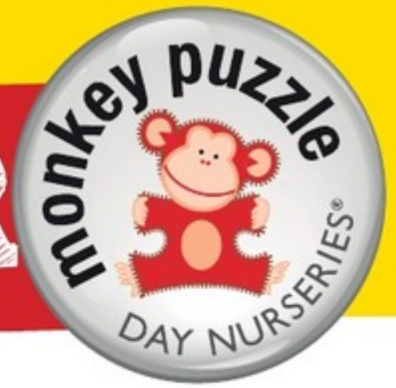


**WELCOME TO**

**September 2022**

# NEWSLETTER



## **WELCOME TO OUR MONTHLY EDITION OF MONKEY NEWS**

### **Nursery Manager**



This month at nursery has been a mixture of emotions. Our main theme this month has been Summer and the Sun, and we have been looking at and talking about sun safety and the importance of staying safe in the sun.

The children and staff have taken part in a wide range of activities talking about the sun, what the sun is, and the importance of staying safe whilst outside in the sun. This has led onto some lovely conversations about times spent with family in the sun, different types of weather and past holidays.

The children became involved in a range of activities and experiences to celebrate Raksha Bandham, which celebrates the love between siblings. We used this celebration to talk about our friends, what makes a good friend, and how we can all be kind to each other.

We celebrated the end of a chapter for our amazing Pre-Schoolers by holding a very special Graduation and Leavers Disco. These events allowed us to say goodbye to some incredible personalities and it was lovely to see the whole preschool family come together with parents to enjoy this special day. We wish them all the best of luck at school.

Throughout September the nursery will be focusing and exploring the theme 'All About Me'. This not only allows the children to explore what makes them special, but also enables positive bonds with key people, which is vitally important at this time of year especially with all the room transitions that been and continue to happen.

As always I would like to remind you that my office door is always open. If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to come and find me via email, telephone or at drop off/pick up time.

James

### **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 Elsie, Isabel, Alfie, Eliza, Aria, Albie, Jasmine, Layla, Deian, Ayva and Fredrik who have joined our Monkey Puzzle family this month.

We have also had lots of birthdays to celebrate this month across the nursery and we would like to wish a happy birthday to Reuben, Eliza, Freddie, Riley, Michal and Aisatou.



**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**



In support of  
**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**



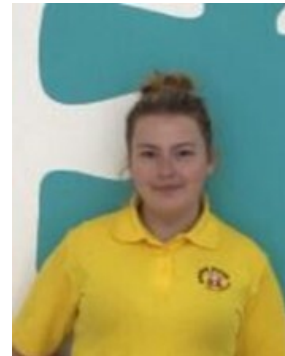
## **MacMillan Bake Sale**

**30th September 2022**

**We will once again be holding a bake sale at nursery in support of Macmillan where there will be lots of delicious cakes available to buy when collecting your children.**

## **Staff Birthdays**

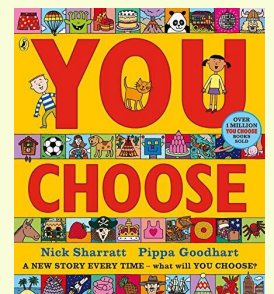
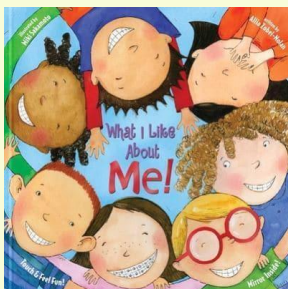
We would like to say a big Happy Birthday to two of our staff members who have recently celebrated their birthdays, Mary and Andrea, as well as our Director Sandy.



## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Theme of the Month for September - All About Me**

**Books of the Month for September  
What I like About Me  
& You Choose**



**6th September - National Read a Book Day**

**13th September - Roald Dahl Story Day**

**20th - 26th September - Recycle Week**

**23rd September - International Day of Sign Languages**

**25th - 27th September - Rosh Hashana**

**30th September - MacMillan Bake Sale**



# STARFISH ROOM

## AUGUST RECAP

The children in Starfish room have had a busy August.

They have celebrated the festival Raksha Bandhan where they threaded pasta through ribbon to create their own bracelets.

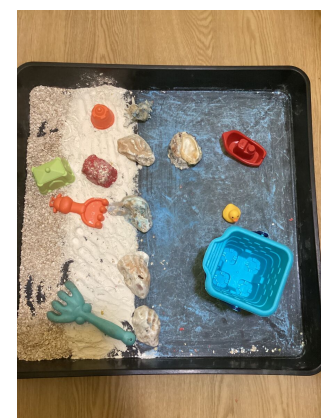
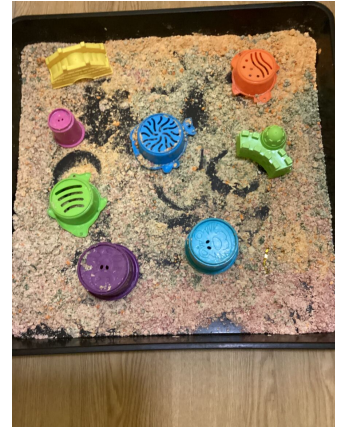
Throughout August the children enjoyed activities related to summer. They enjoyed a beach themed tray in the garden with sand, blue paint and shells. The children scooped the sand up pouring it into the bucket and emptying it out again.

