

May 2021 Newsletter



Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 29th June
*Parents Evening - Baby Room
& Explorers*

Thursday 1st July
Parents Evening - Preschool

31st May - 7th June
Half Term - Nursery/Den

Makaton signs of the month:

Warm / Sun / Hat

Quotes of the month

A couple of weeks ago, Faezeh was passing through preschool corridor and noticed one of the boys was unkind to his friend. She sat down and explained about good behaviour and being kind. Lucas saw and came to Faezeh and said, "Are angry Faezeh?" she replied, "No I am not angry, I am sad." Lucas gave her a hug and said, "So you need a hug."

In Pre-school the children were preparing to celebrate the Queen's birthday by learning about where she lives etc. Brianna looked at Ethan and said, "I don't want to go to Queen's house!" Ethan turned to her, "No we won't, she's coming here for her tea!" he told her.

A note from Faezeh

It is May and hopefully the weather will be more kind to us. Can I remind all parents if your child is using their own sun cream, please inform staff, and hand the cream to them. If you would like any information on the brand used in Nursery, please ask. Please provide children with named sun hat and appropriate clothing. Please - No flip flops as footwear, children can easily hurt their feet when running and climbing in the garden.

Children absence

As we are coming out from lockdown still everyone has to be vigilant and help each other to pass this stage. I do understand it is frustrating for parents if we call and ask to come and pick your child and have PCR test. As NHS guidance children under 5 has to have PCR test as rapid test may give wrong results. For more information please refer to:

www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/get-tested-for-coronavirus

We will look at children's symptoms individually and if we think your child will need PCR test then please conduct the test and email me the results at faezeh@elannursery.com

It is frustrating for us to send children home as much as it is for you, so please do not bring your child to nursery if they have temperature, and specially don't give them Calpol before nursery, this will mask their temperature temporary and when their temperature goes up then we have to call you. I am thinking of all children and their health as well as staff. at Elan we have managed to pass all last year with minimum disruption to children attendance and avoiding full nursery closure please help us to pass this last few months safely and hopefully we will bit Covid. Thanks for your continued cooperation.

Staff Changes

There has been a lot of changes in April. As you may now know Vicky has been appointed Little Monkeys interim Manager.

Katie is Elan's new Deputy Manager, Wendy has been appointed as Third in Charge and Dani has taken Room Leader role in Explorers. Please join me and wish them all the best in their new roles.

Parents evening

After nearly one year delay in having usual parents evening as restrictions started to lift and little by little we are going back to have normal routine, we are planning to have Parents Evening. Closer to the day, staff will ask you to choose a slot of 10 minutes, so you can speak to your child's Key person. Attending parents evening is not compulsory as we know you have access to children's portal and are aware of day to day activities in the nursery.

*Tuesday 29th June – Baby room & Explorers
Thursday 1st July – Preschool*

Pre-school leavers

I would like to remind parents to let me know as soon as possible about their child's last day in Pre-school. As we need one months notice if your child will be leaving us, this information is vitally important to ensure your deposit is returned on your child's last day. If you need your child to attend Pre-school in September, please be aware that your fees will be on a full day charge as no funding will be available for the school-starters. Please inform me as soon as possible about September's extra days to ensure availability. Please keep us updated about your child's allocated school.

Sensory Needs and Toileting

When a child is starting to toilet train, it is worth considering the sensory needs of the child to enable toilet training to be a smooth and positive experience. We experience ourselves and the world around us through our senses. Most people are able to filter out a great deal of sensory information they receive so the situation they are in doesn't become over stimulating. Children often aren't able to do this as well and can easily become overwhelmed.

ERIC have produced a leaflet which goes through the different sensory inputs children may have while toilet training, and provides suggestions for adjusting the sensory input. By making these alterations, it may help children to adapt and become comfortable to the sensations they experience during toilet training.

[You can download a copy of the sensory needs leaflet here](#)

Potty Training – How Communication is the Key to Success

The BBC's [Tiny Happy People](#) recently invited ERIC to write an article for them sharing practical tips and advice on introducing toilet training.

