

# What's happening in The Hive this week?

Week beginning: 20.03.2017

Spring has arrived and the children are learning to care for and look after their plants in their family area. They are finding out that plants die very quickly if they are not cared for! New spring flowers will be in the creative studio this week.

The Living Eggs arrive on Monday. This is the fifth year we have had the eggs and they will be housed in the investigation area. They will be the focus of our learning over the next two weeks as we observe the eggs in the incubator and wait for them to hatch and grow into chicks. The children will have a range of mark making materials to draw and paint the life cycle of a chick. Do come and share this exciting journey with us.

As the children have shown a huge interest in the building work in the forest a small world area has been created with safety equipment, vehicles, soil from the evacuation work, sand, hard hats and high viz jackets. Building signs have been displayed and pictures of the work added as the work progresses. The area has been well used with children negotiating, role playing, thinking about safety, tools and space. Children have been transporting to neighbouring sights so the area is growing in size and evolving. The children are developing their physical skills and imaginative skills.

The children and practitioners have been enjoying the new stage under the canopy and in the performance area inside. They are dancing to a range of music but Trolls is a firm favourite.

Fran's Flower by Lisa Bruce is proving to be a popular book and the children enjoying the humour in the book and pretending to feed our plants some strange foods.

Don't forget to share a Clare Freedman book with your child. Aliens Love Underpants is a firm favourite!

**Garden and Allotment.** Lisa has been in the allotment and has created a ground plan and list of rules. She is creating a list of jobs which each family group can help with so that the beds are not over sown and seeds are planted appropriately to thrive.

The outdoor area has been enhanced; children have been developing their gross motor skills here and developing strength in their arms and fingers which are essential to pre writing skills

The children have been enjoying sports, especially football and basket ball. They are learning about rules, team play, social skills and stamina.

**Forest School:** Our outdoor classroom is to be known as Juniper Lodge. Why Juniper Lodge? Juniper is a shrub that is said to have provided shelter for the prophet Elijah in the Bible & has continued to provide shelter, fuel & food for people for hundreds of years. These themes are very close to the Forest School heart & ethos here at The Haven. The Lodge will provide shelter in extreme weather conditions such as high winds & a place of respite for children. Juniper comes from the Latin word Juniperus meaning, youth producing or evergreen. This supports our aim of growing green hearts & minds in children.

**What can you do at home to support your child?** Plant a seed with your child and watch it grow!

Down Syndrome Awareness week. Come dressed up on Tuesday and Wednesday and give a pound to support this charity!