

April already.... Time to start stocking up on those Easter Eggs!!! I have seen lots of bargains in the supermarkets and must say I've over indulged ☺ I am pleased to announce that the forest school is back open at Yardley Primary and our children in preschool will start using the facilities again from this week. We will be having an Easter bonnet parade on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April at nursery, the parade will be held in the nursery's play area however due to limited space we are unable to invite parents, but we will take lots of photos and Dee and Karen in the kitchen will judge the competition. The best bonnet judged in each area will receive a yummy chocolate egg, if your child is not normally in on a Wednesday then it would still be nice for them to make a bonnet, a staff member of other child can parade it for them. Rhianna in Rolos will be leaving nursery on the 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019. She has decided to have a change in carer and will be leaving to work for EE. Hannah from Sweeties will move over to Rolos and be the Rolos room supervisor, Sabah is being promoted to supervisor in the Sweeties well done ☺ Sabah will be supported by Jessica from Jelly tots who has been here two years as the children are all familiar with. Laura will remain in Jelly Tots and will be supported by Zoe, Sairish and Asma. Nafeesa will be replacing Zoe in Heroes as Zoe has become a qualified staff member and Nafeesa is now starting her level three qualification.



**Our Topic at nursery for the Spring Term is..... 'Our Environment'. The book for this month is 'Alien loves underpants'**

Find out what we are up to on a daily basis by



following us on **TWITTER**; search for swansyardley. Or go to our nursery website and read our room blogs or learn about future events on [www.littleswans.org.uk](http://www.littleswans.org.uk)

## Heroes News

This month Heroes will be learning about Easter and why we celebrate Easter with chocolate eggs as part of their circle times. To support the children's learning we will do our learning through watching Easter videos, making Easter hats, playing Easter games and making Easter baskets. We will also be having discussions around what activities we do at Easter such as an Easter egg hunt. Amongst all this fun we will also be continuing to learn how to write our names as well as recognising shapes and numbers in the environment. As we are now officially in spring we will be doing some focus work around new life, how flowers grow and what they need to survive as well as looking at the environment changes around us. The Heroes are looking forward to going back to the forest school. This month whilst we are exploring at the school we will be looking at different ways of moving, exploring different textures as well as the surroundings and playing with are friends.



Over the next six months we will be completing the Millie's mark award at nursery. This is awarded as a special endorsement to childcare providers in England who go above and beyond minimum requirements by having 100% of staff trained in Paediatric first aid, and also ensure that everything learned during the course is kept at the forefront of practitioners' minds so they are confident in dealing with first aid incidents that may arise in the childcare

## Smarties & Sweeties News

This month **Sweeties** will be focusing on learning some phonics and recognising letters in the environment using letter cards, pictures and resources already in the room. We will also be practicing our scissor skills and learning how to safely and correctly hold scissors to cut out pictures from magazines etc. We will also be making Easter cards using materials of our own choosing as well as chocolate Easter egg cornflake cakes. We are very clever in Sweeties and can all recognise our numbers from 1 - 10 so our teachers have said that we can start to learning number recognition of numbers 10 -20. This month **Smarties** children will be preparing for Easter and making cards, hats and baskets. We are loving being outdoors and this month we will be plating outdoors. We are all really looking forward to the Easter Egg Hunt which Kareema along with our other teachers is planning ☺ our learning this month will particularly be focusing on colours, shapes, counting and developing scissor skills. We will also be concentrating on our physical development as we are really focusing on promoting a healthy lifestyle at nursery through Start well.

## Jelly Babies and Jelly Tots

This month in **Jelly Babies** will be doing lots of Easter Crafts such as making Easter boxes. We will use lots of different colours of paints and tissue paper to make our boxes more colourful. The children will also be making Easter cards and doing some Easter cooking too! The Jelly babies will be continuing with our Makaton rhymes, learning the actions and doing the actions. We will be doing a new display board, which will be body painting, exploring paint and using our body parts and seeing all the different marks and prints they make. We will be doing lots of different texture activities including wet, dry, cooked and uncooked food as well as foam, water and sand play. Also ZOO LAB will be visiting us in April so we will be doing lots of different activities about animals and what sounds animals make.

This month **Jelly Tots** will be exploring sand and looking at the different textures the children can feel, such as wet, dry and damp sand as well as adding other items to change the texture. The children will be filling and emptying the containers and will be encouraged to use language such as full and empty, through recognising quantity. The children will also talking about big and small objects such as cars and Duplo. The Jelly Tots will be learning counting through play and having fun. We will be singing rhymes, counting objects and also using the objects to support colour recognition. It's Ester time so of course we have lots of crafts planned such as making Easter Baskets and filling them with yummy chocolate mini eggs as well as making our Easter Cards using chicks and glitter as well as paint and tissue paper to create our wonderful creations to take home to our loved ones.

