 01206 560 695 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



Here at Monkey Puzzle Colchester we will once again be supporting Children in Need day on 18th November and having a cake sale. There will be lots of lovely cakes available for you to buy at both pick up times.

We will also have lots of fun activities on offer for the children throughout the day and would love for them all to come dressed in something spotty!

CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

Please note our Christmas closure dates below. We are open normal hours 7.30am - 6.30pm on Friday 23rd December, and then closed until the New Year.

**Nursery Last Day - Friday 23rd
December 2022**

**Nursery Re-Open - Tuesday 3rd
January 2023**

PARENTS EVENINGS

We would like to let you all know that we have set the dates for our next Parents Evenings.

Rainbow Dolphin & Dolphin Children -
Monday 21st November 2022

Starfish and Coral Reef Children -
Wednesday 23rd November

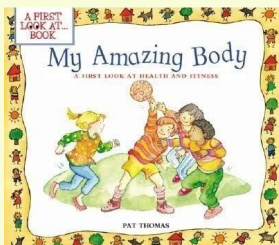
We are currently working hard to finalise all of the details for this event and we will be contacting you with the details of your time slot shortly.

Watch out for an email very soon!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Theme of the Month for November - Sports and Exercise

Books of the Month for November - My Amazing Body / The Field



8th - 13th November - World Maths Week

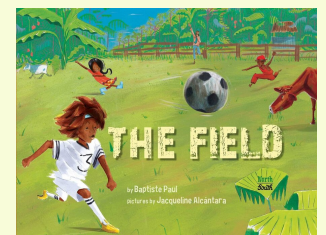
10th November - World Science Day

18th November - Children in Need

21st November - Dolphins & Rainbow Dolphins Parents Evening

23rd November - Starfish & Coral Reef Parents Evening

30th November - St Andrews Day





STARFISH ROOM

OCTOBER RECAP

Throughout October we have been looking at the topic Harvest.

The children have enjoyed exploring lots of activities around this subject including a fruity teabag water activity where the children enjoyed watching the water turn into a pinky red colour whilst smelling the different smells. The children also poured the water from one cup to another.

The children enjoyed the dingle dangle scarecrow tray. They danced with the scarecrow and enjoyed feeling the different textures of the hay, grass and carrot peelings.

The children explored their number development skills whilst counting the number of Brussel sprouts they could fit into the beakers and the children also enjoyed planting their own vegetables in the garden soil tray. The children enjoyed scooping up the vegetables and placing them back under the soil, the children also counted the number of vegetables they have found.





OCTOBER RECAP RAINBOW DOLPHIN ROOM

We have been celebrating Autumn and Harvest in Rainbow Dolphins this month and we have been enjoying lots of lovely activities to help us learn about it.

The children have enjoyed many Autumn sensory trays exploring the crunchy leaves and pine cones. We have then extended on this by using the leaves and pine cones to create some wonderful art pieces.

We have used looked at and talked about different types of vegetables and fruits with a focus on those that grow on farms.

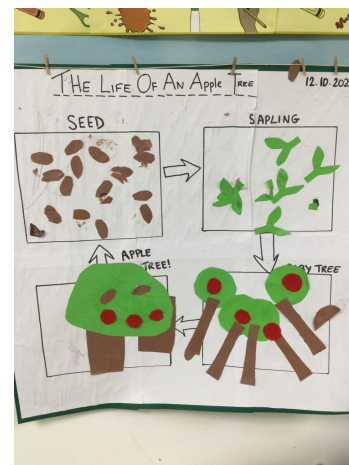
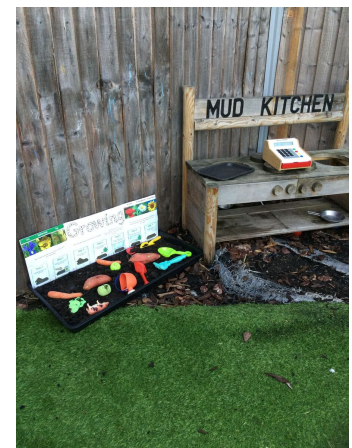
The children have had activities set up with real fruit and vegetables giving them the chance to hold the different vegetables and fruits and use their senses to investigate the differences between them.

Potato was a favourite of Rainbow Dolphins as they loved dipping them in the different coloured paint and printing them on the paper.

Learning about harvest also extended to farm play and looking at different animals we may find on the farm. This was a great way for lots of communication and language to be encouraged as we love to sing "old McDonald had a farm".

We used diggers to practice some scooping and pouring skills with one of our activities and had fun watching the rice fall from the diggers.

We have also had lots of fun at the end of the month with Halloween themed activities which have included messy pumpkin play and a Halloween themed garden.





DOLPHIN ROOM

OCTOBER RECAP

The children have had a fantastic month full of so much learning and fun.

We have enjoyed creating hand prints with bright beautiful colours for Diwali, and the children enjoyed painting their hands with different patterns. The children enjoyed learning about Diwali by looking at a book and talking about it. They learned that it was all about bright colours and that is about patterns and lights .

The children have enjoyed lots of exploratory play using seeds of all different sizes, colours and textures. This prompted the children to use lots of language related to shape and size, and have lots of fun comparing and sorting the seeds.

