

The Dottie News

EASTER 2022

Dear parents and carers,

We have been super busy at Dottie Tots and wanted to share some of the wonderful things that we have been up to with you all. We have sourced our news from different teachers and areas within the nursery and hope that you enjoy reading this edition and find some of this information useful to understand more about your child's learning and development journey with us.

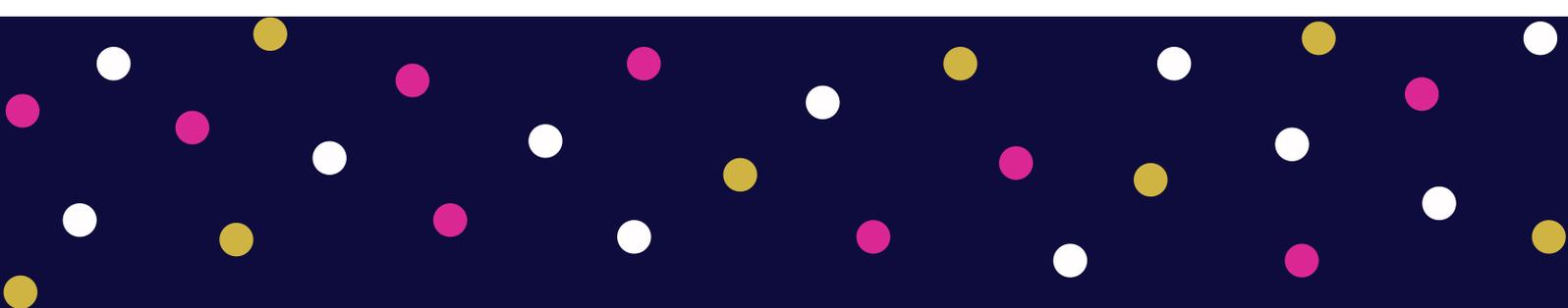
Tales from our Tiniest Tots

Miss Kristy and her team have been focusing on Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED) with our Tiny Tots. Their biggest focus has been to promote and demonstrate kind hands, which are embedded into our golden rules. The team have modelled this and provided an engaging range of activities – including 'hi fives' and cuddles to respond to actions and to express different feelings.

All of the children have thoroughly enjoyed the sensory experience of painting with kind hands, and following on from the children's sensory interest, the team have made sensory bags and set up natural tuff tray activities for the children to explore and engage with.

The team are always modelling words and using open ended questions *I wonder...?* for example to support the children's linguistic development and have observed a huge range of new words and expressions from the children – setting up meaningful provocations and invitations to play prove really purposeful in supporting the children's language development and creates awe and wonder amongst our little group of tots.

Some of our Tiny Tots have taken their next steps out of the Fluffy Room and have been spending time transitioning into the Main Hall with our Mini Spots and Polka Dots. We are so proud of them and know that they are so ready for the next part of their journey!



Yo-Chi at Dottie Tots

Last week, Sara Wood visited us for a Spring Yo-Chi session. She talked to the children about the different signs of spring – lambs, daffodils, eggs and new life and life cycles.

She guided the children through this little flower breathing exercise –

First to make a fist, place it in the middle of your chest, (this is their special seed) we are going to grow it, place the other hand over it - warmth from the sun, rain, love (smile to your hand) and then put your hands into prayer and slowly as you breathe in raise your arms up in the air as you breathe out open your arms above your head to show the flower blooming. Sara then asked the children what type of flower their flower was.

The children then did some stretching using different parts of their body - to see if they can stretch them - She asked... Can you stretch your legs, tummy etc.

The children then did two little yoga flows - learning the life cycle of the caterpillar to butterfly and tadpole to frog.

The children finished in a relaxation pose, all lying down on their backs, hands on tummies and squeezing different parts of the body to the count of three and then relaxing them.

Sara remarked that it was SO lovely to see all of the children engaged and see how pleased they were when they could make their bodies into the pose.





Phonics Groups

Miss Katherine and Miss Kathleen have been busy with our Polka Dots and wanted to share this term's journey with you.

The children have been exploring a sequence of letters which are covered in the Read, Write Inc scheme. Popular activities are the weekly search to find three letters (from those covered) and then the children use words that they know that begin with the sound that they have found.

Some children in particular love to form their focus letter of the week and also enjoy cutting out pictures with this focus. This week the children cut out a koala and kangaroo which led us onto a conversation about Miss Katherine's time in Australia and the animals that she saw there.

The children have been focusing on some fine motor skills too. They have been threading large animal shapes. They also love to use play dough, kinetic sand and pasta shells in their learning.

The letters that the children have covered so far are – m a s d t i n p g o c k u b

General Information & Reminders

Little Lending Library

Our little lending library is back! This is an opportunity for our Polka Dots to choose a story book from our library and to take it home to read. The lending library has been well received in recent years and the children given their very own book bag and sticker chart. The lending library works well towards supporting some of the routines that our eldest children will experience at big school.

Parents' Evening - Monday 16th May at 6.30pm

We will be holding our second parents' evening of this academic year. This evening will be an opportunity of you to catch up with your child's key person. The focus of this meeting will be to discuss your child's progress and to agree and set next steps with your child's key person.

Just a note for those who depart for big school this year, a formal written summary of your child's learning and development will be shared with parents and their child's new class teacher later in the summer term.





We are a Nut Free Setting

We are a nut free setting and ask that you do not pack nuts or nut products in your child's bag or lunch box. This is due to severe allergies. We thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Labelling Clothing, Footwear, Lunch Boxes and Drink Bottles

Could you ensure that all of your child's belongings are clearly labelled with their name. This really helps with the organisation of the nursery and speeds up handover waiting times.

Feedback About Your Child's Unique Learning Journey

Your child's key person will provide you with regular updates about your child's learning and development and we aim to do this at least once a fortnight via: mykeyperson@dottietots.co.uk
This is also a tool for parents to use to keep us informed about anything relating their child's learning and development.

We have set up closed Facebook groups for parents to receive daily feedback. There is also a daily feedback board which captures this information and is located at handover points. If you are not yet part of our closed Facebook groups and would like to request to come on board then please email: communications@dottietots.co.uk to do so.

We also have Instagram pages for our nurseries - [@dottietotsnursery](https://www.instagram.com/dottietotsnursery) [@dottietotsnurserykingsley](https://www.instagram.com/dottietotsnurserykingsley)
Please give us a follow - this is a great way to receive regular updates.

Sickness and Illness

If your child is unwell, we ask that you keep them home until they are well enough to attend. If your child has sickness or diarrhoea it is our policy to observe a 48 hour exclusion from the setting. It is always our aim to promote a healthy environment for all of our children and for our team, so we thank you for your cooperation and understanding in this matter.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to sharing some more news about what we are doing at Dottie Tots in the near future and wish you all a very Happy Easter weekend.

Warmest regards,

Karen Burrows - Registered Provider and Early Years Teacher QTS