The children were encouraged to apply shaving foam sunscreen on to the baby dolls before going in the garden to explore sun safety.

The children also really enjoyed the moon sand tray, pouring the sand into the sandcastle moulds and emptying it again making their own sandcastles.

The children had fun packing their own suitcase to go on their summer holiday. They packed their clothes, sunglasses, hats and nappies - the children enjoyed trying on their hats and glasses too!

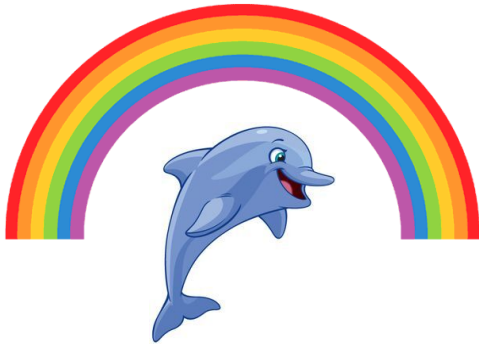
The children also cooled down with plenty of water activities including a summer fruits activity where the children were encouraged to wash their fruits with bubbly water. The children were able to repeat number names too when they were counting the fruits and they enjoyed using their hands to make their own bubbles too!





## AUGUST RECAP

### RAINBOW DOLPHIN ROOM



Summer has come and Rainbow Dolphins have had a busy month learning and celebrating all things summer.

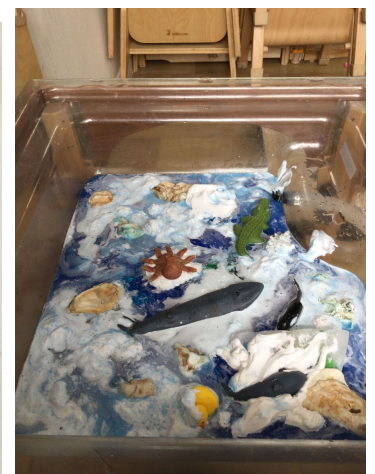
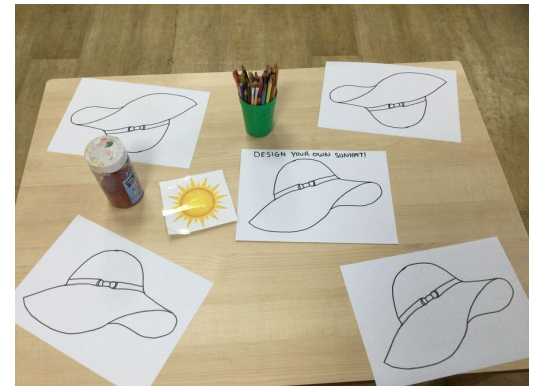
The children have enjoyed time playing outside and splashing in the paddling pool, this was a great way for the children to explore the water whilst practicing their tipping and pouring skills.

We have also covered learning about holidays and the beach. Numerous beach set ups have been created for the children to explore, they have enjoyed playing with the sand and learning the different names of the sea animals. We spoke about what we would find at the beach and created our own buckets sticking on different pictures of what we would find.

Whilst it has been warm we have taken the opportunity to learn about sun safety. Even though the children are still young we have been making sure they learn about sun cream and wearing sun hats outside in the garden.

Rainbow dolphins have created their very own lemonade stand where the children all sat down around the table and took it turns to make their very own lemonade. This activity was a great learning experience for the children to use their sensory skills by tasting and touching the lemons. Each child took it in turns to mix and pour and enjoyed drinking the lemonade. To extend this activity the children took part in food tasting with different fruits, this has been great for some of the children who are fussy eaters.

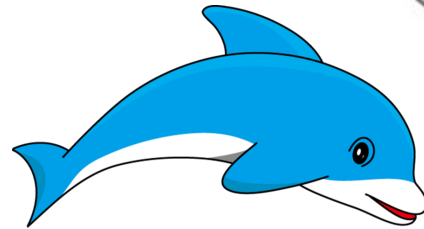
We look forward to moving into our new topic in September where we are learning "All About Me" and have lots of fun and exciting activities prepared for the children in Rainbow Dolphins.





# DOLPHIN ROOM

## AUGUST RECAP



This month in Dolphin room the children have been looking at the book 'Snail and the Whale.'

The children explored the story in small groups and using their communication and language skills they have been telling the practitioners what they could see within the story book. Some of the things they said were "sea, beach, sand, fire engine, snail, whale and ocean." The children also sat in small groups and recited the story to each other after hearing the practitioners read the book to them.

