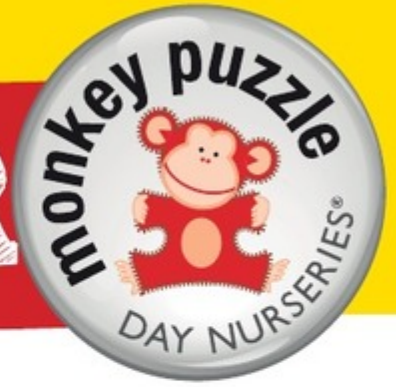


WELCOME TO

January 2023

NEWSLETTER



WELCOME TO OUR MONTHLY EDITION OF MONKEY NEWS

Nursery Manager



We at the nursery have been very busy throughout December with a wide range of activities and events for the children to take part in. December's theme was Christmas / Winter.

The children across the nursery have been excited to talk about Christmas, and have taken part in a range of activities and experiences relating to this. The children especially have enjoyed decorating the nursery ready for Christmas by decorating Christmas trees and creating artwork for the doors.

The children in preschool have had a visit from a pantomime company with the play 'In search for Santa'. The children loved going on this journey to find Santa in the nursery rhyme world.

The children in preschool ventured out to one of the local care homes to visit the residents to sing some carols. The children took some gifts for the residents and enjoyed conversing with them. We look forward to more visits to the care home in the future.

The nursery had a very special visitor this month being Father Christmas, who visited us for breakfast to which the children especially enjoyed. Father Christmas then spent some time in the grotto handing out presents to the children.

We hope you all have an amazing Christmas with your families and friends, and look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

I am at nursery everyday, so please feel free to come and speak to me about anything that you maybe concerned about or any questions and queries.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM US ALL

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 Harry and Ferdinand who have joined our Monkey Puzzle family this month.

We have also had lots of birthdays to celebrate in December across the nursery and we would like to once again wish a happy birthday to Finley, Jackson, Maria, Matilda, Maeve, Lyra, Cameron, Eliyah, Oliver, Grayson, Henry, Sophia, Indrajit, Lenny and Logan.



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





WHAT WILL WE BE DOING THIS MONTH?

JANUARY MONTHLY THEME: LAND / SEA

BOOKS OF THE MONTH

Snail and The Whale by Julia Donaldson

The Three Little Pigs by Mara Alperin

My First Chinese New Year by Karen Katz

STAFF BIRTHDAYS

We would like to say Happy Birthday to six of our Monkey Puzzle team who celebrated their birthdays in December. Michelle, Nicola, Katie, Steff, Kayleigh, and Keisha.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

3RD JANUARY 2023 - NURSERY REOPENS

22ND JANUARY 2023 - CHINESE NEW YEAR (YEAR OF THE RABBIT)

25TH JANUARY 2023 - BURNS NIGHT

26TH JANUARY 2023 - AUSTRALIA DAY



STARFISH ROOM

DECEMBER RECAP

The children in starfish have enjoyed lots of Christmas crafts this month. We had so much fun creating our own folders, decorating them with sponges, and making lovely crafts to put inside. We created, Snowy Christmas cards with snowmen, a Christmas tree calendar, and a multicolored tree picture and lots more.

Starfish have also explored lots of different Christmas activities, such as candy cane playdough, a snowy tuff tray scene and explored real snow from the garden. What a lovely month it's been, and we can't wait for more fun in the New Year!





DECEMBER RECAP

RAINBOW DOLPHIN ROOM

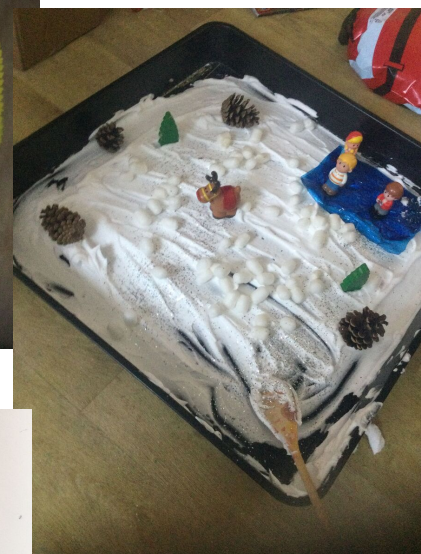
Rainbow dolphins December has been a very busy month here at monkey puzzle Colchester and we have been up to lots of fun activities in Rainbow dolphins.

We have had the World Cup to celebrate and we have been cheering England on. To celebrate we have been making our very own trophy's and flags to take home. The children loved waving the flags they made and we had fun saying "come on England". (Maybe next time hey)!

As it's December we of course had to go all out and celebrate CHRISTMAS. Christmas craft this year has been amazing and all of the children have made some wonderful arts and crafts to take home to their families.

