Nursery & Preschool News

Weeks beginning 13th and 20th April 2026

A warm welcome back and we hope you had a fantastic Easter break. The children are showing great enthusiasm to be back at nursery and preschool and we look forward to another exciting half term ahead.

Nursery are looking forward to exploring the topic of 'Down in the Jungle', they will use binoculars and magnifying glasses to become keen explorers! Whilst preschool delve into discovering 'Animals and Minibeasts.'

Finally, we are thrilled to announce that we have arranged for a mobile farm to visit the Nursery and Preschool children on **Wednesday 6th May**. The children will have the opportunity to interact with a variety of animals, including goats, a pony, and a donkey, how exciting!

'Talk with Me' Tips

- Your child is still learning new words and hearing them many times will help them learn them quicker.
- Don't correct words that are not said correctly, as with muddled sentences just repeat back the word said with the correct sounds.
- Play games that take turns such as simple pairs, lotto or catching a ball.
- Restrict the amount of TV your child watches. Make sure that your child has plenty of opportunities to interact with you, the rest of the family and friends.

Children who attend nursery or preschool are entitled to free milk which they can have alongside their snack.

Visit www.coolmilk.com to complete the application process.

Diary Dates

- **Monday 4th May:** Bank Holiday (School Closed)
- **Wednesday 6th May:** Mobile Farm Visit
- **Wednesday 29th April:** Whole Class Photos **(Preschool Only)**

Celebrations

- **St George's Day (23rd April)**
- **The King's Official Birthday (13th June)**

Nursery

Before the end of term break, the children enjoyed taking part in a range of Easter-themed activities as part of their learning and play. They explored different tastes by sampling hot cross buns, they made some tasty Easter treats, and they creatively designed and made their own Easter baskets.

We have begun our jungle topic and in expressive arts the children had great fun creating their own jungle animals. Together, we made snakes using different colours, patterns, and textures as the children designed repeating stripes, spots, and zigzags along their snakes' bodies.

Next week, we will be making lion masks using a variety of materials such as paper plates, orange and yellow card, coloured tissue paper, wool and glue. The children will explore different textures while creating their designs. We will also use our bodies to imitate the movements of big cats, such as crawling and prowling, to support physical development and imaginative play!

Staffing Update

Finally, we are pleased to welcome **Miss Rolfe** to our nursery and preschool team. Miss Rolfe has joined us as an Apprentice Early Years Practitioner. She is settling well into nursery and she is looking forward to getting to know the children as well as supporting their learning and development as part of her role. Please say hello when you see her around the nursery.

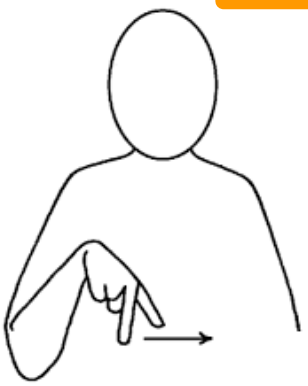
Nursery Learning

Cooking: **'Jungle Fruit Smoothies'** *(every two weeks the children will take part in a cooking activity that may be taken home at the end of their session)*

Key Vocabulary: **Jungle Walk Hear Noise** *(use these words in everyday conversations and activities support your child's understanding of them).*

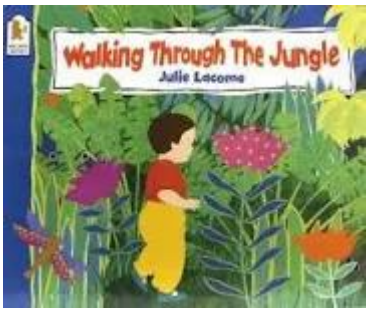
Makaton Signs

Tree



Walking

Our Story:

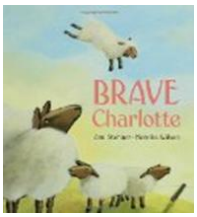


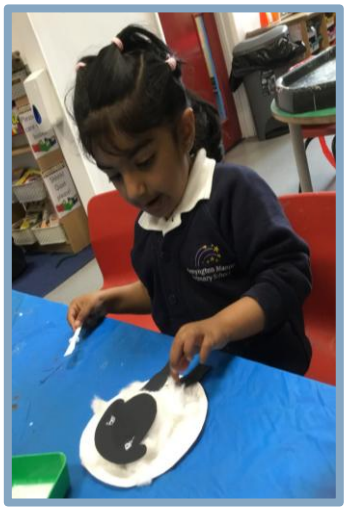
'Walking Through the Jungle' by Julie Lacome

