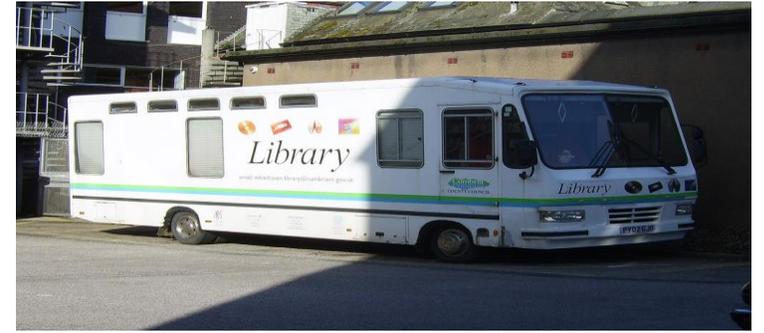




MONKEY PUZZLE AYLESBURY JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER



A WARM WELCOME!

Happy New Year! Welcome back, we hope you have all had a great Christmas break and a good start to 2018! We would like to wish each and everyone of you a very prosperous year. Also a huge welcome to all our new children and families, we hope you are all settling well into the nursery.

Sadly, we would like to inform you that Katherine Simon, who was the room leader for 3-5's will not be returning to Monkey Puzzle. She has made the decision to take up a new opportunity in a different field. We are sure you will join us in wishing her well for the future. Please be rest assured that while we recruit an appropriate replacement your children will continue to receive the very best of care. The interests of your children are at the heart of the decisions we make in the nursery and the staff team is one that is experienced and able to provide the very best levels of childcare for your children.

We have a new room leader for the baby room, whom I'm sure most of you met towards the end of the year. Lauren Fitzgerald has a level 3 in childcare and 6 years experience working with children. We are sure you will join us in welcoming her to the nursery.

2018



Year Of The Dog

CELEBRATIONS/DATES FOR THE DIARY

Library bus visit – 22nd January, The children will take a short walk over to discover what the library bus has to offer, and to help with their interest in Literacy

Chinese New Year, Year of the dog – February 16th

World Book Day – 4th March

Mother's Day – 11th March (Tea party at nursery, Date TBC)

REMINDERS / NOTICES

- Please be aware that you can now apply for **eligibility codes** for the extended funded hours in readiness for next term (April 2018). You can check eligibility and apply for this via www.childcarechoices.gov.uk
- We have signed up to the new government's Tax-Free Childcare scheme which you can use to pay your fee's. For every £8 a parent pays into their childcare account, the government adds an extra £2 to the account of eligible parents. Refer to www.childcarechoices.gov.uk for more information.
- Please ensure your children are brought into nursery with appropriate clothing and shoes. Whilst it is important the children have access to the garden area it is also important that whilst exploring in the garden that they are kept warm. We request the children have warm winter coats, hats, scarves, gloves and appropriate footwear. Please could parents also be reminded to label their children's clothing.

MONTHLY THEMES

LADYBIRDS (Babies)

We would like to welcome all of the new babies who will be joining us this month and over the next few weeks.

Ladybirds will be looking toys that they received from Santa, we would love to see the children's happy faces when they discovered Santa had been, and ask if you could bring in some photos of your festive fun and of the children enjoying their gifts.

The babies will be looking at themselves using mirrors and starting to find their body parts, they will be role playing with dolls in the home corner to help encourage self-care routines such as wiping their own noses and washing their hands at meal times etc. We will also be helping them to move in a variety of ways, for example crawling, walking, running, jumping and hopping. We will be exploring in the water tray adding different items into the water and seeing what happens.



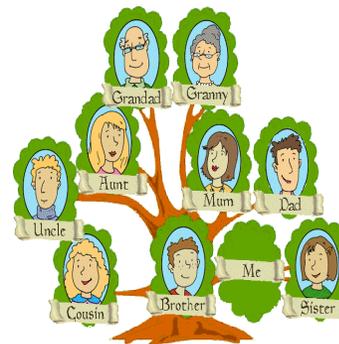
MONTHLY THEMES

HONEYBEES (Toddlers) & BUTTERFLIES (Pre-school)

This month, we will be discussing old and new toys. We have already heard some fantastic stories of which toys were delivered by Santa but we would love to see some photos too! We will also be discussing who we spent the festive period with and any new additions to the family. Butterfly children will be encouraged to draw a picture of their favourite toy or of their families. This will also promote their writing skills ready for big school. We will be spending time exploring phonics to help encourage the children with the sounds they need to promote reading.

Honeybees will be focusing on junk modelling this month and using their imaginations to create their own structures – their homes, the local shop, hairdressers and so on. We will also be visiting the local pet shop at the end of January/ beginning of February to learn all about dogs and puppies in relation to Chinese New Year – Year of the Dog.

There will be some children making transitions over the next few weeks with new children starting and children progressing through the nursery. To help make the transition as smooth as possible, we would like to make a family tree using family photos so that the children can always see a familiar face. Therefore we would like to request if parents could provide us with some photos of family members, these can be brought in and photocopied or sent via email and we can print them off for you.



- You can access your child's observations and assessments via a computer or your phone at any time using your log in details. We would encourage you to input your feedback onto the assessments.
- All observations are linked to the Ofsted 'Early Years Foundation Stage' framework which provides guidance in planning learning activities, observing and assessing 'what' and 'how' your child learns and develops.
- Some parents are already interacting with the nursery by uploading photos, providing comments and sharing activities from home, we would love to see more of what the children do at the weekends so please do upload any photo's that you may have that we can use with the children.
- If you would like some guidance on using this tool please contact us and we will be more than happy to help.