They have done such a great job getting involved and making some fun glittery bright pieces of work. We have also had some amazing tuff trays set up from hot chocolate stations to posting letters to Santa. These have been great for the children to explore and start their Christmas journey. We have been practicing the names of Santa and Rudolph. At circle times it has been a great opportunity to teach the children some Christmas songs and their fam favourite has to be "when Santa got stuck up the chimney".

This month we have also been lucky to enjoy a yummy Christmas dinner and also breakfast with Santa. Each of the children revived a present from Santa to take home. We want to finish off the year and say a very Merry Christmas from all of us in Rainbow Dolphins and we hope you have a wonderful time celebrating with your family and friends. We look forward to seeing you back in the new year. Lots of fun to be had in 2023!





DOLPHIN ROOM

DECEMBER RECAP



This month in dolphins the children have been very busy and very creative making their own Christmas craft activities, the children have been very excited about Christmas coming up, we have also been writing a letter to Santa and creating our own calendars and Christmas cards.

The dolphins all enjoyed listening to Christmas songs while involved in craft and play, we used a variety of resources on our tough trays to encounter Christmas such as 'making a snow man' ' putting the balls in the tree' we all worked together as a dolphin team to create our own version of ' Santa got stuck up the chimney' we all enjoyed painting the box red and sticking different felts on there, the children then noticed santas legs hanging from the chimney, which made them all laugh.

We also collected lots of natural resources which the children then used to create Santa's beard. We then read about the jolly post man, and spoke about how we have post men and woman that post all our letters through our door and all of our cards from friends and family.

We have had a very exciting yet fun month, and we hope you all have a lovely Christmas and new year.



CORAL REEF

DECEMBER RECAP

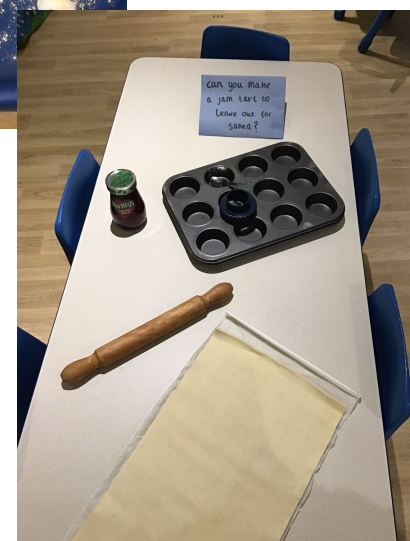
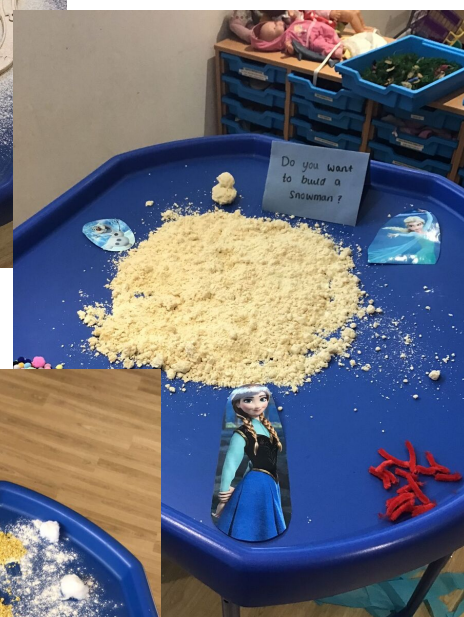
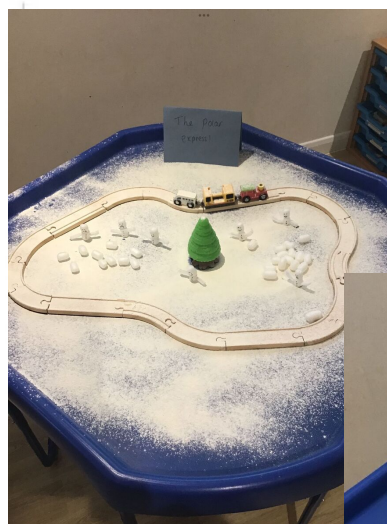
Throughout December in Coral reef the children have taken part in a range of different activities, to start of the month the children were taking part in lots of football related activities as we continued to base our learning and play on the World cup.

The children then took part in lots of Christmas themed activities, the children have enjoyed creating their own snowmen in the moon sand, exploring messy themed activities relating to Christmas and lots of baking!

The children have been busy baking stained glass biscuits, jam tarts and oaty biscuits. The children in coral reef have also been busy doing lots of crafts for their families, the children created some beautiful cards and calendars aswell as baubles and tree decorations.

The children in coral reef were lucky enough to have a visit from Santa who delivered some lovely presents and even joined us for breakfast, as well as this pre school enjoyed a festive Christmas dinner with Christmas music and crackers.

The children were also visited by 'in search for Santa' panto, the children enjoyed singing lots of nursery rhymes and helped the Christmas fairy find Santa using their junior detective skills.





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.