



Redhill Day Nursery

April 2017 Newsletter



Welcome to our nursery newsletter for April 2017. We hope everyone had a lovely Easter and a nice break with all of the bank holidays we've had. We hope you enjoy reading all about what we've been up to at nursery throughout April...

We all had a cracking time at the Easter egg hunt...



Wow what an egg-scellent Easter egg hunt it turned out to be on Saturday 8th April! The weather was beautiful, and there wasn't a cloud in the sky! There was so much fun to be had with glitter tattoos, Easter bunny themed crafts and colourful pastel playdough to explore. We also made the most of the glorious sunshine with bunny bowling in the garden and endless Easter themed selfie opportunities.

It was also a giggle a minute when everyone had the chance to hunt for an egg in the nursery garden, then hand it to the Redhill Easter bunny to reap their rewards in the form of a yummy Easter egg and a certificate for all of their hard work. Cakes galore and drinks followed where everyone had the chance to catch up and have a chat. Thank you so much to everyone who came along to join in the fun, we were egg-static to see you all there!!





Room updates...



Throughout April the babies have really been getting to grips with mark making in a variety of ways. They were able to explore the marks that they made with splodges of gooey paint and playdough cutters. **Expressive arts and design, physical development.** With Easter being at the forefront of everyone's mind the babies loved exploring how to make patterned Easter egg shapes with pastel coloured paints and a potato masher. **Expressive arts and design, physical development, communication and language; listening.** With summer creeping in on a daily basis the babies have loved being outside exploring the garden. They have been enamoured at the sight of aeroplanes flying over and birds perched in the trees. Along with this they have enjoyed the slide, exploring the sand pit and the push along toys in the garden too. **Understanding the world, physical development, personal, social and emotional development.** The role play kitchen is always a firm favourite all of the rooms, and the babies have really enjoyed exploring their play kitchen this month. They have drawn their friends into sharing cups of tea and pretending to pour drinks from the tap. **Expressive arts and design, personal, social and emotional development.** Laughter could be heard for miles around when the staff in the baby room blew up some balloons for the babies to play with. Shredded paper play was a real hit too, the babies loved throwing it up in the air and watching it cascade down around them. **Physical development, personal, social and emotional development.** The babies were amazed at the marks that they found they could make with cars rolling through shaving foam on the table top. There were all sorts of patterns manoeuvring their way across the table. **Expressive arts and design, physical development, communication and language.** Texture exploration has been a real interest of theirs this month, and one of the most popular activities was squelching and squeezing paint in between layers of cling film on the table. They loved the cold, gooey texture of the paint, and wondered at the fact that they weren't getting messy too! **Physical development, expressive arts and design.**





The Toddlers have had a real interest in exploring their reflections throughout April. To extend on their interest in this the staff provided mirrors, they were then encouraged to draw what they saw in their reflections onto paper plates. These are proudly displayed on the Toddler room doors. ***Understanding the world - people and communities, physical development, expressive arts and design.***

There is definitely a love of dinosaurs in the Toddler room at present. To build on this they have been reading various dinosaur books, including 'Stomp dinosaur stomp.' In homage to this the staff encouraged the children to collage and paint dinosaur silhouettes and create a 'stomp dinosaur stomp' theme for one of the display boards. This encouraged lots of conversation about different dinosaur features and the dinosaur names themselves. With the seasons changing the children also really enjoyed decorating the spring time display. They used corresponding paints for the grass and sky, and created paper plate flowers, bumble bees and butterflies to adorn the display. ***Understanding the world, expressive arts and design, physical development, personal, social and emotional development, literacy - reading.*** One of the Toddlers proudest moments this month has been learning the months of the year. Sarah has been teaching them all a new song and some of the children can't wait to sing it at circle time. It seems to be a new firm favourite! ***Expressive arts and design, personal, social and emotional development, communication and language.*** With the beautiful weather the Toddlers have also been exploring every inch of the garden. They have been building sand castles, watering the flowers and balancing on the stepping stones. ***Understanding the world, physical development, mathematics - shape, space and measure.***





