

We bring you this newsletter to help give you an idea of what your children are up to while you are away and to impart any information you may need or want to know. We hope that you will find it of interest and, if you would like to contribute towards future newsletters or have any suggestions that you would like included, please let us know.

Welcome to the March edition of Monster Mail. The last 2 months have absolutely flown by. The **Christmas Concert DVDs** have been completed and are about ready for collection. We hope you enjoyed the concert. (There is still time to order a copy of you like what you see on the TV screen in Reception!)



We started the year's theme days with a 'Make a Splash day'. The children really enjoyed making a splash in the water outside with their wellies and broliies.

Then we had **Handa's Surprise** day, where the children enjoyed trying lots of different fruits. We read the Handa's Surprise story sack where the children all joined in as part of the story, talking about the animals and different fruits in Handa's basket.



We celebrated **Burns Night** by wearing tartan, and bringing in things from Scotland. The children made Scottish flags, after looking at where Scotland is on the map of the UK.



Next we had our **Space** themed week where we did lots of craft every day throughout the week, including making our own rockets. We read lots of space stories and learned about the planets. The children dressed up as aliens and astronauts and had a great time flying to the moon!



Easter Bonnet Parade

Don't forget to bring in your (decorated) **Easter Bonnet** on **Thursday 24th March** 2016.

We will go for a walk to show off our bonnets (and play in the park weather permitting!)



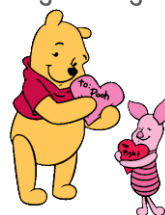
For **Chinese New Year** the children did lots of Chinese crafts, making lanterns on which Judy wrote the children's names in Chinese. The children also did chopstick painting & created monkey pictures (for the year of the monkey). The children enjoyed eating Michele's sweet and sour chicken and prawn crackers for their lunch.



The children enjoyed having **pancake races** outside on **Shrove Tuesday**, where they practised tossing their pancakes! The children also created their own pancakes by sticking fruit onto pancakes as a craft activity. Michele made some lovely pancakes for all of the children to try, which they enjoyed.



For **Valentine's Day** we all dressed in red and spread that loving feeling around the nursery. The children created lots of heart pictures, and made and decorated cards to take home to their families.



For our final theme day in February, we asked the children to bring in their favourite **soft toy** and they've certainly come in all shapes and sizes. The children are enjoying telling their toys stories and showing them what they do at nursery.



In-between the theme days, the children take part in lots of other lovely activities. The children have particularly enjoyed making use of old **cardboard boxes**, using them as a den, and playing hide and seek.



The children have also been busy painting and **decorating daffodils** to go up on the window display, getting ready for spring.

Another favourite is **dressing up** – both for the girls and the boys. The princess dresses in particular are always very popular. Please think of us if you are throwing away any dressing up clothes that are no longer played with at home.



Don't forget to bring your pennies from 14th to 18th March to help us raise money for Sports relief. The children will be baking lots of lovely cakes and biscuits throughout the week for you

to take home!



DIARY OF EVENTS

March

Thurs 3rd Pyjama Party for World Book Day

Come in your PJ's and bring in your favourite bedtime storybook to share with your friends.



Mon 7th Stay & Play session

An opportunity for you to stay and play with your child at either end of the session. (All welcome.) Please let us know if / when you can come.



Wc 14th Sports Relief Week

Monday - We'll be having fun baking cakes & biscuits to sell & help raise money all week.

Tuesday - Dig out your dancing shoes, & we'll get the children stepping, skipping, & swaying.

Wednesday - We'll be seeing who can find Timmy!

Thursday - Wear green for St Patricks Day.

Friday - We'll create obstacle courses to challenge the children.



Thurs 24th Easter Bonnet parade

Decorate an Easter Bonnet at home and bring it in. We'll go for a walk to show our creations to the local residents



Weds 30th Transport Day

Bring in your favourite vehicle to show your friends. We'll be watching outside too, to see what passes nursery.



April

Thurs 7th World Health Day

We'll be looking at how we can help to keep our bodies happy and healthy through diet and exercise and look at how diets are different across the world.



Tues 12th Music making day

Bring in objects from home, so we can make some homemade instruments, and explore with different sounds



Fri 22nd St George's Day

Wear red and white or dress up as St George, his dragon, or even his princess, to celebrate St George's Day.



Mon 25th Bug and minibeast day

We'll be hunting for bugs in the garden and looking at them through the magnifying glasses before letting them go free again.



May

Tues 3rd Maypole Dancing

Wear your brightest colours and dance round our maypole.



Thurs 5th Tempest Photographs (morning)

Liesl, our regular photographer will be back in nursery for individual and / or group photographs. (Feel free to bring others along.)

We are again collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers



this year, so please bring in as many as you can. We are hoping for some gardening & sensory equipment. However, we do need lots of vouchers so please ask friends & family for their vouchers too!

I would like to thank the Toddler & Pre School parents for their patience with regard to the Christmas Concert DVD. Some of you may be aware, my father was very ill just after Christmas, so I could not spend as much time on the DVD as I would've done to get it finished promptly. Technical issues have also played their part in the delay, but I am pleased to say that they are now ready for collection. I hope you are pleased with the results!

Following advice given during a Paediatric First Aid course, held at Little Monsters in February (and attended by 13 of our lovely practitioners) we have made the decision not to offer grapes in the Toddler Room. This is because of the risk of choking.

We will still offer them to the Pre School children (cut in half), as they are older. We will cut them into quarters if parents bring them in for children in the Baby Unit. Obviously, we will keep a close watch on the children while they are eating any foods that may present a choking hazard.

Finally, please make sure your child always has appropriate clothing, eg coat, hat, gloves, etc at nursery. We are outside for a large proportion of the day & need to ensure children are safe & comfortable. As the seasons change, please also ensure spare clothes are suitable for the weather on the day.