



Hello everyone and welcome to our May newsletter! A big welcome to all the new families and children who have joined the nursery. We would also like to welcome Sharon, our new assistant manager who is with us between the hours of 7am and 4pm. We have an exciting month ahead with celebrations for the Queen's Jubilee and hatching some chicks.

Follow 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

You can also keep up to date with nursery events on Facebook Little Swans Day Nursery @Littleswansdaynursery

Rolos News

This month in Rolos we will be preparing the children for their transition to school. We will be creating a photo book so the children can look at photos of classrooms, Dinner halls, playgrounds and school resources. The children will be going on a walk to look at Yardley Primary School when we will also learn about road safety. We will be trying on uniforms and using our creative skills to make school resources such as book bags, water bottles, pencil cases and PE kits. As Eid is in May, we will be listening to stories to help us understand how Eid is celebrated. The children will make some moon biscuits and will be using their writing skills to write a list of ingredients and their maths skills to measure the ingredients using scales. We will learn some new dances to Eid songs and use some Makaton songs. The children will get creative, making Eid decorations using their cutting and sticking skills. For space day, we will be making planets and rockets using junk modelling and paper mache. The children will learn the planet song to help them identify the different names of the planets. For hedgehog awareness week, we will use playdough, straws and googly eyes to create our own hedgehogs. When visiting the library, we will be listening to stories about schools, space and hedgehogs. We will be designing different parts of books to help the children identify the different parts of a book and what they are called. We are going to have a fun month!

Our Topic at nursery for the Summer Term is.....
OUT AND ABOUT IN THE ENVIRONMENT

Smarties News

We have lots coming up in the month of May. It is getting warmer and the Smarties have already started to have their tea outside which they really enjoy! At the beginning of May we will be celebrating the Muslim festival of Eid. We will be making Eid cards and creating Eid art using different coloured tissue paper on a moon and star template. As dressing up in new outfits is part of the festival, if any parents could provide any old Eid outfits that are no longer used, they would be much appreciated. World book week also falls in May and the children will be looking at their favourite books in nursery and will be encouraged to bring in a book from home. It is also local community and history month in May. We will be setting up a role play hospital where the children can play doctors and nurses and talk about their hospital experiences. We will be celebrating the Sikh festival of Vaisakhi. We will make cards and as it is a festival of bright colours, we will be creating our own colourful firework display art. It is national Vegetarian week at the end of May and we will be cooking a vegetarian meal with the children. This will link to Startwell as we will be promoting healthy eating. As the weather starts to improve, we will be taking some activities outside. Now is the time to start planting and the Smarties will be growing some vegetables, such as potatoes and carrots. We will plant the seeds in our room and then transfer them to the outdoors. This month the Smarties staff will be implementing focus activities to develop the children's knowledge of colours, shapes and numbers.

Jelly Babies News

This month the Jelly Babies will be taking part in a weekly cooking activity. We will be creating recipes such as banana bread and fruit skewers. The babies will be sitting with their friends and working together to pour and mix the ingredients. As the month of Ramadan comes to an end, we will be celebrating Eid! The Jelly Babies will be creating Eid cards for their loved ones, using different materials such as feathers, glitter, pipe cleaners, paints and tissue paper. We will be having an Eid party on Thursday 5th May with lots of music, balloons and bubbles. The children can dress in either Asian clothes or something sparkly. This month the Babies will be taking part in different activities outdoors. They will be encouraged to use different coloured paint on the easel outside. We will also provide lots of sensory activities for the Babies to explore such as water play with the balls and sand play with different materials; pots and pans, buckets and spades, animals, cars and construction toys. The Babies will also have the opportunity to explore the outdoor café, using the role play food to make yummy snacks for their friends and teachers. We will be planting some flowers this month and will be taking the babies outside to water them, so they can watch them grow and develop. The Babies will be doing some flower printing, using real flowers and flowered shaped toys and sponges. Some of the Jelly Babies have started to drink from an open top cup during meal times. Can we please ask parents to encourage this at home to develop your child's confidence. Thankyou.