"There are lots of practical tips and tricks to help you get your little one out of nappies and into pants – and good communication is key", says Alina Lynden, Potty Training expert at ERIC, The Children's Bowel & Bladder Charity.

The article provides 9 tips that can support parents / carers successfully navigate the toilet train process.

[You can read the full article here](#)

I know that many of you signpost parents to the [ERIC website](#) when you have children who are struggling with toileting. They have recently produced some new resources that I wanted to draw your attention to.

Support to self-isolate

The [West Sussex Community Hub](#) is available on 033 022 27980.

You may be eligible for a Test and Trace Support Payment. See the [GOV.UK](#) website for details.

Free delivery from [your local pharmacy](#) is available if you have no other way to get your medicines.

[NHS volunteer responders](#) can help with grocery shopping, prescription collections, or be there for a chat.

COVID-19 Mutual Aid Local Groups are small, independent community groups set up across the UK to support local people through the outbreak. [Find your nearest group in West Sussex.](#)

[See our COVID-19 safe and healthy webpage for tips.](#)

[See our list of local food suppliers and organisations able to deliver.](#)

Note from the Baby Room team

Hi, from Baby Room.

Where has the month gone! April has flown by and now we are looking forward to new topics for May.

Firstly, we welcome Theo who has joined the Baby Room, he is settling in nicely and getting used to the nursery routine.

This April our Topics have been fun, starting with Easter of course and then when everyone returned after the long Bank Holiday we started to explore Farm animals, creating a farm from soil and grasses for the babies to explore with the farm animals in the soil. There has been so much communication between Babies and staff, talking to them about the different animals and what noises each farm animal makes. Their particular favourite seems to be the ducks and we are lucky enough to see the ducks for real when they pass our garden most mornings during their garden play.

Another topic we covered was the Queen's Birthday. Davina made some icing which she coloured and offered sprinkles to the babies to place on top their biscuits, which the babies enjoyed eating in the garden during their snack. Alison also brought in some reeds and grasses from her garden along with some soil, bark and flowers for all age groups in our room and set it onto the floor where they younger babies and

older babies were able to access the activity together. Nasima planned an activity associated with Ramadan, making some stars and moons for the babies to glue onto a paper plate along with the option to colour using paint if the babies wanted too.

On a different note, I have found a couple of lost property items that have been left here, please ask a member of staff if you are missing anything and I will return promptly. Could I also please request that all clothing could be named.

During next month we look forward to warmer weather and plenty of water play in the garden. Sometimes weather permitting we will be enjoying the garden after tea.

We may even see some Bee's in the Garden which we will be celebrating on the 20th May for World Bee Day.

Kerry and the Baby room Team



Fruit of the month Rhubarb

Veg of the month Asparagus

Food of the month

Turkish Mixed Grain and Tomato Soup with Wholegrain Bread

Ingredients

- 60g butter or vegan margarine
- 1 chopped onion
- 40g plain flour
- ½ tsp. smoked paprika powder
- 1L (zero salt) vegetable stock
- 150g tomato puree
- 1 tbsp sweet paprika puree
- 1 stick of celery
- 50g rice
- 80g red lentils
- Pepper to taste and parsley to garnish

Preparation

- Melt the butter in a pan, add the onion and fry until mixture is golden and soft. Add flour, mix well and fry until it starts browning. Add paprika powder, mix and add the hot stock with tomato and paprika puree.
- Cut a celery stick in half and add to the soup. Cook until the celery is soft. Add the rice, red lentils and when everything is fully cooked, (about 20 minutes) blend it. Seasoning with black pepper, garnish with parsley and served with wholegrain bread.

Note from the Explorers team

A big hi to everyone from the explorer team.

What a busy month April has been for us we have enjoyed the change in weather and been getting outside more which the children have all really enjoyed.

