

IMPORTANT NOTICE; Can I remind all parents on entering the main building to close the **second** red gate you walk through. ~~There~~ are signs on this gate clearly saying "Please make sure this gate is CLOSED behind you". This is for the security of the children and a double measure to ensure safety so that children cannot run back through the gate/s into the car park.

Follow us on  TWITTER, search for swansyardley and Facebook. Or go to our nursery website and read our room blogs or learn about future events on www.littleswans.org.uk

Rolos News

This month in Rolos we are going to be learning about "People who Help us". We will be using card games to match job roles and scenarios. We will be acting out job roles such as lollipop lady/man in the garden; a dentist using dental tools; firefighters using resources we have made etc

For pancake day we will be encouraging the children to write down their pancake recipes using a shopping list. We will be making our own pancakes using different ingredients to make them tasty and the children can explore sweet and sour and savoury tastes.

After we have made them, we will be playing the pancake stacking game to match numeral and quantities... that is if we get chance before eating them!! In-between we will be practising our flipping skills using the spatulas and paper plates as pretend pancakes.

In preparation for World Book Day the Rolos will be designing their own book marks using paint and stamps and then they will get creative making their own books by drawing illustrations and writing. Don't forget your costumes on the 3rd March we can't wait to see what character you have chosen to be!!

As Saint Patricks Day is coming up, we will be baking green cupcakes and designing our own shamrocks. We will also talk about what makes us feel lucky.

For Mother's Day we will be learning poems, making flowers and designing cards. We will be writing our own messages in the cards practicing writing our names.

We are going to have a fun busy month!!!

Message to all parents: Please do not bring your child's toys into the setting. It is very distressing for the child when other children take them off them as well as staff having to take them off them to put away. They could also get lost or broken and we will not accept responsibility. Thank you for your cooperation.

You can also keep up to date with nursery events on Facebook Little Swans Day Nursery [@Littleswansdaynursery](https://www.facebook.com/Littleswansdaynursery)

Our Topic at nursery for the Spring Term is.....
THE ENVIRONMENT

Smarties News

During the month of March, the Smarties will be creating lots of lovely work from carrying out activities such as Mother's Day cards, using various resources of their choice. We will be planting a flower in a paper cup for children to give to their mummies or special person. We have pancake day coming up and will be making pancakes on this day for the children to enjoy at nursery.

It is world book day this month and staff and children can dress up as a book character of their choice.

We will be celebrating Saint Patricks Day with activities such as foil painted shamrock and salt dough shamrocks.

We will be celebrating Holi the Hindu festival. The children will use powder food colouring to create their Holi pattern. They will have different coloured food colouring out in the tuff tray to mark make as part of the festival of colours.

During this month the children will be learning about oral health as it is world oral health day on the 20th March. We will be having an oral health activity where children can use dental equipment such as tooth brush, toothpaste, flannels and water mouth wash during part of their role play.

We will be developing the childrens speech and language with activities such as 'Show and Tell' where the children can bring something in from home and talk about it to their friends. This could be photos of family or pets, a favourite toy, a book or they could bake some cakes at home and bring them in to share with their friends.

Jelly Babies News

This month the Jelly babies will be celebrating World Book Day on the 3rd March. It would be great if parents could dress their child up from a book theme character. The babies can also bring in a book from home, so that we may read the book to their friends and they can look at it together.

Staff will be joining in with activities based on the book of the month "Were Going on a Bear Hunt".

We also have pancake day coming up and yes, we will be making our own at the setting, using lots of tasty ingredients. We will be including Startwell (healthy choices) into our pancake making adding different fruits to our pancakes.

As you are aware it is also "Red Nose" Month and we will be dressing up in red and exploring the red themed activities to celebrate Red Nose Day.

It is also Mother's Day initially this month and we will be making our own Mother's Day cards. We will be getting very messy using glue, glitter, paint, crayons tissue paper and cotton wool. The babies will choose what they would like to decorate their card, making them unique for their loved ones.

The babies will also be creating portraits of their mummies/loved one, using paper plates and lots of messy materials! Paints, ribbon, pipe cleaner, tissue paper and crayons to name but a few!!

Jelly Tots News

Welcome to the month of March!

This month is filled with lots to do as this coming 3rd of March is World Book Day. It would be lovely to see all of the Jelly Tots dressed up as their favourite book character. Jelly Tots book of the month will be "Get into Bed". Since the story relates to a bear not wanting to go to sleep, we will be doing activities around the story book and encouraging the children in developing a sleep routine, using their teddies.

The children will be having a Teddy Bear Picnic and the children can bring in their own teddy from home. Our role play area will be turned into a bedroom, where the children can put their teddy/dollies to sleep whilst singing them a lullaby.

We have Shrove Tuesday coming up on 1st March and the children will be making pancakes. They will weigh a mix the ingredients. The children can bring in their favourite topping from home to put onto their pancake.

During this month the Jelly tots will take part in Red Nose Day, Saint Patricks Day, Oral Hygiene, Pyjama Day and support Epileptic Day by wearing something purple.

The Jelly Tots will continue to learn 2D shapes, counting and learning new words which will support their speech and language development.

