

March 2026.... Spring is a matter of weeks away, the sun is trying to shine, and we've been out in the garden without coats on this afternoon!

Before I go any further can I please point out the dates for your diary for the spring/summer.

31st March – Nest stay and play 9:30 am – 11 am *please let your key person know if you can attend

1st April Den stay and play 9:30 am – 11 am *please let your key person know if you can attend

2nd April Woodland stay and play 9:30 am – 11 am *please let your key person know if you can attend

Good Friday bank holiday – 3rd April – Nursery closed

Easter Monday bank holiday – 6th April - Nursery closed

Wednesday 8th July – Leaver's celebration picnic and party (for the children going to school in September)

February has been a rather wet affair, but the children have still made the most of their time in the garden and at Forest School. Splashing in puddles, pouring the rainwater down the water walls and using it to make the mud kitchens even more muddy is great fun and a way to work on early math skills and building relationships!

We are making the most of the Children going out on trips, it is great for the children to go out into the wider community to meet new people, have new experiences and gain skills and confidence in new environments.

We especially enjoy when families share photos and events with us which we can celebrate in nursery and use these occasions to teach the children about other peoples lives and how we all have different special occasions and celebrations. If you would like to add photos on Parent Zone there is a guide in the information section of the School App for Parents.

Hopefully you will enjoy catching up on what the different rooms have been achieving over the last month and don't forget to take part in the room challenges. If you would like some further challenges to complete around Sheffield do check out 50 things to do before your five which is a range of free or low-cost activities to encourage children and their families to be active and healthy in Sheffield. (link on information section of the School App or on the notice board outside)

News from the Nest

Throughout February the babies have been enjoying us reading guess how much I love you, we have then been looking at photos of our loved ones in our family book and the older babies have enjoyed sharing their photos with friends as well as getting to know their friends families also, whilst our younger babies enjoyed being able to engage with their families pictures.

We have enjoyed getting out and about more this month visiting different libraries using public transport throughout March we are hoping to continue this and explore a wider variety of transport including trams and trains.

We are excited for World book week and looking at different ways, we can explore stories using sensory activities and props bringing stories to life. We are also looking forward to our Easter stay and play on the 31st of March and we hope you can join us.

Throughout March we challenge you to explore books and stories in different ways this could be reading at the park, library, on a bus or at a friend or family member's house. Don't forget to send us photos of you doing this on Parent Zone.

News from the Den

This month, we have learnt about being kind friends in friendship week.

We have been very busy on our trips, we have been to the library on the bus – how exciting to experience going on the bus with your friends! We have also been to the park and splashed in lots of puddles and made the most of the park been quiet! We have been on the hunt for early signs that spring is coming such as the daffodils trying to poke out of the soil and the lighter evenings where we have played out after tea.

We took part in making pancakes, taking turns to stir and pour then the best bit – tasting the home-made product with healthy toppings if the children wanted or just plain.

Over the next month we are going to carry on looking out for Spring and the earth waking up again. The plants in our garden will be out, and the leaves may start to show.

The challenge we would like to set is for you to get cosy and read your favourite story with someone special. Please send us photos on Parent Zone for us to look at and share with each other.

News from the Woodland Room

We started February with traditional tales, looking at the three little pigs and goldilocks and the three bears. We used our ever-growing listening skills to listen to the story, retell the story and even act out the story which takes cooperation, understanding, listening and imagination – we are seeing this grow so much in the Woodland room children.

Then we moved onto Friendship week, where we used the books Invisible String and Paper dolls to be able to discuss what makes a good friend and how to show people we care and want to play with them. It was also valentines day in the middle of this, so we made cards to share with people who we love and talked about our families and who we love.

For Pancake Day we were very busy, we measured, mixed, poured, and worked together to make extremely good pancakes. We then had a choice of toppings to try and this opened up the conversations of a healthy diet and looking after our teeth.

We celebrated Chinese New Year, for this the children and adults did some research into what the year was and what the year was when they were born – we have some confident Tigers and clever rabbits in the Woodland room that is for sure! The children also enjoyed dressing up in traditional Chinese dress and looking at the Chinese characters.

We have been out of nursery on some trips; Henleigh Hall was a lovely experience for the children and older people. They worked together to plant some spring bulbs and played some games together. Intergenerational learning is beneficial for the children and the older people, and we see the positive impact it has on all involved. We also went on the bus to the library and borrowed some books for Nursery to get ready for World book week.

We are looking forward to Spring and world book week – don't forget to bring in your favourite book to share with your friends!

Our challenge for you is to send us a photo of you reading in a different or unusual place – in a tree, on a bus – lets see what you can come up with!

News from Forest school sessions

At Forest school we engaged with the RSPB big garden birdwatch. We took the binoculars to see which birds we could spot and used bird books to identify the ones we saw, Sarah has a bird whistle that was used to try and entice as many as we could. Some of the children were able to identify some birds without looking them up – what an achievement!

We thought about the animals who live in the woods and had a go at building dens and shelters like they make. It takes patience and resilience to build a den, thinking about where the sticks and logs can go and what we can add to make it waterproof.

To bridge the gap between forest school sessions and Nursery we are gathering photos of things we find in the woods and nature. If you find any interesting birds, fungi, bugs etc please feel free to send them in, likewise if you look up any of them using a book then we would love to see your detective skills!

Thank you for reading

The Croft Corner Team