

Spring Newsletter

Busikids

Day Nursery and Pre School



Hello Everyone,

I think we can just about get away with calling this the Spring Newsletter, well it is bright today, although a little chilly! And it is only 4 weeks until the clocks change :) on Sunday 28th March.

All of us here would like to thank all our parents and carers for your continuing great patience and understanding, with regards to the waiting to drop off and collect, to responding so well when we feel a child may be beginning to feel unwell. We are confident that the procedures we have in place definitely continue to be beneficial and, dare we say it, we feel we have had reduced incidences of general illnesses all round over the past year!

In the near future, we will be looking at the possibility of organising a remote 'Parents evening' for those of you who would like a one to one catch up with your key worker, further details will be forthcoming by email to gauge the response to this.

Funding—We hope you are all aware of the Government's Tax Free Childcare Scheme, this is aimed at helping working parents with their childcare costs. For every £8 a parent puts into a childcare account, the government will top up their account with £2. Parents can receive up to £2'000 per child per year to pay for regulated childcare (£4'000 for disabled children)

Please copy and paste www.childcarechoices.gov.uk into your browser for more detailed information.

Happy reading,
With Best Wishes from The Management Team

Busikids current **Covid Operational Plan** can be found at: (please copy and paste into your browser)

<https://www.busikids.com/Content/Lib/doc/1966/Busikids%20Operational%20Plan%2026.01.21.pdf>

Much of this is based on the [Gov.Uk](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/early-years-guidance) guidance for Early Years (please copy and paste into your browser)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/963510/2020208_actions_for_early_years_and_childcare_providers.pdf

Driveway Safety

Please remember not to park across the drive as our staff come and go at various times, for various different shifts and lunch breaks.

Also please do make sure your children are always supervised in the driveway as there are still car movements and we are aware that some children are able to run in and out which is worrying at times.

Many Thanks



Fee review

We would like to inform you that we would normally review the fees at this time of year, for the moment, however, we have taken the view, that in light of the difficult year everyone has had, we will not be increasing the fees at present.

Reminders—Reminders—Reminders



Please be reminded to continue to wear a face mask when dropping off or collecting your children.

Please do label All of your child's clothing and belongings — Please :)



Miles Long



Annette Curtain



Chris P. Bacon



Brighton Early



Corey O. Graff



Frank Enstein



Teresa Green



Tamara Knight



Rose Bush



Bill Ding

Pre-School/

Hello Everybody



Happy New Year everyone and welcome back to the second half of the winter term.

Firstly the team would like to congratulate Lindsey on becoming our Preschool Senior and secondly we would like to offer a big welcome to Emily joining us, sadly we have lost Lou to our Supply team but we do still see plenty of her ! Thank you Lou for everything you have done for the team and all the children here in Preschool.

As usual we have been busy busy busy and not even the unsettled weather has stopped us as it gives us more inspiring ideas for the children to learn from and has given us lots of free resources.



Firstly after the New Year we looked at celebrating New Beginnings and Family Life. The children talked about their homes, and 'how many' people lived 'in' their house. We looked at different 'shapes' of houses by asking the children "What shape does your house look like"? The children then made their house from lolly pop sticks and drew pictures of their family inside their homes building up a story as their pictures transformed. All the time the children's vocabulary was being extended and new language learnt.

Next we looked at animal homes and the different habitats they live in. We looked at similarities and differences between the homes again extending new language and vocabulary. The children enjoyed the story about "The three little Pigs" and using various resources similar to the story we retold the story with props.

The children took a great interest in "Bees" using our Bee Bots, pictures of flowers, hives and honey. The flight of a Bee was programmed into the Bee Bot and positional language was used throughout the activity as the children worked together. "Be careful," shouts one child as the Bee Bot moves near to them. The children demonstrated friendly behaviour; turn taking and sharing resources throughout this activity.



We also looked at different birds that we can see around our setting and using "toilet roll" Binoculars we searched the skies for different species, spotting and naming the familiar ones. The children developed the outside by making steps to look over the fence as we very often see Red Kites hovering over the field next door.



During wellbeing week we listened to the story "The Colourful Monster". Different activities were set up for the children to express their feelings by using colours. By linking colours to feelings the children could tell the adults how they felt during that time. The children put some great thought into this as they had to go on scavenger hunts to search for that colour within the room, and a couple came back with a handful of colours expressing the thought "I'm confused" with a new word they had learnt from the story.

During circle times we used different 'Breathing exercises such as Balloon and Shoulder Roll Breathing techniques, giggles were heard around the room as we attempted these. As we play the children learn all the time developing their abilities and experiences.



The unsettled weather over the last couple of weeks has given us lots of free resources to explore outside. We left trays of water to freeze overnight some had animals in, some had natural resources in but the delight of squeals and laughter as the ice was broken told us this was a success. The children learnt ice was cold but if you put it in your pocket it would soon get warm and melt.

