

# Hardmoor Newsletter: March 2024

As March unfolds, we warmly welcome the promise of spring and the delightful moments it brings to our children, staff, families and community. With the sun beginning to cast its gentle rays and nature awakening from its winter slumber, our nursery is buzzing with the joyous laughter and curiosity!. In this edition of our newsletter, we are excited to celebrate blossoming achievements, adventures, and opportunities to learn and grow.

## Dates for your Diary:

**Friday 29 March** - Good Friday centre Closed for all children

**Saturday 30 March**- Family Easter Egg Hunt (Weather permitting)

**Monday 1 April**- Easter Monday Centre Closed for all children

**Monday 1 April to Friday 12 April** Easter Holiday  
(Term Time only children inc. Term Time only Day Care)

**Monday 15 April** New Starter Children visits – Centre Open for Day Care (all year round)  
(CLOSED for Term Time children inc. Term Time only Day Care)

**Thursday 2 May** - INSET Day - Centre Closed for all children.

**Monday 6 May**- Bank Holiday Centre Closed for all children

**Monday 27 May**- Bank Holiday Centre Closed for all children

**Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May** Half Term  
(Term Time only children inc. Term Time only Day Care)

**Thursday 25 July** is the start of the Summer Holidays  
(Term Time only children inc. Term Time only Day Care)



# Development Matters

## *Curriculum for EYFS*

### Communication & Language

Children's back-and-forth interactions, from an early age, form the foundations for the language and cognitive development.

By commenting on what children are interested in or doing, and echoing back what they say with new vocabulary added, practitioners will build children's language effectively.

Through conversation, storytelling and role play, where children share their ideas and support and modelling from their teacher, and sensitive questioning that invites them to elaborate, children become comfortable using a rich range of vocabulary structures.

#### Talking to our children

The number and quality of the conversations they have with adults and peers throughout the day in a language-rich environment is crucial.

We encourage all children to express their wants/needs/interests

We often use gesture/signs to support communication

#### How often do you read?

Engage your child/children actively in stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems!

Then provide opportunities to use, play with and embed new words in a range of contexts - to help them thrive in their development of communication and language.

#### How you can help your child to thrive at home...

A chatterbox is a box which contains surprise items. They are created to encourage children to talk and therefore develop their speech, language and communication skills. Children often want to talk about things they have already experienced and know therefore it is important to link the contents to the children's interests and previous experiences.

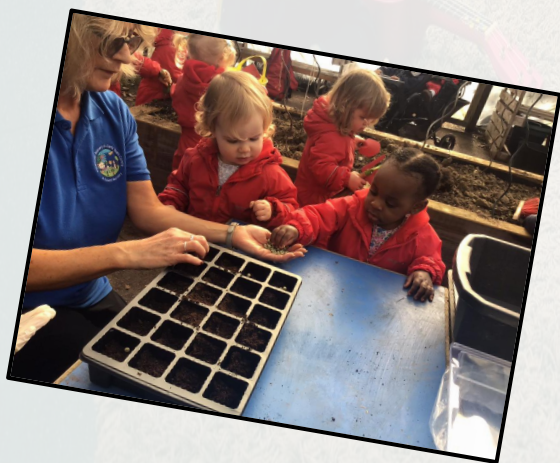
[Chatterboxes](#)



# Rabbits Room News



We have started planting our Summer crops. We planted peas into pots, talking about how we now need to water them and keep them warm to help them grow.



## It's Spring!

Let's explore daffodils:

We have been using our senses to explore the parts of the flower.

We even used them as mark-making tools.

Encourage your children to spot daffodils when you are out and about...



# Hedgehogs Room News

**“We are going on a bear hunt, we’re going to catch a big one!”**

To celebrate World Book Day, we worked as a team to create: swishy, swashy grass - a swirling, whirling snowstorm - a house - a bear - bear footprints  
We then transformed our entrance to Hedgehogs into a door to celebrate the story of ‘We’re Going on a Bear Hunt’

[Michael Rosen performs We’re Going on a Bear Hunt](#)



The children have been enjoying Rod Campbell, our author for this term. They particularly liked ‘Oh Dear!’ and ‘Dear Zoo’. In response to the stories the staff set up an interesting sensory trays for children to explore; extending their descriptive vocabulary. They found the gloop very ‘sticky’.

When investigating an “ocean scene” the children demonstrated good imagination and said, “Pirate boat” as they were sliding boats across the ocean. Following their ideas and interests, a member of staff set a treasure hunt in the woods creating rhyming clues, for the children to follow. The children had a wonderful time participating in this activity and made a special request to do it again.





# Foxes Room News



## Learning and Development

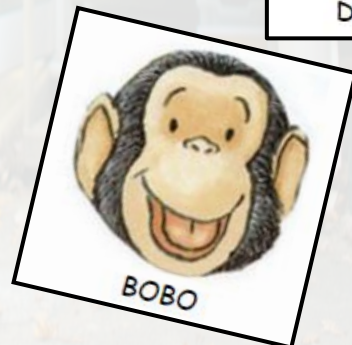
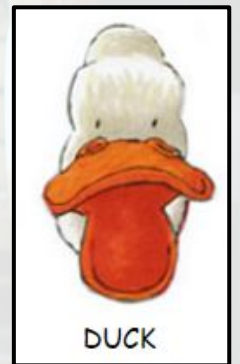
This month we have been talking about significant people in our lives, celebrating Mother's Day. We have made faces of our special friends using the loose parts thinking about the positioning of the shapes we have chosen.

We have been making playdough gingerbread people - counting out buttons and matching them to numerals.

We have been using the waffle bricks and large bricks to make spaceships flying to the moon, making sure we put on our space suit!

## We have been reading books by Jez Alborough

Can your child/children talk to you about these characters?



## Mark Making

We have been using mark-making tools to form vertical, horizontal, push, pull and 'c' patterns.



[Jez Alborough](#)



# And Finally...

## INSET Days 2024-2025

The Centre will be  
CLOSED for all  
children on:

Monday 14th October  
2024

Friday 31st January  
2025

Wednesday 19th March  
2025

Thursday 1st May  
2025

Tuesday 24th June  
2025

## Bulbs or seeds?

We would currently welcome  
any donations of bulbs or  
seeds for our allotment and  
gardens.

A warm welcome to Caitlin.  
She is part of our Learning  
Federation SEND team and  
has been getting to know  
our lovely children in  
Hedgehog and Foxes room.

“Education is for improving the lives of others  
and for leaving your community and world  
better than you found it”

Marian Wright Edelman