Jelly Tots News

Welcome back to the Jelly Tots room! It has been absolutely lovely to see so many new faces. This month we will be looking at the story book "Peek a Boo" as the children have been playing the game of "Peek a Boo". The children will be having a go at drawing their favourite character and talking about their drawing during circle time to build their confidence and develop their speech by learning new words. We will be exploring the musical Instruments and making our own using bottles, boxes and beads. The children will also be playing with the sand and water and making their own bubble solution to use outside. They will also be making playdough. On Thursday 5th May we will be taking part in Global hand Hygiene day. We will use the character Suzy from Startwell to support and encourage the children to wash their hands correctly before and after meals and at toilet time. The Jelly Tots will be getting very messy this month with different materials such as shaving foam, spaghetti, jelly, paints and glitter. As well as all of these activities, the children will continue their colours, shapes and numbers.

Heroes News

We have a lovely month coming up for the children. We will be talking a lot about Eid and the children will be learning why we celebrate Eid. They will be making Eid cards and will take part in singing and dancing to the Ramadan songs. The children will be given the opportunity to dress up in different costumes and have pretend parties and picnics. The children will be very active this month as we focus on the Startwell character "Active Azra". They will be developing their physical skills while playing outside in the garden. We will be taking part in "Sing along" and "Dance along" sessions where the children can show us their moves! The children will be taking part in show and tell discussions which they really enjoy! Our learning will continue as we practice writing our names, learning our letters and numbers and taking part in reading time. The children will be making their own story books and acting out events and scenarios that are special to them. We will also continue to make some lovely artwork using different materials such as bubble wrap and tissue paper. The children will use different sized paint brushes and make sand pictures.

Sweeties News

Welcome back after our Easter break! We will be doing some exciting activities in Sweeties. Our story this month will be "We're going on a bear hunt" and we will be making a display board. We will be making caves and investigating our outdoor environment with magnifying glasses to find different insects in the playground. The children will be making bear masks using lots of different materials. We will also be planting lots of bright and colourful flowers and getting messy with the sand, water and foam. Every morning the children will be doing Self Registration, where they find their name and picture and put it on the board to tell us they are in nursery. We will also be talking about the days of the week and the weather. Our song this month will be "The big ship sails". We will send the words home for you to practise with your child. Our topic for this month is Our Community and we will be talking about lots of different people who help us and how we can help people in our community.

PARENT NOTICES

Staff annual leave for this month: May

Atikha: 3rd -6th

Shaida: 3rd and 4th

Sam: 9th -13th

Elle: 17th -23rd

Robin: 30th and 31st

Atikha will be leaving us on 27th May as she prepares for the arrival of her first baby.

Emma who supports children at the nursery has been offered a job opportunity at another nursery and will be leaving us on 19th May.

Sharon will be based in the office on a Monday and Friday. Tuesday to Thursday she will be leading the Heroes room. Part of Sharon's role is to oversee the day to day running of the Preschool unit as a whole.

Our Staff meeting this month is based around Startwell. Please remember that all children need to be collected by 4:45pm on this day, Thursday 26th May.

May Dates for your Diary

Monday 9th Hatching kit for Chicks arrives at nursery.

Wednesday 11th Chicks should hatch today!

Monday 16th National walk to school week.

Wednesday and Thursday 18th and 19th

Children's photo day.

Thursday 26th Staff meeting

Saturday 28th Nursery open day.

Monday 30th Queen's Jubilee activities/Garden Party.

Monday 30th Half Term week for grant children.

Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd June Bank Holidays-Nursery closed on these days.

Important Notices

Can we please remind parents when collecting your children from the garden area that you must not open the garden gate or enter the garden area. This is for the safety of your children. Parents who are collecting or dropping off children at 12pm are asked to not enter the main gate before this time.

Mobile Phones

Can we please remind parents not to use their mobile phones when on the nursery premises. Due to safeguarding mobile phone usage is not allowed in all areas of the nursery as they have cameras and some conversations are not always suitable for children to hear. We also feel that this is a valuable time to communicate with staff about your child and mobile phones can be a distraction. Thank you

Have a good month everyone! From the Little Swans staff team!