## Rolos News

This month in **Rolos** the children will be practicing their letter formation and writing their names. Whilst doing this activity throughout the month the children will be practicing their pencil control using their tripod grasp and their dominant hand. We will also be continuing with number recognition and 3D shapes within the environment. The children have really be enjoying their phonics sessions and this month in Rolos we will continue to build on what they children have already learnt ☺ For the past month the children have been learning about the emergency services, this month we will be extending on that learning by teaching the children that we call 999 if we need help in an emergency situation and discussing what these situations might be. The children will also be learning about self and the differences they have to others.

We will also be doing Ester crafts and cards as well as making Easter biscuits.

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Dates for your diary: From Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April until Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Story Sessions at the library: Heroes every Friday, Rolos every Monday  
Nanny Shirley: Still poorly and unable to attend  
Forest School: Rolos on Monday and Heroes on Friday (Term time only)  
Stay and Play: Under 3's stay and play session at Swan Courtyard on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning from 10am - 11am. (Your child's key person will let you know if your child has attended)

## Upcoming Events and Dates

### • Notice for all parents

#### \*Drop in SENCO Session

Rose is the nursery's setting-based SENCO and will be offering parents and staff a drop-in session on the last Thursday of the month 25<sup>th</sup> April 9-10am

This session provides you with the opportunity to seek advice if you have any concerns regarding your child's development or would like information about other professional's and their services in the local community.

#### Notice for Parents

- When phoning the nursery please make sure you select a room option if calling about your child as parents are coming straight through to the office
- Can I please remind all parents of our healthy lifestyle choices at nursery? All children's water bottles must only contain water only. No squash, fizzy drinks or flavored water. Thank you
- Can all parents please ensure their child is not wearing laced shoes for nursery? Shoes with laces are not allowed due to trips and falls and the accidents caused when laces continue to become loose. Thank you
- If you have any spare paper that you can donate to the nursery for the children to scribble on and practice their writing we would be very grateful
- During the hours of 7.30-9.30am Mon to Fri please use the main intercom buzzer at the gate as signposted
- Can all parents who have received their funding contracts please ensure these are returned back to nursery no later than Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019, thank you

#### New Staff:

There are some new members of staff that have joined our team.

**Sabah (apprentice level 3)** in the Jelly Babies room:

**8:00-4:30pm**

**Iqra (apprentice level 3)** in the Jelly Babies room: **8:30-5pm**

**Emily (apprentice level 2)** in the Jelly Babies room: **9:00-5:30pm**

**Kate (Qualified)** has been employed to support all Nursery areas and will be in 8:30-5pm

### April Dates for your Diary

#### Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April

People in pictures in Nursery 8:30 onwards. Parents wanting children to have photos done with siblings who do not attend the nursery are welcome to come along at 11am. If your child is not normally in nursery on a Thursday or Friday they are always welcome to attend at 11am for their photo to be done.

#### Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April

Easter Bonnet Parade

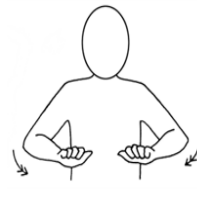
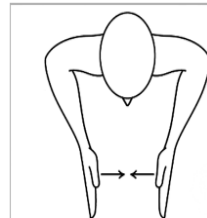
#### Spring Makaton signs:



Chick



Lamb



**Startwell**

Being active, eating well,  
achieving more.

forward  
steps

NHS

### Don't miss out on your FREE vitamins!!!!

Did you know that with the national Healthy Start scheme, you get free vouchers each week to spend on milk, plain fresh and frozen fruit and vegetables and infant formula? You also get free vitamins. Each voucher is worth £3.10 so can really help with the cost of the weekly shop.

- If you are pregnant you get 1 voucher a week worth £3.10.
  - For each baby under the age of 1 you get 2 vouchers a week worth a total of £6.20.
  - For each child aged over 1 and under 4, your family gets 1 voucher a week worth £3.10.
- If you are pregnant or have children under the age of 4 you could qualify if you are on benefits or under 18 and pregnant.

Applying for Healthy Start is really easy. For more information and to see who qualifies, check out <http://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/>

Alternatively speak to your midwife, Health Visitor or GP or local Children's Centre.