

Volume 2, Issue 4 April to May 2018



Keep up to date with upcoming events by checking our nursery calendar. This has been emailed to you and is also available on our website [www.monkeypuzzleedenbridge.co.uk](http://www.monkeypuzzleedenbridge.co.uk). On our Facebook page - Monkey Puzzle Day Nursery Edenbridge and on Twitter @MonkeyPuzzEden Please share and like our posts and tweets



## Nursery News

Where is the time going? We are fast approaching the half way stage of the year and it seems as though we got here in a blink of an eye. With more children and staff joining us, these seem like exciting times for the nursery. I cannot believe it will be two years in September since we opened. I look forward the coming months and the changes that are beginning to happen within the nursery, especially all of the amazing ideas from the staff.



### Welcome to our new members of staff

Dee joins us as our new deputy manager with a vast amount of experience and knowledge within childcare and as a mother of two grown up children. Dee is a keen gardener and performs fire shows at music festivals with her husband. We look forward to Dee's ideas and experience.

Michael has experience as a support worker and a volunteer at Edenbridge Primary School. Michael is keen to gain his childcare qualifications with us whilst assisting all rooms when needed. Michael is a member of Edenbridge Town Band and Edenbridge Bonfire society.



### Upcoming Events in May & June

**Dress up Day, Tuesday 5th June** - We would like to invite everyone to come dressed up for the day in your favourite costume

**Eid al-Fitr, Thursday 14th June** - To celebrate the end of Ramadan and breaking the fast, we will be making different cakes and biscuits throughout the day for you to take home to share with your families

**Father's Day, Friday 15th June** - 2.00pm to 3.30pm - Mummies, Nannies and Aunties are invited to come in and make a special something for our Daddies, Granddads and Uncles.

**Our 2nd Annual Summer fete, Saturday 16th June** - 10.00am to 2.00pm  
We would like to invite everyone to come to our summer fete and join in with the fun. We will have lots of stalls, including tombola, raffle, face painting and many other fun things to join in with. Why not bring your friends and family to join in with the fun?!

**Sunglasses day, Wednesday 27th June** - For this random celebration, we would like to invite you to come in wearing your sunglasses, we will talk about sun safety and make our own sunglasses.

**Inset Day, Friday 6th July** - Due to staff training the Nursery will be closed

**Sports day, Monday 9 July - 10.00am to 11.00am**  
To celebrate all of our little athletes, we will be holding a mini sports day for our 3 and 4 year olds. You are invited to come along and support your little superstars to cheer them on.

**Teddy Bears picnic, Tuesday 10 July - 4.00pm to 5.00pm**

We would like to invite you to bring in your teddy bears to a picnic at tea time. Our Mummies and Daddies are invited to join in too.

### Reminder to Parents

Please can everyone remember to arrive **no earlier than your session time** as you will be asked to wait with your child until the session starts and ensure you **collect your child at the correct finish time.**

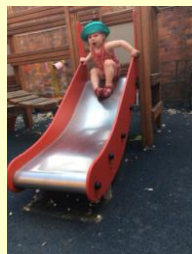
Can you please ensure your child has weather appropriate clothing especially, sunhats, sun cream, appropriate footwear and a change of clothing for messy play as we take the children into the garden and they have access to mud, water and various activities throughout the day.

**As per the Terms and conditions on the contract, all payments must be made by 1<sup>st</sup> of the month. Any late payments will incur a late payment fee of £25 being added to the account.**

All of our activities that the children do are linked to the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Years). The EYFS is the curriculum that the practitioners follow and use as guidance for the children's developmental milestones. It allows the practitioners to plan activities and track the children's development. We have attached a Parent's guide to the EYFS.

## Bumblebee Room news

Whilst making the most of the sunshine we ventured out to the local park. We had lots of fun on the roundabout, the slide and climbing frame. We went on the swings, seesaw and climbed through the train tube. We explored our Physical skills - squatting, negotiating spaces building our spacial awareness skills, climbing and running. We also used our Personal, Social and Emotional skills taking turns, sharing, smiling, eye contact and observing whilst developing and using keywords. We explored our surroundings, Understanding the World and looking at our environment on the way to the park seeing the cars, people, buildings and trees around us. We were also being careful in the sunshine with our suncream, sunhats and drinks.



We celebrated St Patrick's Day and National Flag Day.

We invited our families to join in to decorate four leaf clovers. We used lollipop sticks, glitter and glue. This is good for our hand eye co-ordination. Using our concentration and direction skills to make sure the glue went onto the clovers.

We decorated various flags for America's national Flag Day. We named the different coloured felt tips. Choosing what colours we wanted to use. This supports the children with recognising and naming the colours. The children used their whole hand grasp. These are not just creative activities but it helps develop physical skills, promotes communication and languages skills using key and simple words.



We celebrated the Royal Wedding with Butterflies and Ladybirds in true British fashion with an afternoon tea garden party! We made our own crowns and ate homemade muffins with tea.



## Butterflies Room news

In May, we started our new book of the month, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. The children have become very engaged with the story, focusing well, joining in with key phrases, counting the fruits and starting to develop an understanding of the life cycle of a butterfly.

They have loved the arrival of our very own caterpillars and have closely monitored their growth as well as showing an amazing level of care when watching or holding the container. We are very excited for their next steps after linking some creative activities to our story about caterpillars and butterflies to really imbed their knowledge and understanding of lifecycles.



The children have enjoyed developing their motor skills with the scissors, with cutting the herbs and bluebells. This has also allowed the children to explore their senses with the various smells.

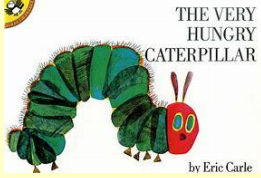


This month we have also enjoyed celebrating Peppa Pig's muddy puddle walk by splashing in our own muddy puddles and making footprints. We made the most of the weather by making mud pies afterwards and playing with our peers outside.



## Ladybirds Room news

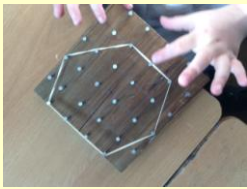
### Our book of the Month



Our book of the month for May is 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle. The children have been enjoying listening to the story and counting along with the various food which the caterpillar ate



Ladybirds have been very busy strengthening their fine motor skills with the Geoboards (elastic band nail boards). They have been very creative when using them, making all types of shapes with one child even made and named a hexagon! Another child made a house using only one band! Very impressive! This strengthens their pincer grip (thumb and fore finger), hand eye co-ordination. This extends the children's learning with their math's skills, recognising shapes - looking at the environment around us with the similar shapes we can see i.e. a door is a rectangle.



We have introduced a new 'job board' for the children in Ladybirds. It is a fun way of encouraging life skills and routines to the children, as it helps develop their choice and decision making. At the start of the day, during self registration - the children sing their morning welcome song, and then choose what area of the room they are going to be responsible for when it comes to tidying up. There are pictures of the areas of the room on the board. The children find their own name and place it against the picture of the area they wish to help tidy up. The children have taken well to this and cooperate with this new concept well working well as a team. This encourages the children's Personal, Social and Emotional skills



The children have enjoyed using the computer. It encourages turn taking, co operating with boundaries set, recognition of numbers and letters and general ICT skills needed to operate a programme on the computer. The children have also been making some amazing pictures on the computer as well.