We have had many different activities on offer this month some of these include: planting, water play, making planets for earth day and having a tea party in the garden for the Queen's birthday, which was so much fun. We have had some great trips to the meadow to where we have played games and had our snack, which has been lovely.

April was a great month for us as we got very creative and celebrated the queen's birthday. The children were busy making bunting using many different materials, paint was the favourite and we

made crowns too for us to wear which the children took pleasure in creating. It was St. George's day on 23rd April so we decorated some flags using red and white tissue paper the children loved listening to the music we had on in the background and showed us their dancing which was fantastic to see. Jesse m said, "I love dancing it fun".

We have also been focusing on spring this month and the weather changing. We have created some lovely sheep using cotton wool and glue. We have made painted some daffodils and planted some seeds ourselves which was fun and messy. The children have been watering them every day to help them to grow. Alaska said to me as we were watering them, "I saw those in my garden I like flowers".



Next month we will be focusing on spring some more and summer as the weather is going to start getting warmer. We will be starting our beach display soon and exploring sand and water. As the weather is beginning to get warmer can I ask that parents start putting sun hats in your child/ children's bags and any special sun cream that they need would be really helpful as we don't know what the weather is going to do now so it would be helpful to have everything just in case.

We are hoping that as the lockdown restrictions have eased slightly we will be able to plan more trips out on the bus, which I know your children love, as do we. We will be planning trips to the beach to look at the boats and to go on some lovely walks too. Can I just ask that any items of clothing that is new can it please be labelled so it doesn't get lost or go home with someone else thank you and we will look forward to the month ahead.

The Explorers Team



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Note from the Pre-School team

With the weather brightening up, we have been able to use our Meadows to do activities and enhance Child-led activities. We are very lucky to be able use 3 different Meadows along with the Garden. As it begins to get warmer, we are now using Sun cream when we go out, but would now also like to ask if you can send a Summer Hat in with your child, as we will be spending a lot more of our time outside from now on.

At the beginning of the month, we welcomed a few new children in to our room. We said 'Hello' to Agnes, Rafael and Darcey and their families, who have joined us from Explorers. We also welcome Lettice who has joined us this month too. All the children have settled in to Pre-school room and routine very quickly.

It was the Queen's birthday on 21st April, and the whole Nursery came together to celebrate. Baby room decorated biscuits, Explorers made cupcakes and Pre-school made cheese scones. All were able to enjoy them, in the garden for a lovely afternoon tea. Den also joined us sitting on the other side of the fence in the front Meadow.

Earth Day saw children using empty boxes and recycling materials to create their own models. The children also watched a children's video clip on what we can all do to help our planet, i.e., take our rubbish home. Pre-school have also enjoyed exploring different textures in the Messy Tray.

They have explored sand, water, soil, shaving foam, pasta, rice, using different small world animals, cars, people and trains to explore.

During the month, we have also looked at 'International Dance Day' and 'Morse Code Day'.

As we move in to May we start a new topic all about Growing and Planting. We also have lots of other special days to celebrate, along with lots of other lovely activities. Thank you again for all your support, and if you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask any of the Team.

The Pre-school Team



Den

The children have returned refreshed, full of energy and fun after well deserved Easter holiday and ready to embrace all the fun in the summer term!

Mid-April marks the return of National Gardening week, and Den were very excited to become mini gardeners! They spent a sunny afternoon making flower bombs to help spread wild English flowers around our sheep meadow. Children had lots of fun throwing the balls around the grounds to spread the seeds. Keep an eye out in the summer for our colourful wildflowers!

To celebrate Queens birthday, Den have been creative and they used glitter, sequins and gems to create their own paper crowns and wore them in the tea party we held in the front garden!

To celebrate the Earth day, we took Den on a nature walk in Bramber castle. They explored the nature and different parts of the remaining castle. We talked about how we can help to make our world a happier and healthier place to live.

The children were also encouraged to take part in picking up the trash and become a waste warrior!

We have a busy and enjoyable half term planned in Den and the sun promised to continue to shine...

Best wishes,

Den Team