After this we moved on to fruits and vegetables and the children loved using all of their senses to explore the wide variety of fruits and vegetables provided for them. One of the children's favourites was the onion, where they loved peeling the layers and seeing the change in colour and also the strong smell of the onion too. Another favourite was the carrots, which they found great fun to snap in half and the potatoes that rolled around all over the tables.

We ended the month celebrating Halloween and the children absolutely loved scooping the seeds out of the pumpkin and counting each scoop as we did so. We also tried to count the seeds but there were so many we had to split them into smaller groups. The children expanded their vocabularies using new words to describe the feel and smell while exploring the inside of the pumpkin.

The nursery held a Pumpkin decorating competition where each room decorated their pumpkin ready for it to go on display in the nursery entrance and for voting on our Facebook page. The children in Dolphins were all super happy when they found out that their pumpkin won!

It has been a lovely month for all in Dolphins and we are very excited to see what next months brings!





CORAL REEF

Throughout October the children in Coral Reef have been learning all about harvest, fruits and vegetables.

The children have enjoyed taking part in a range of different activities in relation to these topics. The children have enjoyed creating their own harvest themed sun catchers to take home and put in their windows, the children have also created lots of beautiful petal collage pictures using flowers.

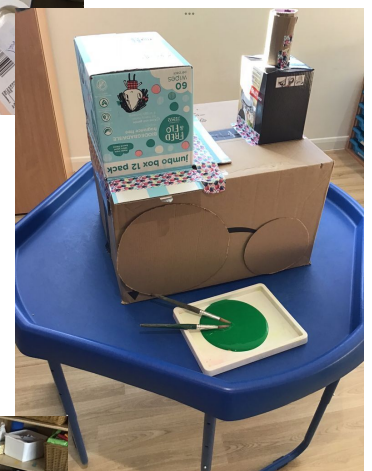
As well as this, the children have been learning all about the insides of fruits, the children were able to explore the different seeds and look at the different insides of the fruits.

This month the children have also been busy baking. The children all worked together to bake a lovely banana loaf where the children all took it in turns to measure out the ingredients before decorating and eating their loaf!

The children have also taken part in lots of activities relating to Halloween, the children have baked Halloween biscuits, explored pumpkins and created some lovely salt dough Halloween characters to take home.



OCTOBER RECAP





REFER A FRIEND

Refer a friend to the nursery and if they register you receive **£100 off of your next month's fees**

(T&C's apply)

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR PARENTS

FACEBOOK PRIZE DRAW

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 contact details are up to date.
- Please check the parent/carer area on the website regularly for updates.
- Please ensure that your children have suitable clothing and footwear for the weather outside as we are an all weather nursery and will still be spending time in the garden every day wherever possible.
- Please ensure Starfish, Rainbow Dolphin and Octopus children have slippers at nursery.

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 reviewed our nursery!





COVID GUIDANCE

WHAT TO DO IF ...	ACTIONS REQUIRED ...	YOUR CHILD MAY RETURN WHEN ...
... your child has symptoms of COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not send your child to nursery Inform the nursery Book a PCR test immediately Self-isolate at home 	... there is a negative test result, or they have been advised that they do not need to isolate
... your child tests positive for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not send your child to nursery Inform the nursery self-isolate for 10 days 	... your child feels better, and they have completed 10 days of self-isolation. Some symptoms such as cough and loss of taste/smell can remain even when the infection has gone
... somebody in your child's household has symptoms of COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household member to book a PCR test immediately Inform the nursery Self-isolate at home Inform nursery of test result 	... your child may attend nursery as they are under the age of 18 years old as long as they are well with no symptoms of COVID-19
... somebody in your child's household has tested positive for COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform the nursery Self-isolate at home for 10 days Book a PCR test for your child 	... your child may attend nursery as they are under the age of 18 years old as long as they are well with no symptoms of COVID-19
... NHS Test & Trace have identified your child as a close contact of someone with confirmed COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not send your child to nursery if you have been advised by NHS Test & Trace to self-isolate for 10 days (e.g., if they have come into contact with someone with the Omnicrom variant) Inform the nursery Self-isolate at home for 10 days 	... your child may attend nursery as they are under the age of 18 years old, provided they have not come into contact with someone who has the Omnicrom variant.
... you have received medical advice that your child should shield or should resume shielding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not send your child to nursery Follow medical advice Inform the nursery 	... you are advised that your child no longer needs to shield
... you have received medical advice that someone in your household should shield or should resume shielding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not send your child to nursery Contact the nursery manager to discuss any concerns 	... you are advised that the individual no longer needs to shield
... your child has just returned from abroad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not send your child to nursery until they have taken a PCR test on day 2 after they have returned to the UK Inform the nursery Self-isolate at home for the defined period, this includes whilst you are waiting for their PCR test results. 	... you have completed the defined period of self-isolation; this includes whilst you are waiting for the PCR test results.
... I am unable to get a test for someone in the household who has symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you are not able to get a test in the first 5 days of having symptoms, your child and anyone they live with should stay at home and self-isolate for 10 days. Anyone in your support bubble must also stay at home 	... your child has completed 10 days of self-isolation



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.