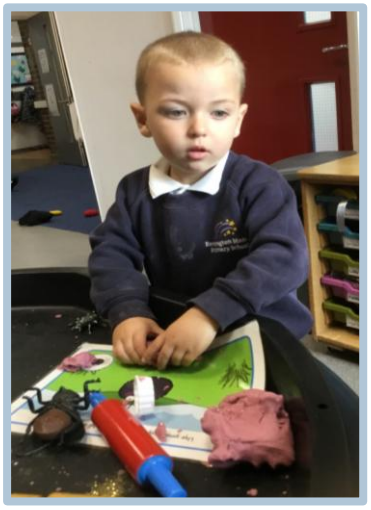
Our Rhyme: **'Down in the Jungle'**

Preschool

In preschool, the children have already fully immersed themselves in our topic of 'Animals and Minibeasts', they particularly enjoyed moving their bodies in a variety of ways as we imitated the movements of different animals!
We have also been busy creating fluffy sheep based on one of our favourite stories 'Brave Charlotte'.







Next, we will be engaging in a sensory experience by using our fingers as well as tweezers and spades to dig for 'worms' in the soil. We will then explore our environment to seek out real worms, whilst discussing their habitat and place in the food chain!

Here are some pictures of the Easter themed fun we had last term!

Preschool Learning

Cooking: **Ladybird Biscuits** *(every two weeks the children will take part in a cooking activity that may be taken home at the end of their session)*

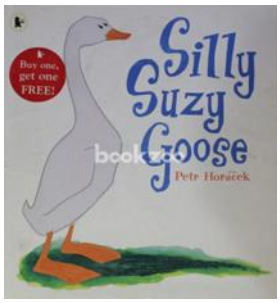
Key Vocabulary: **half alike fewest harvest** (*use these words in everyday conversations and activities to support your child's understanding of them)*

Makaton Signs:

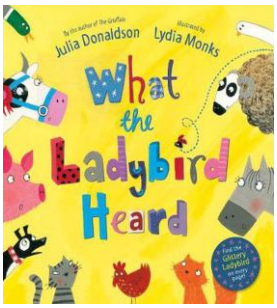
Sheep

Horse

Our Stories:

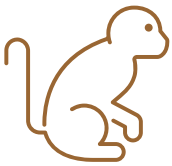


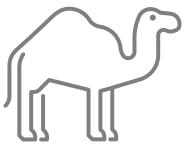
'Silly Suzy Goose' by Petr Horacek



'What the Ladybird Heard' by Julia Donalson

Our Rhymes: **'5 Little Monkeys' and 'Alice the Camel'**





Something for Home- Fine Motor Play

There are many things you can do with your child to refine their fine motor skills-

- Colanders are great for poking pipe cleaners or strands of raw spaghetti in.
- Squeezing clothes pegs strengthens the muscles in hands and fingers.
- Peeling and applying stickers is fantastic for hand eye co-ordination.

Have a go at some of the suggestions and share your pictures on Tapestry. We love to see what fun activities you do at home together.

Dad Matters Events

Dad Matters are running a series of events aimed at Dad's and their families. You are invited to bring the whole family along to one of their stay and play sessions where there will be games and activities for little ones aged 0–5 years.

Please see below for more details:

Guildford Family Centre, Hazel Avenue, GU1 1NR
Saturday 18th April
9.30am – 11:00am
You can register for free here:
https://GFFCBandB.eventbrite.co.uk

Red Oak Family Centre, Radstock Way, RH1 3NH
Tuesday 21st April
9.30am – 11:00am
You can register for free here:
https://redoakdt.eventbrite.co.uk

Find out more about Dad Matters Surrey and other upcoming events by visiting their webpage [Dad Matters Surrey Contact Details]

Spelthorne Family Centres

Spelthorne Family Centres are back with their FREE weekly drop-in session. There is no need to book in advance, simply pop in!