

It's the Little Things Children's Day Nursery

Welcome!

Hello and welcome to our Spring newsletter! After a cold and snowy Winter, we have moved on to a lovely, sunny Spring and the grounds of Parkhaven Trust are looking really pretty. We are taking full advantage by going out on lots of walks with our children.



Down on the farm

During April we have been looking at Spring and the changes which come with the new seasons. As part of this, Acorn Venture farm came to visit. They brought with them some six week old lambs, two goats, a rabbit, a guinea pig, two ducks and some hens! The children were able to feed and stroke the animals and absolutely loved the experience, including two year-old Hope English, who was very gentle with the chick.

Healthy Body, Happy Me

In March we had a wonderful week where we celebrated all of the healthy things we do, like freshly cooked food and lots of fresh air and exercise. It was all part of the National Day Nurseries Association's Healthy Body, Happy Me week. The children, staff and some parents enjoyed lots of activities such as making mud cakes (as you can see below) playing in the wood (like Kian) and eating a giant fresh fruit salad. We also took part in the nationwide 'Big Brush'.



Come to the fair

Our annual Spring Fair is to become a Summer Fair, as we attempt to chase the sunny weather. We will have the usual fun of the fair, with stalls, games, face painting and some great prizes. Farmer Ted's has already kindly donated a free family pass. Hopefully music will be provided by our folk house band, Time Ashore. We are looking to hold the event on Saturday 26th June, but we will keep in touch to confirm.





Jumping for Joy

Our healthy week culminated in Sports Relief – and the ultimate workout. We all went on a sponsored walk with some exercises thrown in for good measure! We raised £153.50 So thank you!

New faces

Tasha (middle) is our baby room leader. She is level 3 with 6 years experience. Laura (right) is based in the baby room, she is also level 3 and has 6 years experience. Ellie (left) is currently based in the baby room and is a student working towards her NVQ level 2.



Bookworms

We're making the best of the new Maghull library, with staff and children walking down to the new facilities to pick some books on our chosen theme. Recent themes include 'Spring' and 'moving house'.

And the winner is...

The Easter raffle was won by our very own baby room leader Tash, who is now on a week's holiday – presumably so that she can work her way through that delicious hamper full of chocolates! Thanks to all who bought tickets, we raised £69 which will go towards our target of £400 we are trying to achieve in order to buy a complete set of outdoor clothing for the children to be able to wear to access water play at all times. Thanks also for the great response to our Easter bonnet/egg competition, the entries were fantastic.

Weather warning

As it is warming up a little, we are requesting that your child has a sun hat in nursery with them every day. We will be providing sun cream now too, so if your child is allergic to ours – usually a supermarket brand – could you please send some in fully labelled up. All children in Hedgehogs and Owls must have their own water cup which can be left here if you wish – this is very important. Can we also remind you to bring spare clothes for your child in case of they get muddy or wet!

Diary dates

- **Nursery 4th birthday (8th May)**; to be celebrated on 10th May with a bouncy castle and a big party.
- **Parent's evenings 18th, 19th and 20th May**; please book with your child's key carer.
- **Pre-School Owls leavers trip, Thursday 8th July**; to 'Plantastic' at the World Museum in Liverpool

Communication

Please remember to look on your child's room door as we are using white boards to keep you informed of the things we are doing, to request your input and additional resources and to let you know who is working in your child's room each day, thank you!

Back to Uni!

Owner Louise has gone back to university. She will be taking the 'Early Years Professional' qualification which is something the current government requires every setting to have by 2012. Louise will be attending every Wednesday and will be working across the whole nursery in order to complete assignments.



Get digging!

Another face becoming increasingly familiar – and popular with the children – is Simon! He has recently become our 'caretaker' after getting fed up with being asked to do all of our 'little jobs' at the weekends. Simon is owner Louise's husband and will be carrying out a few large projects over the coming year, the

first of which was the big paint, which saw Simon redecorating the interior of the building. His next project is the garden, which we are going to develop into 'zones' such as 'water play', 'construction', 'role play', 'sensory' etc. We are working on ideas together and are asking children for their ideas too.