

## Dear Families,

Welcome to our April newsletter.



Last month was busy and very eventful! The heavy snowfall enabled some children to experience snow for the first time which created huge excitement but also surprise at how cold it was for them. The "Beast From The East" and its brother 'The Minibeast' was certainly winter having a final fling. I hope everyone had a wonderful Easter break and the chocolate eggs did not all disappear in one day!

Notwithstanding the snow, Spring has finally arrived. The children are keen to spend more time outside; they are looking for signs of Spring – leaves, buds, colours and animals. We have some frogspawn which we hope will become Tadpoles. We also have duck eggs coming to Nursery so we can all watch the ducklings hatch and see how quickly they grow. The chicks were hugely popular over the last two years so this experience is back by popular demand.

During April all Yellow Dot Nurseries will be holding our annual Africa Week to support the Kisumu Nursery in Kenya. Please join in the Guess the Name of the Giraffe and look out for the provocations, artefacts, foods, stories and colours of Africa in the rooms.



Best wishes

*Catherine Clifton*  
Nursery Manager

## Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who bought tickets for the Easter Raffle. To date we have raised over £187. World Book Day raised £46 - thank you for your generosity.



## Dates for the Diary

- **Africa Week**  
W/C 16<sup>th</sup> April
- **Duck Eggs Arrive**  
23<sup>rd</sup> April
- **Spring Bank Holidays**  
7<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> May
- **Barnardo's Big Toddle**  
W/C 18<sup>th</sup> June

## Babies

This month we have continued our interest in cars and other vehicles. We have tested how well the cars will roll down the baby gym slope and the stairs and enjoyed using them to knock down towers. We have begun to explore the joys of Spring, practising digging in our indoor muddy vegetable patch and investigating some lovely Spring colours through our sensory tray and painting. Next month we will be continuing to explore signs of Spring and hope that we will be able to find these outside as we spend time in the garden and head out on walks around the Nursery.



## Toddlers

Toddler Blue children have been very creative recently. They have been singing Nursery rhymes and accompanying them with musical instruments. Our favourite has been Incy Wincy Spider! We have been creative with gluing and sticking, and experimenting with the different marks they have made. The children loved the snow and were fascinated by the footprints they were able to make. This month we will continue with our Spring provocation. Our older Toddler children have been on lots of walks to explore our wider environment; ribbons at the Church yard; shopping in the town centre, collecting books from the Library, exploring risk and picnic at the Park and having a Babyccino at Costa to celebrate Lauren's Birthday!



## Transition

The children in Transition have been very busy during March. We loved the Gingerbread Man provocation and the role play masks. We even made our own masks. We have been growing cress in the classroom to observe how it grows and we will cut the cress to make some sandwiches. We also planted some potatoes, sweetcorn and cucumber in our veggie patch after watching the seedlings grow indoors – hope they survive the current cold snap! We have been enjoying the milder weather and exploring the natural resources in the garden, using our imaginations and creativity in our play.



## Kindergarten

Last month we looked at different shapes and patterns through paper laying and using the artist Kandinsky's work as a provocation. We used this for our Mothers' Day and Easter cards. We were very excited about the snow and loved playing in it and finding out about how cold but slippery it can be. Our Easter Egg hunt was great fun and our Football Skills sessions have been a highlight during the cold weeks. In April we are hoping for warmer weather and will be looking out for seasonal changes in both the weather and our surroundings. We will be spending more time outdoors as well as focusing on construction and woodwork.

