



# Countryside Day Nursery Newsletter

## February 2026

### Eddie out and about

**Eddie out and about-** In Big Squirrels we have Eddie the Elephant, and just look at what he has been up to with our families and young children. Thank you to all our children and parents.



Visiting a Castle



Going on a bike ride.



Visiting the The Jockey Club Rooms.



Enjoying a ride on a scooter.



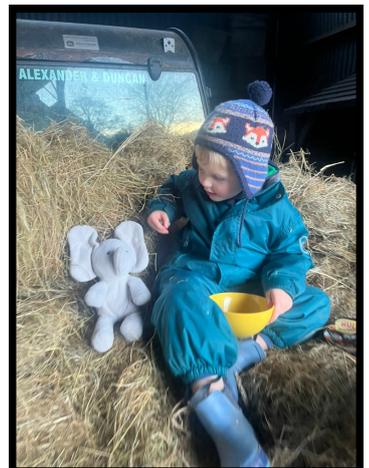
Having a relaxing time with the Magnatiles.



Building Dens and Birthday party fun.



Helping at the stables.



# Ladybirds Learning Activities in January 2026



Exploring the rice sensory tray.



Enjoying a music session.



Popping bubbles.



Making marks with the dabbers.



Farm sensory tray fun.



Playing with the small world vehicles and people.



Shop role play.



Enjoying a book.

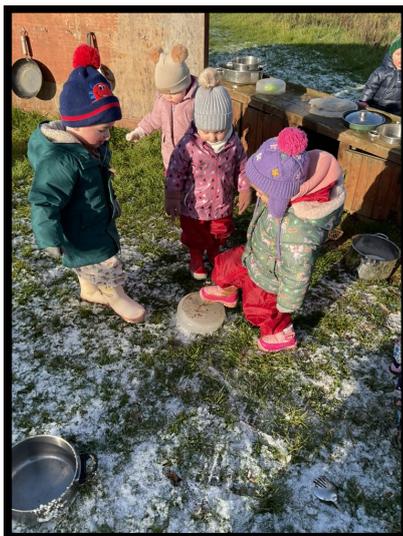


Playing alongside each other in the play kitchen.

# Hedgehogs Learning Activities in January 2026



Emptying and filling pots in the sensory tray.



Exploring the snow and ice.



Sharing Tapestry news.



Rolling and squashing the dough.



Having fun digging in the sand tray.



Using straws to thread on the pasta and large beads.



Enjoying some book time together.



Making marks in the paint with the vehicles.



Exploring the small world farm animals.

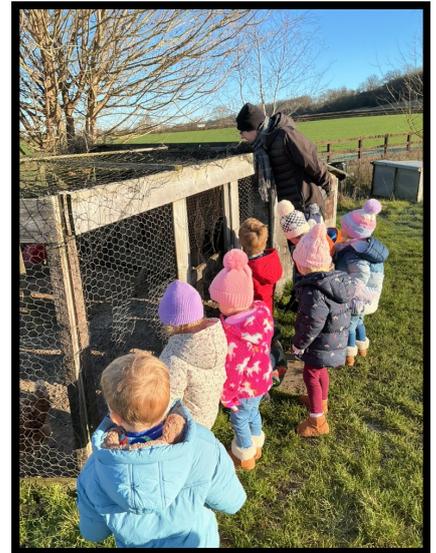
# Little Squirrels Learning Activities in January 2026



Exploring the ice.



Making foot prints in the snow.



Checking on the Nursery Chickens.



Playing I spy using Disney characters.



Making volcanos .



Practising our cutting skills.



Enjoying a game of Hop Scotch.



Learning all about shapes during our adult led activities



Sharing family news on tapestry with our friends

# Big Squirrels Learning Activities in January 2026



Playing a matching game.



Enjoying the shop role play.



Exploring the snow and ice.



Having fun splashing in the muddy puddles.



Completing number three activity sheet.



Pouring water through the funnels.



Completing our counting caterpillar pictures.



Celebrating our achievements.



Celebrating our achievements.

## Thank you to Elsie

We would like to thank Elsie's family for very kindly donating these lovely resources to us.

I am sure the children will have so much fun playing with these.

Thank you so much.



## Thank you to Digby

We would like to thank Digby's family for this generous donation which you so kindly gave to us.

