

February 2024

Welcome

This year is speeding along so quickly already and Spring is around the corner. The blossom is on the trees and there is only a month before the clocks 'spring' forward' to British Summer Time on Easter Sunday, 28th March.

Living Eggs

We are "egg-cited" to announce that Living Eggs will be returning for the 4th year in a row.

It has now become a firm favourite in our calendar for the children, staff and parents.



Information

15 hours code for Funding for children over the age of 2

Please don't forget to apply before 31st March. If you have any questions or need information, please come and speak to a member of the office team or visit

Childcare Choices | 30 Hours Childcare, Tax-Free Childcare and More | Help with Costs | GOV.UK

Request for donation

<u>Staff</u>

We are pleased to welcome Anna, who will be starting as the Senior Childcare Leader of Little Dragons at the beginning of March.

This month we celebrate Kym's 15 years at St George's, she started as an Senior Childcare Leader then Deputy Childcare Manger and is now one of the Childcare Managers.

During her time here she completed a degree in Early Years and got her Early Year's Professional Status. Thank you for all your hard work over the years.





If you have a spare double or single buggy that you no longer need, please consider donating it to St George's.

Please contact the office and speak to a member of staff.



www.stgeorgeschildcare.co.uk

Fundraising



We would like to say a HUGE thank you to Carlos Gris for taking part in the Tunbridge Wells Half Marathon on behalf of St George's on Sunday.

Many thanks also to everyone who showed their support for Carlos and sponsored him. So far, he has raised over £540 which is amazing and will benefit all the children.

This month we welcome back Amy from maternity leave to her role as Fundraising Manager. She has lots of plans for the coming year and looking forward to sharing with them you soon.

Garden project



We are now excited that the work on the garden has started.

There has been so much activity in the garden and things are changing every day.

The children love to see the diggers and the plant gear moving around and creating their new play area.



Diary Dates

Mothers Day	Sunday 10 th March
Living Eggs	Monday 11 th
arrive	March
Easter Bonnet	Tuesday 26 th
Parade at 9.30	March
Good Friday -	St George's is
29 th March	CLOSED
Easter Monday 1 st April	St George's is CLOSED
Easter Holiday	Tuesday 2 nd
Club starts	April
Easter Holiday	Friday 12 th
club ends	April
Little Dragons and ASC return	Monday 15 th April

Please review us

<u>St George's Childcare, 7 Chilston</u> <u>Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent</u> <u>TN4 9LP (daynurseries.co.uk)</u>

Facebook



Follow St George's Facebook page to see the fun activities that the children and staff enjoy!

Squirrels



This month Squirrels have been celebrating Chinese New Year and they've enjoyed various different crafts and activities. The children have painted dragons and used string to represent noodles and attempted to use chopsticks.

They made a few types of lanterns with different materials and textures. The children tried some Chinese style rice as well as prawn crackers- which were a firm favourite! The room has also enjoyed further celebrations with Pancake day and Valentine's day.

Hedgehogs

This month in Hedgehogs we have been celebrating Chinese New Year; the year of the dragon! The children have enjoyed making lots of crafts including lanterns, lunar new year fans and even a dragon.

The team have introduced some new foods including prawn crackers, sweet chilli dip, duck spring rolls and noodles, which everyone loved.

We have read Peppa's Chinese New Year book, which has helped the children learn a lot of the celebration.



After School Club

Moles



The After School Club children have enjoyed many different activities this month. They have made a beautiful display for Chinese New Year and have been playing with the new playdough and cutters.

The children have been making habitats that small animals might use, in readiness for World Wildlife Day. This last month the Moles have been spreading the love. We would like to say "Thank you" to the parents who attended our stay and play session, where we enjoyed biscuit decorating, messy play, play dough and lots more.

We had a trip to Costa coffee shop to try some delicious babyccinos, the children were excited to wear their his-vis jackets and walked nicely to the shop.

We have been super excited to have lots of new toys in our room, including a climbing frame and soft play. Some of the children have been watching the diggers in the garden, and we have been learning about different types of vehicles.





Little Dragons

The Little Dragons children have shown interest in learning about different cultures this month. Finding out about Chinese New Year and the ways it is celebrated led to them making Dragons, lanterns, and dancing in the garden!

Talking about how we have some things that are the same as our friends, and some things that are different has been a wonderful way to explore and find out more about each other.

Some of the children shared experiences of going on aeroplanes to take them to visit family abroad or to go on holiday, they helped make an aeroplane to whisk them away on some daring trips to the jungle.

The children worked hard making special lanterns using sticks, tissue paper and lots of glue. They were very proud to carry them in the Tunbridge Wells Winter Lantern Parade representing St George's.

This term they are thinking about springtime, practising songs for a Spring Concert and deciding what to plant in our allotment.





Otters

Towards the end of February, Otters celebrated the Big Garden Birdwatch. The children learnt about lots of different birds and made bird feeders and hung these around St John's Park!

We also celebrated National Storytelling Week. We enjoyed reading our favourite stories and explored new books that the children brought in from home.

More recently, we've been celebrating Chinese New Year. The children learnt new words, such as 'chūnjiékuàilè' (Happy Chinese New Year) and 'xièxiè' (Thank you) as well as trying lots of new foods, role playing in our Chinese Restaurant and making lovely crafts!

The children have enjoyed making their own pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and baking yummy treats for themselves and their families for Valentines Day!





Badgers





This month, Badgers have embarked on an exciting journey to explore where our food comes from. Their hands-on exploration extended beyond the room as we visited a local shop to select fresh vegetables, which we then enjoyed as a healthy snack. We discussed the importance of fruits and vegetables in our diet and extended this conversation to include healthy eating. Some children discussed how candies or sweets are not good for their teeth. As we had a few children who had been visiting their dentist, we continued this through role-playing where children pretended to be a dentist and patient. We celebrated the Chinese New Year and children danced with the Dragon. The children also took part in different cooking activities. They made vegetable spring rolls, pancakes on Pancake Day, and banana flapjacks, which everyone enjoyed. Badgers also enjoyed making some small love heart shaped cushions for Valentine's day. They used a sewing needle to sew the cotton together and filled the cushions with wool. Badgers also made some Valentines day cards."