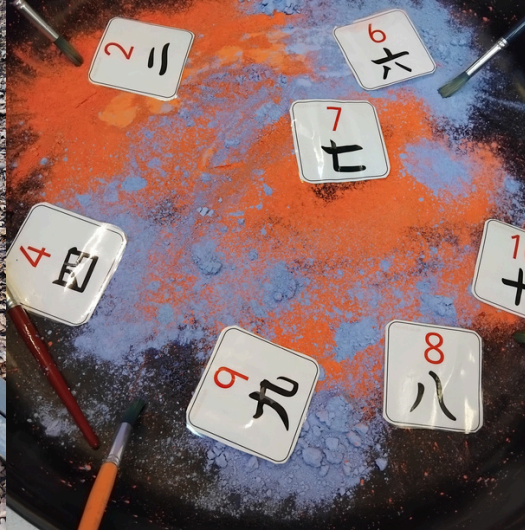


SPRING NEWS



Dear Parents and Carers,

This month has been filled with a variety of engaging activities. We welcomed the children back after the Christmas break and introduced new faces to our community. We celebrated both the New Year and Chinese New Year through creative projects that deepened the children's understanding of these events and allowed them to express their artistic talents.

This month we enjoyed bird-watching sessions in our outdoor area, exploring local bird species. The children also participated in tuff-tray activities focused on birds and crafted bird feeders for our outdoor spaces.

We also have some additional availability in The Nest on Tuesdays. If you would like to add these sessions to your booking pattern, please let me know. Don't forget that you can also book additional sessions instantly via Pebble.

We are also asking parents to kindly take some time to leave a review on Day Nurseries. If you have enjoyed our open days or any particular events, we would love to hear your feedback! Your support means so much to us, and we truly value your thoughts.

You can leave your review using the link below:

<https://www.daynurseries.co.uk/review-submit/6543213639/rcsid/1012/>

Thank you for your continued support,

Melissa

Dates for your diary

Holidays and Closures:

- **Monday 7th April- Monday 21st April** No Funding is available
- **Friday 18th April - Monday 21st April** Easter Bank Holiday

Other:

- **21st March** - Red Nose Day
- **22nd March** - Spring Spectacular Open Day
- **16th April** - Offer Day (find out Primary school place 2025)
- **31st March** - Mother's Day
- **5th May** - Space Day
- **12th May** - Careers Week in the Studio
- **17th May** - Endangered Species Day

Parents Evenings:

- **W/C 10th March** The Atelier
- **W/C 17th March** The Studio
- **W/C 31st March** The Nest

Don't forget to follow our Social Media:





The Nest

Throughout this term in the Nest, the children have fully embraced their creative potential, engaging with various materials such as sugar paper, natural elements, paintbrushes, straws, and large sheets of paper. This hands-on approach has not only sparked their creativity but also supported the development of their physical and imaginative skills. The children have particularly enjoyed gathering leaves and sticks during their creative play, further enriching their learning experiences.

Looking ahead to the following term, we are excited to continue nurturing their creativity by exploring a variety of celebrations, which will help broaden their understanding and knowledge.

Continue at home

You can support your child's creativity at home by providing different open-ended play materials. Try offering items like cardboard boxes, fabric scraps, or natural elements like leaves, stones, or twigs from outside. Encourage them to use their imagination to create art or build something new, and engage in conversation to help them describe what they are making. You can also explore simple arts and crafts activities together, like making seasonal decorations or creating magazine collages.

The Atelier

Throughout this term in the Atelier, we have participated in a diverse range of activities to enhance our physical development while fostering a deeper connection with our environment.

Our journey has taken us on nature walks, where we have encountered lots of interesting insects, gathered an assortment of natural objects, and have keenly observed our surroundings, articulating our sensory experiences. Additionally, we have designed and navigated through obstacle courses to promote our physical skills and coordination further.

Our focus has shifted to the celebrations of Easter and Mother's Day. We are exploring their cultural significance and channelling our creativity to express the spirit and essence of these important festivities.