The younger children will have so much fun exploring these resources.

Thank you so much for thinking of us.



## Thank you to Fred

We would like to thank Fred's family for very kindly donating these resources to us, this was so kind and the children having been having so much playing with these.

Thank you so much.



## Thank you to Isabella

We would like to thank Isabella's family for donating these lovely resources. This was so kind of you to think of us and the children are going to enjoy playing with these.

Thank you so much.



## Thank you to Erin

Thank you so much to Erin's family for this lovely donation of clothes

It was so useful as sometimes we always need spare clothes, so thank you so much—it was very kind of you

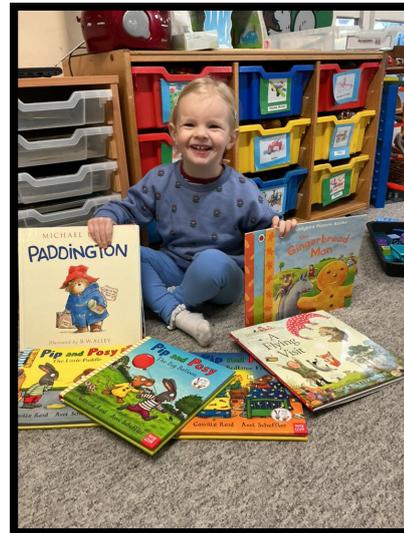


## Thank you to Florence

Thank you to Florence's family for this lovely donation of books.

This was very kind of you to think of us and the children are going to enjoy these books so much.

Thank you



## Number Hunting at Apperley Park



On Friday 23rd January Big Squirrels enjoyed a trip to Apperley Park where we completed a fun number hunt.

We also had great fun on the zip wire, we were very brave!!!

Well done Big Squirrels



## Visit from our Inclusion Lead

Periodically and when I think it is needed, I invite Advisors from Gloucestershire County Council to come into our setting to check we are completing everything we should be and to offer any advice and support.

These visits are not compulsory, but I see them as excellent reflective practice. We have to ask for visits as County will not visit us, unless I request a visit, so I always make sure that these visits are really meaningful

So I thought it would be useful if the Inclusion Lead could visit and she has been completing visits since last summer. Catherine Hardwicke has supported us with Total Communication training, helped us gain the Dingleys Promise Mark of Achievement and has also spent time in all rooms to support the staff. These visits have been very useful and staff have been able to ask Catherine for any advice or support in all areas relating to SEND.

Now Catherine's time with us has come to an end and on Wednesday 28th January she completed her final visit. Catherine spent time in all rooms and was so pleased with the changes we have made following her suggestion.

Whilst these visits are something I initiate as I feel it is so important to continuously improve, I am very grateful for Catherine's time she has spent with us. Catherine always says she really enjoys visiting Country-side, which for me is a compliment itself.

---

## Mummy's Afternoon

---

On Wednesday 11th March 3-30pm-5.00pm we are inviting our Mummy's into Nursery to enjoy some creative activities with your child and enjoy a light refreshment. Please note the finishing time- as we will have to stop this event at 5-00pm, in order for us to be able to prepare for the next day- thank you.

This afternoon is to celebrate Mothering Sunday which for this year will be 15th March. If Mummies aren't available, grandmothers, aunties or godmothers are more than welcome too.

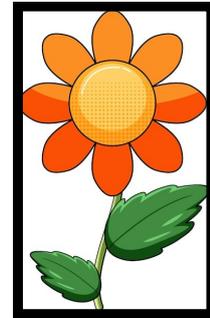
Our aim is to also organise a Dad's morning in June at around the time of Father's day, so grandfather, uncles and godfathers will be welcome to attend on that day.

Therefore, throughout the year we are keen to welcome our families into the Nursery to see what we do and to support your children's learning.

This afternoon is available for the children's Mums who attend on that Wednesday afternoon. Unfortunately we can't open this up to everyone as we just wouldn't have the space.

Therefore, if your child is at Nursery on Wednesday 11th March, and you would like to join us, please let us know via an email to me or through Tapestry by Friday 6th March.

Thank you.



