



We would like to start by thanking you all for being so understanding while we have been waiting for our phone and internet line to get fixed (electricians are very sought after people!). However, we have had electricians in and all lines should be up and running the week commencing the 9th March. The hall in the main building is starting to take shape as the walls have been plastered and the tiles are going up. This month we are very happy to be welcoming back a qualified staff member called Sarish who trained with us at Little Swans Nursery. Sarish already knows the staff, children and routines so has settled in straight away and she is very happy to see so many familiar faces! Sarish will be working Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The Nursery garden is starting to show signs of Spring, the bulbs have started to grow therefore the children have lots of activities planned around 'growing and changes' this month. The 'Living Eggs' programme will return to Nursery on Monday 23rd March-Friday 3rd April which is a great learning opportunity as the children get to observe chicks hatching. The children will learn about life cycles and how to care for living things.

Our topic of the month is..... 'Our Environment'

The book for this month is: 'Monkey Puzzle'

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

Heroes News

In the month of March, the Heroes will be doing activities around the book of the month 'Monkey Puzzle'. We will be making monkey masks using a variety of resources and will then use these to act out the story. Heroes will also be drawing or painting their favourite animal from the story and discussing why they them. We will be celebrating 'Mother's Day' and making something special for our loved ones by baking and decorating cupcakes and making a card. We will also be learning our jolly phonics, counting and continue to practice writing our name.

Staff Meeting:

Nursery will close early this month for Staff training on: *Behaviour and SEN*
on: **Thursday 26th March** Thank you ☺

Please make sure all children are collected by 4:45pm.
Please note: There will be a charge for late collection for any child on the premises after this time.

Staff training:

Faheemah (apprentice in Heroes) and Leah (apprentice in Jelly babies) will be attending Paediatric First Aid training on:

Saturday 7th March and Saturday 14th March

Smarties & Sweeties News

We will be focusing on developing the children's mathematical skills through lots of activities that encourage children to look at sizing and quantities through sensory play. For example, hiding different sized shapes in the sand and the children counting how many shapes they can find, comparing different sized circles etc. Smarties will also be looking at the story book 'Monkey Puzzle' and talking about the different characters such as what the animals look like. The children will be making animal puppets such as counting how many eyes, ears, nose etc the animals have. The children will then use the animals from the story and act.

This month in Sweeties we will be exploring a range of colours by mixing ice cube paints in the tuff tray. We will be engaging in different sensory play with foam and will be using lollipop sticks to make shapes and copy numbers and letters.

Sweeties will make their own binoculars with tubes and will decorate them using a variety of materials such as tissue paper, pom poms, glitter and paint. The children will then use the binoculars to go treasure hunting in the garden. The children will develop their physical and listening and attention skills to bake cakes for the cake sale. The children will listen and follow simple instructions from staff and use their motor skills to stir the ingredients in the bowl.

Jelly Babies and Jelly Tots

Over the next couple of weeks the Jelly Tots will be focusing on developing their mathematical skills. We will be learning numbers and shapes through our daily play and focused activities. The staff in Jelly Tots will be supporting children with communication skills through role-play activities and stories. We will be engaging in physical activities so children can develop their fine and gross motor skills with soft play apparatus and tunnels such as going under and over things. The Jelly Tots will be participating in Mother's Day activities such as making cards, drawing pictures of their Mum (or another special adult in their life) and baking. The Jelly Tots will also plant bulbs and look at the bulbs that have already been planted to help them understand the world and nature.

This month in Jelly babies we will be creating flower printing pictures by using different types of flowers and seeing what kind of prints we can create. We will be creating our Mother's day cards using paper plates and new printing tools. The babies really enjoyed cornflake play last month, so we will be exploring different food. This activity will help the children to explore different textures and feel different materials.

As the weather is perking up we will be taking more of our activities outdoors as the children love painting and building sand castles outside in the fresh air.

Rolos News

This month Rolos are going to be learning about the different animals and the name of the baby animals which links to book of the month 'Monkey Puzzle'. We are also going to be looking at different flowers as it is Spring. We will be planting flowers and seeing how they grow. It is Mother's day this month so we will be making a card with a drawing of our favourite flower and we will talk about the flowers we like with our friends (favourite colours).

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Dates for your diary: Monday 2nd March- Tuesday 31st March

Forest School: Monday - Rolos, Friday - Heroes

Upcoming Events and Dates

March Dates for your Diary

- Thursday 5th March- World Book day, dress up day
- Monday 23rd March-3rd April- Living Eggs in Nursery
- Thursday 26th March staff meeting (early closure 4.45pm)
- Thursday 26th March 9.30-11am Senco drop in session with Rose and Emma- if you have any concerns regarding your child's development please come along to speak to the Senco team.

• Notice for all parents

*Drop in Senco Session

Rose and Emma are our Nursery setting-based Senco's and they will be offering parents and staff a drop-in session on Thursday 26th March 9.30-11am.

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 professionals and their services in the local community.

Notice for Parents

- If you have any trousers, pants, tights, socks etc. that your child does not need we would love to have them. We always need spare clothes for children.
- If your child has a water bottle in Nursery please make sure it goes home so it can be cleaned and replaced with fresh water.
- Please make sure all your child's items are clearly named as we have lots of children with the same items and this can get very confusing!

CAN YOU HELP?

Are you a nurse, a postman a vet a firefighter a policeman a shop assistant etc. do you have some spare time to come into the nursery and tell our children about your role in the community?

If so please speak with Atikha, Sam or Rose

Nap time in Nursery

- Please could all parents make sure they are bringing in a **bed sheet** (a cot sheet is the perfect size) so that it can be placed on top of the sleeping mat.
- In addition, please can parents bring in a **blanket** which can be used to provide comfort while children sleep.

Please make sure that these items are named and are returned to Nursery weekly. Thank you in advance.

Here is an example of a bed sheet and blanket:

