

FAMILY NEWS

LANCING
DAY NURSERY & PRE-SCHOOL

SPRING 2024



LANCING
DAY NURSERY & PRE-SCHOOL
A PLACE WHERE
LITTLE ONES CAN
SAFELY FLOURISH



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are so happy to tell you that our refurbishment has finished! The nursery is looking so lovely.

We are holding a parents evening on April 3rd - closer to the time we will have parents evening forms out in the hallway for you to book in with your child's key worker. On the 14th June we will be holding a Fathers Day celebration. We will be announcing more details nearer the time.

We hope you all have a lovely Easter!

Rachel

Dates for your diary

Holidays and Closures:

- Good Friday - 29th March (nursery closed)
- Easter Monday - 1st April (nursery closed)
- Early May Bank Holiday - 6th May (nursery closed)
- Spring Bank Holiday - 27th May (nursery closed)

Other:

- Parents Evening - 3rd April
- Fathers Day Celebration - 14th June
- Morgan's 2 year anniversary - 8th April
- Nicky's 3 year anniversary - 3rd June
- Sonya's 2 year anniversary - 20th June
- Lydia's 1st anniversary - 19th June

**Don't forget to follow
our Social Media:**

 [/thenurseryfamily](https://www.facebook.com/thenurseryfamily)

 [@thenurseryfamily](https://www.instagram.com/thenurseryfamily)



The Baby Snug

In the Baby Snug room, we have made full use of our cosy room lately to explore our light up boxes and sensory wands! In small groups we have been using simple words when looking at the different toys on offer and building on their communication by following on from babbling or words we hear.

In February it was Children's Mental Health week so the Baby Snug team created a mini spa for the children! We had cucumber slices to put on our eyes, we listened to soothing music and did a little Baby massage session.

We have also had a visit to the beach where we found some seaweed amongst the pebbles! The children had a chance to hold the seaweed and explore the texture of it and listen as the staff used simple words to describe it. The children were then offered the chance to go and look at the waves one by one. They each had a turn to go down with a member of staff and look at the waves close up! Some of the children repeated as the staff said "cold" and "wet". In the following days we had different water trays out for the children to explore and continue their interest from the beach.

The Toddler Den

This term is already off to a flying start! In the toddler den we have been having a real focus on activities that support the development of listening and attention. The children have taken part in activities like story telling to support this as well as pancake day and the Lunar New Year where they all had to focus their attention to follow and listen to verbal instructions to make their own pancakes and biscuits. They listened and joined in with the words from familiar stories with repetition, which supported them in learning new words and grammar. We also celebrated Valentines Day by going for a walk in our local community to look at the lovely window displays and cards. After this experience, we talked about the people we love and care about and have begun to create a family board of all the special people in our lives which has sparked a lot of conversations.

Continue at home

Try cooking with your child while at home, supporting them to look at pictures in a cook book as you name the ingredients and follow verbal instructions to build on vocabulary. Please do send photos in of what you cook!!

The Pre-School Study

In the pre-school room, the children have celebrated Chinese New Year by making their own spring rolls as well as exploring chopsticks and talking about how we use them. We also celebrated Valentines Day! After talking about why we celebrate Valentines Day, the children made their own Valentines cards for the people they loved. The children have been talking a lot about people who help them and how they can help them so we arranged a visit from the Police who came in with their uniform to talk to the children about who they are and what they do. The children got the chance to ask the police some questions and try on the uniform. We also had the opportunity to go and sit in the police car and look at the lights on top of the car! The children have been talking about other jobs people do, they looked at different pictures of builders, train drivers, Doctors and teachers. We then asked the children about the different jobs their parents and carers do!

Recipe of the Month

RECIPE NAME - CHICKEN FAJITAS

INGREDIENTS:

For the filling:

- 2 large chicken breasts thinly sliced (or a meat substitute)
- 1 red onion, thinly sliced
- 1 red pepper, thinly sliced
- 1 red chilli, thinly sliced (optional)
- Handful grated cheese
- 1 heaped tbsp paprika
- 1tbsp ground coriander
- Pinch ground cumin
- 2 medium garlic cloves, crushed
- 4 tbsp olive oil
- 1 lime, juiced

To serve:

- 6 medium tortillas

For the salsa:

- 1 cucumber peeled and diced
- 1/2 red onion, diced
- 250g tomatoes, seeded and diced
- 1 tbsp crushed fresh garlic
- 1 tspn lime juice
- 1 tspn olive oil
- 1/2 tspn ground cumin
- 1/2 tspn ground black pepper



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Heat oven to 200C/400F/gas mark 6.
2. Mix paprika, coriander, cumin, crushed garlic, olive oil, and lime juice together in a bowl.
3. Stir the sliced chicken breasts, red onion, red pepper, and optional chilli into the marinade.
4. Heat a griddle pan until smoking hot and add the marinated chicken.
5. Keep everything moving over the high heat until you get a nice charred effect. If your griddle pan is small, you can do this in two batches.
6. To check the chicken is cooked, cut into the thickest part of the chicken. If it is still red inside, then continue cooking
7. For the salsa, mix the diced tomato, onion, cucumber, then add the lime juice, minced garlic, cumin, and black pepper. Set aside.
8. Put the tortillas in the oven to heat up for a few minutes, and serve with the cooked chicken mixture, salsa, and grated cheese.

Recent Training

Across the nursery a few of our staff have recently completed their First Aid training, this includes, Catherine, Chelsea, Racheal, Michele, Zoe and Keira.

Racheal has started her room leader course too!

Colleague Spotlight

We would like to give a special mention to Racheal in the Baby Room. She has settled really well into the room, she has built great relationships with the staff and families and as she was looking for a way to develop her career, she has started to attend a weekly room leader course and has been sharing her ideas with the team and implementing what she has learnt in the day-to-day routine, we are looking forward to watching her continue to grow as she continues to attend these training sessions.