---

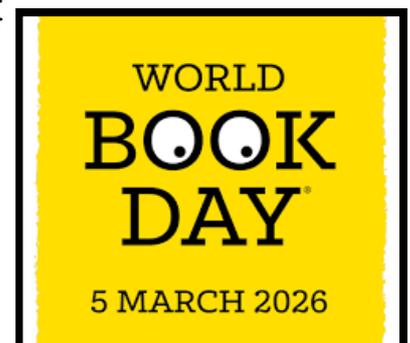
## World Book Day - Thursday 5th March

---

We will be dressing up for World Book Day on Thursday 5th March and if you would like to, join in please bring your child to nursery dressed as their favourite book character. If you need a little inspiration have a look at [www.bookaid.org/worldbookday](http://www.bookaid.org/worldbookday) for some ideas and step by step character costume-making guides!

Stories are such an important part of a child's Early Years experiences and we look forward to celebrating World Book Day on 5th March. Please do encourage your child to bring their favourite story this week so we can promote the children's literacy skills for the week.

If parents would like a £1 voucher which you can exchange for one of 10 exclusive £1 World Book Day books or you can use it to get £1 off any book costing more than £2.99 please ask a staff member. You can use these vouchers in supermarkets and many independent bookshops. These vouchers are valid between certain dates- I have received the vouchers and they will be available in the Nursery classes, so please do just ask us for these. If you would like any further information please do have a look at [www.worldbookday.com/books](http://www.worldbookday.com/books)



## Big Squirrels Trip to Newent Library

On Tuesday 6th January after lunch we had a lovely time visiting the library, we were there a little longer than anticipated as they had a lovely vet station which we really enjoyed and then Sue read us a lovely story, thank you to Newent library for having us



## Big Squirrels Trip to Over Farm

On Wednesday 7th January we went on our trip to over farm where we had cards to match with different fruits and vegetables, we had a lovely trip, enjoyed by all.



---

## Magic Moments

---

Please let us know if your child has done something exciting at home and we will celebrate it here with a Wow Certificate! It is really wonderful to see our children taking steps forward in their learning and development and they also love sharing their certificates with their friends during Circle Time.

**Ladybirds:** Congratulations to **Gigi** for sleeping on a mat at Nursery. Well done to **Pippa, Samuel** and **Eva** for doing amazing walking. Congratulations to **Billie** and **Elsie** for doing amazing tidying at Nursery.

**Hedgehogs:** Well done to **Peter** for using the potty so brilliantly. Congratulations to **Gabriella** becoming a big sister to Sophia. Well done to **Xander** and **Zachary** for being great helpers. Congratulations to **Elena** for using the potty successfully. Well done to **Ava** for settling so well in Hedgehogs. Congratulations to **Digby** for sleeping in your new bed through the night. Well done to **Patrick** for spending extended time in sensory play. Congratulations to **Ava** for doing amazing counting and tidying at Nursery. Well done to **Finley** and **Elana** for using the potty at Nursery. Congratulations to **Ivy** for completing 20-piece puzzles.

**Little Squirrels:** Congratulations to **Wilf C.J** and **Felix** for doing so well in pants. Well done to **Alfie** for doing so well wearing pants.

**Big Squirrels:** Well done to **Aura** for being dry through the night. Congratulations to **Hunter** doing so well wearing pants and a huge congratulations to **Henry** for completing some excellent writing and drawing. Well done to **Sidney, H** for being so brave having your vaccinations. Congratulations to **Rory** and **Erin** for completing some excellent letter and number formation. Well done to **Evelyn** for eating pasta with sauce.

**Congratulations to all of you superstars!**

---

## Little Squirrels Parent Days

---

This month will be Little Squirrels Parent Days. If you would like to discuss your child's progress and how they are getting along, please email me at [info@countysidedaynursery.co.uk](mailto:info@countysidedaynursery.co.uk) and I will Little Squirrels to arrange a consultation with you.

Alternatively, please message the Little Squirrel staff through Tapestry and they will then arrange a convenient time with you via this method.

---

## School Choices for 2026

---

As the deadline for applying for your child's choices for school has now passed we would like to wish all of our parents and children the very best of luck as their school choices are now being sorted by the various Local Authorities. This is always an anxious time as the wait is long and parents won't hear until April, however, if you could let us know in April which school your child has been accepted to, I would be very grateful. We will then be contacting your child's school to ensure a smooth transition by arranging a discussion with you as parents and your child's reception teacher. Exciting times ahead!!!