We will be exploring sand and water play over the course of this month as well as talking about textures, role play and dressing up in occupational outfits. The children will be taking part in circle time activities and talk about their emotions and what makes them happy and sad, and how they feel when they come to nursery.

Heroes News

Hello Everyone we hope you are all well 😊 This month will be a very busy month as we have lots of activities to join in with, such as making pancakes for pancake day. We will be talking to the children about the ingredients we need to make our pancake mixture and weighing out the ingredients using the scales and identifying the numbers. The children will also be encouraged to use mathematical language such as more and less, heavy and light as well as counting skills when counting how many eggs etc... we need. We will be encouraging the children to discuss healthier options for the toppings of their pancakes and asking them to bring something in from home to decorate their pancake. To extend on the children's learning and to engage the children in the topic more we will incorporate role play and making pancakes using playdough and the cutters etc.

We are also planning a special day this month for 'Mother's Day'. The children have already been speaking about who is special to them and why. The children in Heroes will be encouraged to design their own Mother's Day card, using shop brought examples to support their creative ideas. We will provide the children with a variety of materials such as paint in different colours, sticking materials and equipment to make their own marks and drawings. We have also decided that we would like to make that special person in our life's on Mother's Day a little gift and decided to make a necklace using pasta shells. To support our ideas a learning we will be providing the children with the opportunity to mix their own colour paints together to make different colours. As well as all the special events we have this month we will still have time to practice our number recognition. The children have been helping us make number cards from 1-20 and this month we will be practicing putting the cards into the correct order. We will also be challenging the children to see if they can find the correct number for their age as well as counting backwards using the cards. We are also focusing on children recognising sequences and patterns that emerge within the sequence, asking the children to identify what shape or colour would come next if we were to continue the pattern on. The children will also be completing some pattern worksheets to further their learning. We have been lots of work with the children to help them recognise their name and the letters in their name. The children have particularly enjoyed doing this as part of registration in the morning and afternoon, where they find their name a picture and put them on the board showing they are in nursery. This month the children will be encouraged to attempt to write their name using tracing cards initially and then moving on to forming the letters underneath where their name is written. For World Book Day the children will be making their own stories, children will be encouraged to draw pictures and the teachers will write underneath what they have drawn to form their story. The children will then be encouraged to share their story with their friends during circle time.

PARENT NOTICES

Staff annual leave for this month:

Jelly Tots

Sairish 1st- 11th March

Management

Sam Tranter 10th March, 14th - 18th March

Jelly Babies

Emily 4th - 7th March

Rolos

Robin 18th March, 25th March

Smarties

Rafhit 21st March

Aisha 31st March

Rolos and Heroes Library visits - Every Monday at 10am and 2.30pm. Times will vary for each group

Staff Training - Thursday 31st March - This month the staff will be accessing external training provided by our Area SENCO team around 'Working with children with Down Syndrome'. Can parents/ carers please ensure their child is collected from nursery by 4.45pm. Thank you.

February Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 1st March Saint David's Day - activities in all areas to celebrate

Thursday 3rd March - World Book Day - children to dress up as their favourite book character

Thursday 17th March - Saint Patricks Day - children to wear something green

Friday 18th March - Red Nose Day - children to dress up in something red. Please donate £1 for children in need on this day to staff in your child's area

Friday 18th March - Hindu Festival -Holi, also called the festival of sharing and love or the festival of colors is a Hindu festival in the Spring.

Sunday 20th March - World Oral Health Day - all children in all areas will be carrying out activities around oral hygiene on Monday 21st March

Wednesday 23rd March - Pyjama Day Crackerjack - all children to come into nursery in their pyjamas

Friday 25th March - Purple Day for Epilepsy - all

Staffing:

I would like to welcome Charlie in Heroes to the staff team and Samea in Jelly Tots. Charlie will be working in Heroes as an apprentice towards her level 2 and will be at nursery from 9am - 4pm during term time. Samea will be in Jelly Tots from 9am - 5.30pm during term time and is working towards completing her Level two apprenticeship with us.

We also have some fantastic news... We have appointed a new Assistant Manager at the nursery. Sharon will be starting at the nursery on Monday 11th April. Sharon has previously worked at Little Swans and has extensive knowledge of Early Years Settings. Sharon will be based in the Heroes room on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and will be working alongside Miss Tranter on a Monday and Friday around the nursery. Sharon's normal hours at nursery will be from 7.30am - 4pm.

Congratulations We would like to congratulate Atikha on the news that she is expecting her first child in July. Atikha has been at the nursery for 10 years and has decided that she will not be returning once her child is born. We wish Atikha and her partner all the best for the future 😊

Important Notices

Car Seats

It has been brought to our attention on a few occasions that parents are not putting their child correctly into car seats or not using car seats when collecting their child from nursery. There have been road traffic accidents that have resulted in serious injuries or in some cases death, it is a legal requirement that all children are in suitable seats when being transported in cars. Please ensure your child is correctly in their car seat before continuing your journey home or to nursery. Please click on the link below for further information and advice regarding car seats

<https://childseatsafety.co.uk/useful-information/information-for-parents/>

Have a great month all!!

Staff Team at Little Swans 😊