Preschool room loved everything Easter related this month and the staff in the room incorporated lots of different Easter themed activities. They used potatoes to print lots of Easter shapes, taking pride in the marks that they could make. **Expressive arts and design, understanding the world, physical development.** They have been exploring seeds, and really enjoyed sifting them through their fingers and filling and emptying the seeds in the messy tray with plastic Easter eggs. **Mathematics - shape, space and measure,**



physical development, understanding the world. The preschool children also helped to measure out the ingredients, stir and knead the mixture for Easter themed cookies. They also had lots of fun kneading, rolling and cutting playdough into lots of different Easter shapes. **Mathematics - number/shape, space and measure, personal, social and emotional development, communication and language - listening, understanding the world.** As the preschool children definitely have a love for pizza when we have it for tea, they decided they would like to make their own! They enjoyed rolling out the dough for the base, and selecting the toppings and of course tucking into it for tea. **Communication and language – listening/understanding,**



personal, social and emotional development, mathematics – shape, space and measure, physical development. Spring brings with it new life in the garden, and the preschool children have really thrived on watering the plants and making sure they are gentle with them so they have the chance to grow. **Understanding the world, personal, social and emotional development, communication and language – listening/understanding.** Emma was able to source a large cable reel from the scrap store and she has repurposed it into a roleplay table. It has been a huge hit with the children and supported their play with small world toys like dinosaurs, the doll's house, cars etc. The arrival of the achievement tree display has definitely been a great talking point in the preschool room. You may well have seen that every day each child gets the chance to have as many leaves as they can up on the achievement tree. Each leaf is awarded for achievements like great sharing, kindness to others, being helpful or trying hard, and comments to reflect this are written on each one. The children get to take their leaves home each day and share their achievements with family at home too.



Please note; One top of the shoe rack in the preschool room is a basket with toys that are bought into nursery. Please feel free to have a look through the basket and see if there is anything that belongs to your child. As I'm sure you can understand it can be hard for us to keep track of every child's toys from home, so we do ask that there is a limit to toys bought in. We can then avoid much loved toys getting lost or broken at nursery.



We also have a masterpieces box at the entrance to the preschool room. Each child has their own folder filled with various crafty creations, so please feel free to have a rifle through your child's folder and take home their arty masterpieces.

Gate security...



As I'm sure you can all appreciate security for the children whilst they attend nursery is of utmost importance to us. We have had several occasions recently where the wooden gate at the nursery entrance has been left open. Can we please ask that all parents and carers close the gate when they come through it, whether they are coming into the nursery or leaving? There has been occasions where children have been able to run into the car park once they have been collected and as I'm sure you can understand this is a huge concern with traffic flow etc. We really appreciate your cooperation with this.

30 government funded hours...

As many of you may have heard, the 15hours per week government funding entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds is being increased to 30hours per week. For us at Redhill it has now been confirmed that it will be commencing from September 2017. I have sent an email out to all preschool parents explaining more about the application process. If you have any queries please don't hesitate to ask either myself or our Accounts and Finance Manager Sheila.

Updating contact details...

As I'm sure you can understand when your child/children are at nursery it is essential that we have the correct contact details for parents/carers and the nominated third contact for use in an emergency. With this in mind if any contact details have been changed could we please ask that they are updated as soon as possible. We do rely on the contact details that we have on file should we need to contact you in the event of illness or emergency, so your help with this is very much appreciated.



Referral reward and availability...

Don't forget our 'referral reward' is to simply say thank you to those parents who recommend friends and colleagues to Redhill Day Nursery. The Nursery is filling up fast and in the availability won't last long. If you know anybody who would be interested in a place with us then please encourage them to contact us ASAP to avoid disappointment.

Baby room availability - Limited availability on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings.
Limited availability for full day sessions on a Friday straight away.

Toddler room availability - limited availability on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons
From August we do have limited availability throughout the whole week

Preschool room availability - As many of you may know we are extremely busy in the preschool room at present. With this in mind though we have had some limited spaces become available. So if you are looking at increasing your child's sessions in the near future please don't hesitate to come and see me, as we would love to help wherever we can.



Don't forget to like us on Facebook to keep up to date with all our activities and events!

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/RedhilDayNursery>

Events for 2017

Month	Event	Date
June 2017	Parents evenings	Week commencing 19 th June
August 2017	Preschool graduation party	TBC
September 2017	Nursery photographer	Saturday 9 th September
October 2017	Annual pumpkin week	Week commencing 23 rd October
November 2017	Children in Need	Friday 17 th November
December 2017	Preschool Nativity performances	TBC
	Christmas fayre	Saturday 9 th December



**That's all for now,
Maree, Lisa and the Redhill day nursery team**