



# newsletter - thatcham

January 2026

## happy new year

Please see below the exciting events that took place in the nursery last term and also a list of fun upcoming events to look forward to.

## national grandparents day

For National Grandparents Day, we celebrated with an afternoon of activities, tea, coffee, and biscuits. Thank you to those who joined us.

## teddy bear day

To celebrate National Teddy Bear Day, the children brought in their own teddies and we had a Teddy Bear's Picnic. The children took part in lots of activities and then had a range of marmalade and jam sandwiches, pom bears, cheese and cucumber sticks, oranges, and home-made chocolate brownies!



## raising money for MCKS

To raise money for MCKS we made hotdogs for the parents to take away for breakfast. Thank you for all your donations and we hope you enjoyed it. We also had a very successful bake sale in December, each room made and decorated a range of biscuits for our families. Babies made snowmen biscuits with icing and marshmallows, Toddlers made chocolate cornflake cakes and strawberries dipped in chocolate and used cornflakes to make pinecones. Our Pre-School room made shortbread and used Christmas cutters; our chef also made some delicious free from cake! For both events we raised a total of £97.41.

## world heart day

On World Heart Day, the children and staff wore something red and made heart shaped biscuits.

## diwali

For Diwali, each room was set a challenge to come up with the best Diwali tuff tray, they used coloured rice to create some beautiful patterns. We decorated the hallway with coloured fabrics, tea lights and lots of bright coloured ribbon. The children took part in a range of activities from making tea light candles, decorating hands and a range of mark making.

## halloween celebrations

Thankyou to all of our parents who joined us for the Halloween party. Babies enjoyed exploring green gloop and orange playdough with Halloween cutters. Toddlers played with a witches cauldron tuff tray, playdough and a flour tuff tray with spiders! Pre-School took part in ice play, which melted to make potions. They also did hand printing to make witches hats and playdough to make spiders. The parties finished with lots of delicious food including boo-nanas and pumpkin oranges. Thank you to everyone who joined in with dressing up, all the children looked great!





### bonfire evening

This was a lovely evening with lots of parents, siblings and children attending. There was playdough, a sensory tuff tray and colouring station. We then had glow sticks, biscuits and delicious hot chocolate with whipped cream, marshmallows and flakes sprinkled on top.

### remembrance day

This year for Remembrance Day we made a Remembrance wall. Babies made poppy pictures using tissue paper and crayons. Toddlers made poppies on sticks. Pre-School made paper plate poppies and had activities including counting the Poppies on the table.

### the King's birthday

To celebrate the King's Birthday we did a range of activities and the children and staff wore red white and blue. Babies explored red playdough with rolling pins, cutters, bowls, and spoons to make the King a Birthday cake. Toddlers made hats and Pre-School talked about the King and did activities throughout the day, including sticking the jewels to crowns. We all sang Happy Birthday to the King and all had some Birthday cake.

### Christmas parties and performances

During the Baby's Christmas Party, the children enjoyed exploring a range of activities and sensory tuff trays. We had a playdough/hot chocolate station, mark making table with Christmas pictures and crayons, a snowy tuff tray and they had music and sensory toys.

Toddlers had a Christmas sing-a-long and party at the Baptist Church. We started off with some Christmas Carols, followed by biscuit decorating, gingerbread scented playdough and a mark making station. We then had a party tea which the children enjoyed their delicious treats including chocolate cake. The party finished with pass the parcel and every child took a present home.

The Pre-School children also went to the Thatcham Baptist Church for their Christmas Carol Concert. It was lovely to see so many Parents and Grandparents attend, and the children did such a lovely job with their singing. They enjoyed a selfie station, decorating biscuits, making their own wreaths and also took part at the playdough station. After, we had a delicious party tea and some of the children got up for a dance.

### Christmas story telling

We invited our families for a Christmas Story Telling Evening. We read the Christmas Stick Man and the Jolly Christmas Postman and had cookies and milk afterwards. It was lovely to see to see the families coming together and enjoying some Christmas spirit.

### festive Christmas lunch

All of the staff and children sat down together and had a delicious Christmas dinner cooked by our lovely team in the kitchen.





## upcoming events

### january

- 15th - Coffee/tea morning for parents to raise money for MCKS - details to follow
- 23rd - 25th - Big Bird Watch – all rooms to take part in activities

### february

- 2nd - 8th National Story Telling Week – Children to bring in their favourite stories to read
- 13th Feb – Valentines Celebrations - children will take part in activities on this day and make heart biscuits to take home, children and staff can wear red to celebrate this day. Children will also be making cupcakes and chocolates to sell to help raise money for MCKS
- 17th - Chinese New Year – rooms will celebrate with activities during the day, for the parents there will be an evening of crafts, including making dragons, lanterns and also some Chinese nibbles to try, please email the nursery to book in
- 17th - Random Act of Kindness Day – the children will be rewarding kindness in the community with special cards and gifts that they have made
- 17th – Shrove Tuesday – Children will be making their own pancakes, we will also be making and selling pancakes to parents to raise money for MCKS





## March

- 1st – St David's Day – Rooms to celebrate with activities
- 5th – World Book Day – Children can dress up as their favourite book character and bring in the story book
- 13th March - Mother's Day - Mother's Day afternoon, inviting mum's in for an afternoon of tea and crafts
- 17th March - St Patrick's Day - children can wear green and do activities based on this
- W/C 30th March – 2nd April - Guess how many chicks are in the nest? Parents can guess and have a chance to win an Easter Egg. Donations will go to MCKS

## April

- 2nd April - Children will enjoy an Easter Egg Hunt and parents are invited in for activities and a tea party, please email the nursery to book in
- 22nd – Earth Day - Rooms to celebrate with activities
- 23rd - St George's Day - children will take part in a variety of activities to celebrate this



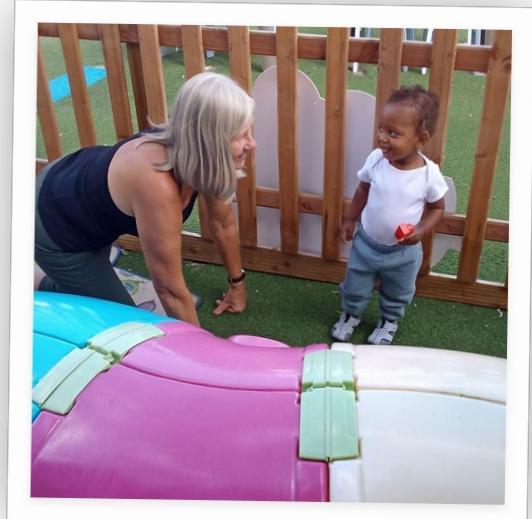


### spare clothing

A reminder to send in named spare clothes with your child each day that they are in nursery and if these are used please remember to top up the bag. If nursery clothes are borrowed can you return these as soon as possible.

### dougie's diary

A reminder that our children's books Dougie's Diary are available to purchase from the nurseries or from our website. There are 5 titles available including Daisy Comes Home and Thankyou Day. Please speak to the Nursery Manager if you would like to purchase any of these.



### our charity

Our Nursery Owner **Mandy Khaira** is a Trustee of the MCKS Charitable Foundation UK. Therefore, our nurseries actively fundraise and support the charity throughout the year in various ways. If you have fundraising ideas or would like to support our events then please speak to the Nursery Manager.

Our fundraising page on Just Giving is: [www.justgiving.com/page/mandy-khaira-1716139054126](https://www.justgiving.com/page/mandy-khaira-1716139054126)

Best wishes

**Holly Clements**

Nursery Manager

for further information please speak to the Nursery Manager

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