

Dear Families,



What a lovely time of year! Across the Nursery we have been spotting the signs of Spring starting to pop up around us, both in and out of Nursery. Our younger rooms have been looking at the natural environment, exploring the different things that can be seen, smelt, touched or heard, while our older children have been observing the affects of the cold weather on our environment and the changes that the warmer weather may bring (fingers crossed).

February brought us Valentines Day. A time to share and celebrate your love for each other. For us at Nursery this has involved lots of talks about who we love and how we show our friends and families that we love them. We've also done some baking of lovely heart shaped biscuits and even some jam tarts as gifts for our loved ones. If they weren't eaten before they got to you that is!

While exploring Chinese New Year we learnt about the importance of the colour red, signifying good luck and fortune. This, along with the involvement of the colour red for Valentines Day, brings us nicely to our preparations for Red Nose Day. Throughout the Nursery we will be thinking of fun and exciting ways to raise money and would very much appreciate your participation and any donations towards the Charity. We hope as a team we can raise a good amount for the very worthy cause.

Kind regards

Hayley James
Nursery Manager

Indoor and Outdoor Shoes

We want our children to enjoy outdoor play and experiences whatever the weather. Please bring them in with appropriate clothing for the 'Great British weather'. To support your child making the most of the outdoors, please may I ask you to bring in a pair of wellies/outdoor shoes and a pair of indoor shoes or slippers to change into. Outdoor shoes need to be suitable for walking, climbing and splashing in puddles whilst also keeping little feet warm (oversize or ill-fitting wellies can pose a hazard). Please remember as well, to label all items of clothing, including footwear. Many thanks

Diary Dates

- **5th March**
Pancake Day
- **17th March**
Red Nose Day
- **31st March**
Mothers Day
- **3rd April**
Romsey's 2nd Birthday
- **19th April**
Good Friday, Nursery closed
- **22nd April**
Easter Monday, Nursery closed

Babies

After our brief but exciting snowy period the Babies have been exploring all things cold. They have been using their hands to feel the texture and temperature of some ice they found in their garden. This has been a lovely addition to their sensory exploration and we hope to continue building on this through the sense of sight and smell. They have been going out and about to look at plants and flowers, and the colours and smells that they bring to our environment. We are also going to be doing some planting, hopefully creating some budding gardeners.



Toddlers

The Toddlers have been exploring nature and the things we find in our natural environment. They have been able to go hunting for leaves, twigs and stones around the Nursery and further afield to the nature reserve. Another part of this provocation has been looking at patterns in the environment and recreating them with natural materials such as chalk, mud, charcoal and clay. We have found this to be a great way to enhance some fine motor skills, as well as getting a little bit messy! During their trips out and about the children were very interested in the spiders and flies they saw around the area, provoking a further interest in bugs and creepy crawlies.



Transition

Transition have been very interested in animals and where they live in different parts of the world. They looked at animals we may keep for pets, with a few visits from Gemma's puppy Bertie. Transition have also been able to go and explore the wider environment and see what animals may live in and around the nature reserve. They have had discussions about their favourite animals and made a display of each favourite animal, allowing the children to carry on these conversations during their play. We hope they've continued some of these conversations at home too.



Kindergarten

This month the children have been exploring the world around us, especially the wildlife. They started off looking at robins after discussions about winter animals, which lead on to further exploration of birds and bird watching. They made their own binoculars and went on a few trips to see what they could see, with the children identifying different types of birds and comparing similarities and differences on their wildlife checklists. All this talk of flying things sparked an interest in rockets, planets and space, so for their next provocation, Kindergarten will be zooming to the moon!

