



The Donkey Field Pre-School,
C/O Crawley Down Village C of E
School
Hophurst Drive
Crawley Down
West Sussex
RH10 4XA

Newsletter

The children collaborated together to design and create a spaceman.

They took turns to choose the materials and talked about the different textures they could feel.

The children have also created space paintings using a variety of media, and made rockets!

**5, 4, 3, 2, 1
BLAST OFF!**

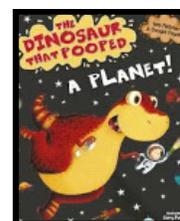


Wow, what a start to the Spring Term we have had!

The children have shown great interest in Space.

Using different materials, the children have worked together to create spacemen and their very own Earth Aliens.

As well as this, we have been finding out about Chinese New Year. We had a special visitor that came in to talk to the children about it. Did you know it is the Year of the Rat?



Taking inspiration from the books they have been reading during the sessions, including 'Come to Tea on Planet Zum Zee' and 'The dinosaur that pooped a planet' to name a few, the children chose their own materials to create their own Earth Aliens.



GET READY FOR SPRING—WHAT'S NEXT?

In March, we will be receiving our very own eggs, as we engage in 'The Egg Project'. The eggs will live in the pre-school where the children will observe them, watch them hatch, and learn how to look after them as part of 'Understanding of the World', and our Spring learning. Within this topic, the children will learn about growth and lifecycles.



Our themes for the half term will include: numbers, letters, shapes and colours. The children will be engaging in activities that support the foundations of writing, and also number work. As usual, we will approach this with the children at the centre of the learning, in a fun, exciting and engaging way.

As well as this, the children will be learning about the importance of Easter, and will create Easter cards linked to 'Expressive Art and Design'.

Help!

Fundraising

As you may already know, a lot of hard work and commitment goes into the events that happen each year at Donkey Field Pre-School. We would love some more help. No matter how big or small that help is, more hands are better than some.

If you would like to find out more, please get in touch by either emailing fundraising@donkeyfield.co.uk or speaking to Coral or Maria.



Pre-School

At Donkey Field, we operate an open door policy.

We absolutely love sharing the learning that the children are focusing on with you.

If you as parents, or a grand parent, would like to come and spend some time in the pre-school to help, then please get in touch.

Did you know?

We appreciate that life can be busy, but did you know there are other ways to help raise money for the pre-school?

Easy Fundraising—www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Search The Donkey Field Pre -School

Click on it, and create an account.

By using this website, you can do your weekly shop, along with shop in many re-tailers, purchase insurance and even book a holiday, all whilst raising money for Donkey Field.



Name Tags—www.mynametags.com

With every order, they will donate 20% of your order total back to the pre-school. Please quote ID Number 14499 when ordering.

Amazon Smile— www.smile.amazon.co.uk

Similar to the other websites, Amazon will donate a percentage of the money you spend online, and give it back to the pre-school. Just sign up!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 5th March—World Book Day

The children can dress up as a book character for a donation. This will be linked to our literacy learning.

Week of 30th March (30.03-03.04) —National Autism Week

The children will be learning about differences. Children are encouraged to wear odd socks.

Saturday 6th June—Summer Market

This event will take place at The Haven Centre. More details to follow.

Thursday 9th July—School Leavers Trip to Godstone Farm

Letters will be sent out with all the details of this trip nearer the time.

Donkey Field Pre-School will also be hosting both a Quiz night, and a Disco. Exact dates are tbc.

The Quiz will be held in **May**, and the Disco will be held in **September**.



If you would like to help with any of these events, including the Summer Market, please get in touch.

TOILET TRAINING

At Donkey Field Pre-School, we believe that a two way relationship between practitioners and parents is the most important thing.

Therefore, when it comes to potty training your child, we will take the lead from you.

Within the setting, we have the facilities to change a child's nappy or pull up, we have pot-ties available, and also child seats already installed onto the toilets.

All we ask is that you provide us with nappies/pull ups, and your own wipes.

If your child is potty training, please also pack spare clothes, which are named, in your child's bag.



If you have any worries, please come and talk to one of us.

REMINDERS

Website

The Donkey Field Pre-School website is full of information.
www.donkeyfield.co.uk

Tapestry

Look for messages, and any observations.

Facebook Page

Reminders, meetings and have a look at learning updates.

Whiteboard

The whiteboard outside of the setting including what activities the children have taken part in that day, what they have eaten and any reminders.

Clothes

Could we please remind parents that all clothes and belongings should be clearly named.



CONTACTS

General information

info@donkeyfield.co.uk

Fundraising

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Donations

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Chair

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DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

At Donkey Field Pre-School, we use the document 'Development Matters' to support your children in their learning, their development and the way they engage with people and the environment.

There are seven different areas of learning that we focus on.

With the children who are under 3, we focus on the 3 prime areas.

These include:

- Personal, Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development

With the children over 3, we focus on the prime areas above, but also the specific areas below.

These include:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

You will see from the observations on Tapestry, that these are linked to different areas.

All of the learning the children take part in, is through play. Here at Donkey Field, we believe in creating effective learners which will support the children as they continue to grow, and finally start school.

We love to ensure the children have memorable experiences and also, where possible learn through real life contexts.

The ways in which the child engages with other people and their environment—playing and exploring, active learning, and creating and thinking critically—underpin learning and development across all areas and support the child to remain an effective and motivated learner. Tak-