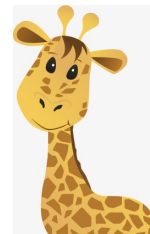


Continued





Pre-School



We have looked at different cultures by celebrating Chinese New Year. The children played with red and gold coloured rice scooping and pouring strengthening their middle core as they reached across the tuff tray. We had soft animals from the Chinese zodiac and a story was told as to how it all began.

Our curiosity cube was a huge hit again as various resources were displayed for the children to look and ask questions often being prompted by an adult for their understanding.



This week we celebrated Pancake Day using play dough, pots, pans and by moving the home corner kitchen into the back room the children in role play scenarios gave their understanding of Pancake day at home. Lots of group activities initiated by the children unfolded before us.



The next couple of months we will be looking at spring, new plants (seeds to care for and grow at home) and new born as the season changes and the weather hopefully warms up.



That is all for now take care from the Preschool Team

Dates for your Diary reminder,
We will add more dates as we work out how 'free' we will be in the Summer

March 2021

Monday 1st

St. David's Day – wear it yellow



Thursday 4th

World book day - dress as your favourite character

Sunday 14th

Mother's Day

Wednesday 17th

St Patrick's Day-wear it green

Friday 19th

Red Nose Day , Comic Relief



Saturday 20th

International Day of Happiness

Sunday 27th

Clocks go forwards



April 2021

Friday 2nd

Good Friday Bank Holiday – Busikids Closed
School Easter Holidays begin

Monday 5th

Easter Monday Bank Holiday - Busikids Closed

Monday 19th

School Summer Term begins

Friday 23rd

St George's Day – wear it red

Sunday 25th

World Penguin Day (Penguin Room)



May 2021

Monday 3rd

May Day Bank Holiday – Busikids Closed

Tuesday 25th

Africa Day



Monday 31st

Late May Bank Holiday – Busikids closed





Monkey Playroom



Monkey Room have had such a busy start to the New Year,
we cannot believe we are nearly into Spring already !

When we came back in January we spent some time looking at the celebration of New Year! We made our own firework pictures and even had a mini party to celebrate our own 'New Years Eve'.

The children really enjoyed talking about the fireworks they had seen which prompted lots of discussion about the noises and the colours they are: In January we celebrated Burns night, we made and waved our own Scottish flags, tried some Scottish food such as oat-cakes and 'neeps and tatties' with our lunch and also had a go at baking some shortbread. This was really good for supporting mathematical developments we had to count and weigh our ingredients.



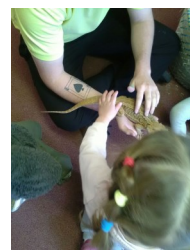
For Australia Day we were able to use sponges to create our own coral reef pictures trying out a new painting technique, looked at some real Australian artifacts such as a boomerang and we even had a visit from an Australian animal—a bearded dragon called Balerion!

Toran kindly brought him in and the children were so good and gentle, we were very careful with our handwashing too.

We have really enjoyed looking at all our different cultural celebrations in January.

In February we are having great fun looking at some of our favourite books such as 'The Tiger that came to Tea' and 'The 3 Little Pigs'

We made Tiger buns in case Tiger should come to tea and enjoyed a role-play picnic and made some houses for the 3 pigs, this all helped us to celebrate international reading week.



We have celebrated Chinese New Year recently by looking at traditional Chinese dragons and even had a go at some Chinese mark making! We have also spent some time looking at our emotions and talking about if we feel happy or sad, including what might make us feel happy again Great for our emotional development.

Over the next few weeks we are looking forward to getting outside more as the winter weather begins to warm up—and dry up hopefully and we will be on the lookout for the first signs of spring!

We will be celebrating St David's Day with some daffodil play and pictures and then of course we will have Easter.

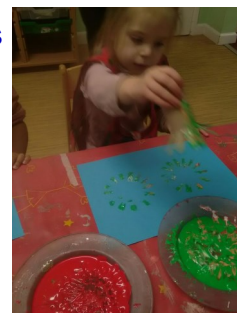


On a quick note—as ever—please nicely can you ensure you label all your children's belongings—all of them—that come into Nursery , Thank You

We welcome Mia who has started her apprenticeship here at Busikids and who is spending time with us at the moment, she has settled in very well with us all and all the children.

Congratulations to Toran being promoted to Senior Nursery Nurse in the Monkey room, he is now working opposite Alice, so there will always be a Senior. Well Done Toran.