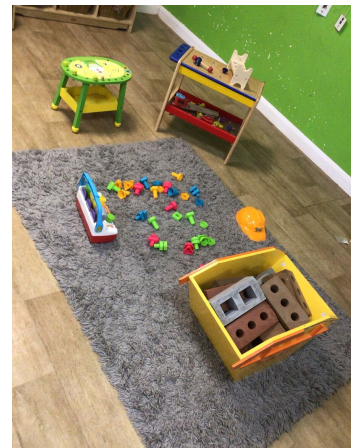
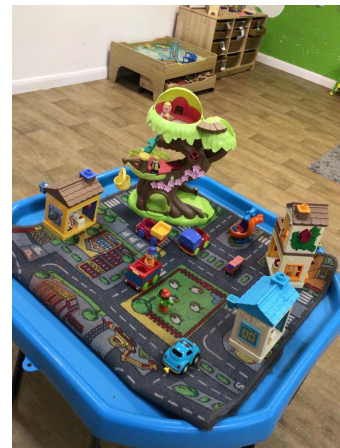
Also this month the children in Dolphin room used objects to help them act out the story of the snail and the whale, in particular the children put boxes on their backs and pretended they were snails.

The children also made their very own pictures of under the sea. The children used a range of mark making tools and create marks and lines to represent the sea and the sea creatures.

Some of the other activities the children have taken part in this month have included different fruits in water and using sieves and nets to try and see what the children could find.

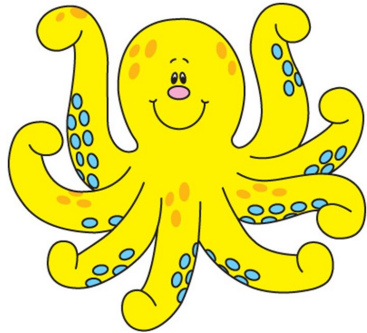
We have also explored the bug house in the garden looking for various bugs and insects using magnifying glasses and then using the bug foam bricks and bark to create our own bug hotels.

The children also had a teddy bears picnic where we sat down with our very own teddy's and used the role play food and our imagination to feed the teddy's and make them drinks.





# OCTOPUS ROOM



Throughout August in Octopus room the children have been focussing on summer.

The children have enjoyed playing with a range of different messy activities including a beach themed tray made with rice and moon sand. This allowed the children to discuss the different textures they could feel and use their imaginations to play with their friends.

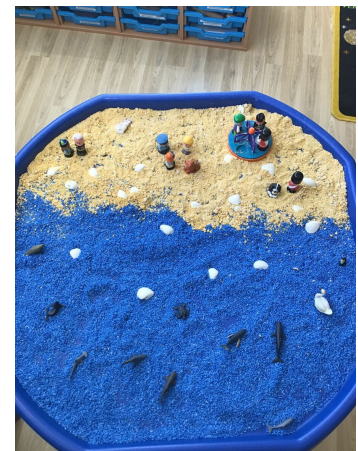
The children have also enjoyed a variety of playdough themed activities throughout August. They have enjoyed using the playdough to make one another ice creams as well as making food for the teddy bears picnic.

In octopus room the children have also been creating a range of things using origami, our favourite was the ice creams! The children were able to follow the instructions and create some lovely ice creams which they then decorated.

As well as this, we have been looking at letters and numbers, the children have been finding the letters of their names and writing them as well as sorting food for the picnic into the correct numbered picnic basket.

We have also celebrated Raksha Bandhan where the children used tissue paper to create their own bracelets. The children used their fine motor skills to twist the different pieces of tissue paper around each other to create a lovely bracelet for them to wear.

## AUGUST 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](http://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 remember to provide your child with a named hat and sun cream now the weather is warmer as we will be spending lots of time in our outdoor learning areas.
- 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](http://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"> <li>Do not send your child to nursery</li> <li>Inform the nursery</li> <li>Book a PCR test immediately</li> <li>Self-isolate at home</li> </ul>	... 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"> <li>Do not send your child to nursery</li> <li>Inform the nursery</li> <li>self-isolate for 10 days</li> </ul>	... 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"> <li>Household member to book a PCR test immediately</li> <li>Inform the nursery</li> <li>Self-isolate at home</li> <li>Inform nursery of test result</li> </ul>	... 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"> <li>Inform the nursery</li> <li>Self-isolate at home for 10 days</li> <li>Book a PCR test for your child</li> </ul>	... 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"> <li>Do not send your child to nursery if you have been advised by NHS Test &amp; Trace to self-isolate for 10 days (e.g., if they have come into contact with someone with the Omnicrom variant)</li> <li>Inform the nursery</li> <li>Self-isolate at home for 10 days</li> </ul>	... 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"> <li>Do not send your child to nursery</li> <li>Follow medical advice</li> <li>Inform the nursery</li> </ul>	... 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"> <li>Do not send your child to nursery</li> <li>Contact the nursery manager to discuss any concerns</li> </ul>	... you are advised that the individual no longer needs to shield
... your child has just returned from abroad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do not send your child to nursery until they have taken a PCR test on day 2 after they have returned to the UK</li> <li>Inform the nursery</li> <li>Self-isolate at home for the defined period, this includes whilst you are waiting for their PCR test results.</li> </ul>	... 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"> <li>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</li> </ul>	... 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.