Continue at home

Encourage outdoor play, such as nature walks, where they can explore their surroundings and observe the natural world. Try collecting different natural materials like leaves, stones, and flowers during your walks and use them to create art projects at home. You can also set up simple obstacle courses in the garden or living room to help improve coordination and balance, making it a fun and engaging activity for both of you. Craft homemade cards or decorations for Easter and Mother's Day to celebrate the holidays and encourage creativity.

The Studio

This month, our emphasis in the Studio has been on enhancing fine motor skills using various tuff trays and large marking tools, which are instrumental in developing the children's hand-eye coordination.

Additionally, we have concentrated on improving writing skills by incorporating self-registration activities each morning. This practice not only assists children in recognising their names but also encourages them to create marks that symbolise their identities.

In May and June, our theme will shift to the study of different animals, and we encourage you to share photographs of any animals you encounter during your walks so that we can share them with the children.

Continue at home

Try offering your child activities such as drawing with large crayons or chalk on paper, or using small tools like tweezers or scissors for simple cutting exercises. At home, you can practice self-registration by helping your child recognise their name and encourage them to mark their name with stickers, pens, or even sand or flour for sensory exploration. For the animal theme, explore books or online videos about different animals, and when you go on walks, encourage your child to observe and identify animals or insects they see, making it a wonderful learning experience!

Recipe of the Month

VEGGIE PARMIGIANA

INGREDIENTS:

- Aubergines, cut into 1cm thick rings
- 1 tbsp garlic infused olive oil (you can make your own by adding 2 cloves of garlic to olive oil)
- 3 large onions, finely chopped
- 3 large carrots, diced
- 3 peppers (any colour), diced
- 2 large courgettes, sliced
- 2 tspn dried oregano
- 2x 400g tinned chopped tomatoes (no added sugar or salt)
- 50g pasteurised Italian style cheese, finely grated
- 125g mozzarella, thinly sliced



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Set the grill to high, and grill the aubergine slices until browned on each side, and set aside.
2. Preheat the oven to 180C/350F/Gas mark 4.
3. Heat the oil in a pan and add the onions. Stir until softened.
4. Add the carrots, peppers, and courgette, and stir frequently.
5. Mix in the tinned tomatoes and oregano, and simmer for 10 minutes.
6. Layer the sauce and aubergines in an oven proof dish, finishing with the sauce.
7. Top with Italian style cheese and sliced mozzarella.
8. Bake for 35 minutes until golden.

Recent Training

Gemma H has completed her NDA for exemplary practice with three to five year old's.



Colleague Spotlight

We would like to thank Shannon for her exceptional interactions with the children and the meaningful relationships she has built with them. Her dedication and willingness to always lend a hand are truly appreciated and do not go unnoticed. Shannon's positive impact on the children and the team is invaluable, and we are grateful for everything she contributes to our setting.



EXCITING CHARITY PARTNERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

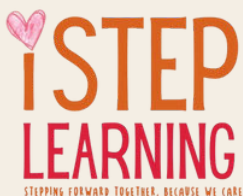
At iStep Learning, we believe in nurturing young minds while also fostering kindness, empathy, and a strong sense of community. That's why we're thrilled to introduce iStep into the Community - our new initiative dedicated to giving back to local causes.

Each of our nurseries has chosen a charity close to their hearts. At Woolwell Day Nursery & Preschool, we are committed to fostering a deep connection between our children and the natural world. Recognising the importance of preserving Devon's unique wildlife and habitats, we have chosen to support Devon Wildlife Trust, a charity dedicated to protecting and enhancing the county's natural environment. Their mission aligns with our conservation, education, and community engagement values.

Through two fundraising events - one in June and one in November - children, families, and staff will come together to make a meaningful impact. Keep an eye out for more details soon! Together, we can create a ripple effect of kindness!

We will soon be releasing our full iStep into the Community pack, which will showcase all the charities our nurseries have chosen to support.

You can find out more about the incredible work that Devon Wildlife Trust do [here](#)



Devon
Wildlife Trust