Alice, Toran, Sean, Mia ,Vicky and Joanne





Penguin Playroom



Hello,

We have been very busy and have really enjoyed many different celebrations recently. Since Christmas we have been able to use the Duckling room upstairs as an extra play space on Mondays, we have had all the soft play out to explore, enhancing our physical development and have played in smaller groups developing our relationships with our peers.

In January we celebrated National Rubber Duck Day! The children enjoyed playing in the water trays, splashing the ducks in the water with their friends, using gross motor skills when painting duck cut outs that we then put on the board for them to appreciate.

We celebrated Burns night using different blue and white toys to represent the Scottish flag. The children progressed their mark making skills by using blue and white crayons, chalks and pencils. Julie bought in a book about Scotland so the children could look at the pictures from a different part of the UK with some of their different cultures.



With the weather being a bit wet we have taken the opportunity to explore lots of puddles!

Firstly, we cut out some real-life puddle pictures and stuck them on the floor indoors, this really encouraged us to jump and use our imaginations. We then had chance to take buckets of water outside and make more puddles on the patio that we could jump in and make real splashes! The buckets were quite heavy and we had to use our big muscles!

The puddle jumping then led on to Peppa Pig and muddy puddles. The children had pictures of Peppa Pig's family to colour in, we used this as an opportunity to talk about our families and who we live with. We have been creative and made a collage on a giant Peppa drawing and have also been cleaning 'mud' off Peppa's family using cloths on our laminated pictures.



February is children's dental health month. We spent a week using toothbrushes for painting to enhance our hand to eye co-ordination. We really enjoyed using the toothbrushes to role-play cleaning the baby dolls teeth. This has helped the children to understand how to use a toothbrush and what it is for.

The Penguin room children have shown a real interest in books again recently, our current display board is based around the Dear Zoo book as we have thoroughly enjoyed the animal and lifting the flaps in the books to find what is underneath.

We have taken part in National Story-telling week by looking at our special adult led books every day. Our next book to focus on will be 'Up, Up, Up,' which is one of our new story CD's – you may find it on You Tube. We will be creating some artwork to display to support our interest in this book – watch this space

We have been encouraging the children to learn to stop and go, creating boundaries by using our 'road tape' The tape and cars have been set up on both the floor and tables and we have based adult led activities around this to learn 'stop' and 'go' to support our personal, social and emotional development.

In the coming weeks there are many more celebrations for us to explore, such as Valentines Day where we will be exploring shapes such as a heart and sharing books about feelings. We will also be celebrating pancake day by creating our own felt pancakes and even tasting some real ones!

For Chinese New Year we are going to explore the Lion and create a display board together from this. We will be exploring moving our body by doing the dragon lion dancing. We will also be learning to say Happy New Year in different languages, exploring culture further.

We also have St David's Day, Mother's Day and World Book Day to look forward too.

Please do keep an eye on Parentzone as we will be posting next steps for all the children and asking you to comment with your child's interests at home and anything else of interest you would like to share.

Thank you
Best Wishes, Julie, Jade, Lucy T



Duckling Playroom

Hello From the Duckling Room

It has been a very busy time for us in the Duckling room, we have enjoyed oh so many different activities and we have said hello to many new faces, all the time

having fun. It all seems such a long time ago now, but did you see us really enjoying our Christmas crafts, we hoped most of them made it home in one piece.

These last few weeks the babies have been 'baby mad'! They have loved playing with the role play babies, feeding them their bottles, giving them cuddles and rocking them off to sleep, showing their care-giving capabilities.

We enjoy all sorts of sensory play, we love the gloop, the way it changes texture under pressure, and it comes in all colours apparently.

We have had flour play and of course we always love to paint, all these activities are so good at helping us with our fine motor skills, holding brushes and squeezing sponges and gloop in our hands, not to mention our hand to eye co-ordination, we are constantly learning.

We have a new favourite book collection at the moment - 'Never touch a'

We enjoy looking through the books naming and signing the different animals and making the noises—this really helps develop speech—We have even created a display board based on the books.



Everyone is so proud when one of our little ones takes their first steps at nursery—big cheers and clapping all around

Animals has been such a versatile topic, we look at their sizes, their names and the sounds they make and there are so many different animal story books, they keep us entertained for ages

The Ducklings and the Penguins still come together on Monday's and Friday's to play and we then turn the Duckling room into a 'soft play' area to work on our physical development and also have great fun in our smaller groups

Even though it has been quite wet and cold outside we have still tried our best to get out as much as possible, although some days it does take much longer getting all wrapped up and then unwrapped than the time spent outside, but it is still worth it.

Our favourite item when getting ready to go out seems to be our hats! We have been talking about the weather and practicing new words such as 'hat' and 'snow' and cold. When we are outside we like to say hello to our siblings over the fence and we look at the sky to see what we can see and talk about the weather, best of all of course are the puddles!

All the best from Toni, Lucy and Katie

