

Riverside Childcare Ltd

Newsletter - Bluebells

Winter 21/22



Health & Wellbeing

During Winter we have been....

- Implementing new busy bodies song as part of our daily routine and exploring different ways we can move our bodies in time to music.
- Trying some new foods and exploring where they come from as part of our Chinese New Year and Robert Burns day celebrations.
- Working as a team and developing our sharing skills while participating in our 'Tiger Who Came to Tea' tea party.
- Exploring outside in all weathers and were lucky enough to experience some snow. We discussed how the snow feels while investigating it and used paint to make marks in the snow. Play and movement indoors and outdoors are essential for brain development as it is often through play that young children learn about themselves, others and the world around them

Numeracy and Literacy

Literacy and Numeracy are fundamental to all areas of learning. As young children develop, being literate and numerate helps them function effectively in everyday life and to contribute to society.

During Winter we have been doing this by;

- Investigating our early shape recognition while exploring a variety of frozen shapes including circle, square, rectangle and heart.
- Identifying a range of animals and used our early numeracy skills to identify them from big to small.
- Exploring our Robert Burns Day poem 'Red Red Rose' and explored colour and textures of flowers while creating our own 'perfume'.
- Enhancing our language skills and knowledge of other cultures while reading our focus story 'Maisy's Chinese New Year'.

Creativity, Enquiry and Curiosity

During Winter we have been;

- Developing our knowledge of the world around us and how to care for living things while participating in the Big Garden Bird watch.
- Developing our curiosity as we investigated artic animals. We learned the names of these and used our imagination to role play with the animals in an artic tuff tray with ice.
- Participating in freestyle painting. Painting promotes children's creativity, encourages neural connections, builds fine motor skills, is a precursor to writing and helps them understand themselves and their world.
- Developing our enquiry skills as we explored the Chinese Zodiac symbol of the Tiger. We created our own tiger playdough and investigated our tiger tuff tray.

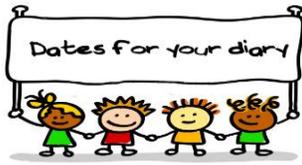
Relationships

We have welcomed new children into the Bluebells this season. Relationships are essential to a young child's health and wellbeing and within the Bluebells we ensure everyone is welcomed into a safe, secure, loving environment, Building strong bonds with keyworkers to offer reassurance, security and continuity to each individual child.

The Bluebells have also formed good relationships with each other and are developing their turn taking and sharing skills while working in team games such as ball games, the hat game and sandy boy/ girl.



Nursery Information



21/2/22- 6/3/22: Fairtrade Fortnight
1/2/22: Pancake Day
4/3/22: World Book Day
27/3/22: Mother's Day
4/4/22- 18/4/22- Schools closed- Nursery Class children off & return 19/4/22
2/5/22: Schools closed- Nursery class children off
5/5/22: schools closed- Nursery class children off

Employee/ Apprentice of the Year 2021

Apprentice of the Year 2021: Jenna
4th place runner up Employee of the Year: Kirsty
3rd place runner up Employee of the Year: Stacey
2nd place runner up Employee of the Year: Gillian (Jolly)
Employee of the Year 2021: Ashleigh



A huge big thank you to everyone that voted !!!

Committee Information

Charities/ Events

Robert Burns Day

On 25th January 2022 all rooms celebrated Robert Burns day with the children learning a range of rhymes/ poems including 'Behold the Hour the Boat Arrives', 'Wren's Nest' and 'Red Red Rose'

The children participated in a range of experiences such as designing their own statues using playdough, tartan painting and tasting some yummy Scottish food at lunch time.

Chinese New Year

It is the Year of the Tiger and all rooms have been participating in a range of experiences such as investigating Chinese letters and numbers and developing early mark making skills while creating their own Chinese writing. The children have also been enhancing their fine motor movements by learning how to use chopsticks to lift and eat food and explored the Chinese symbol for Tiger.

Valentine's Day

The children enhanced their creativity skills as they made their own choices to design cards for their loved ones and participated in a range of tuff tray experiences relating to valentines day which included frozen hearts, various sizes and shaped petals and a range of bottles for making 'love potions'.

Eco

We have been investigating ways to 'reuse' items and the Snowdrops have been using recycled cardboard tubes to create a pom pom drop experience and used recycled paper balls for an activity called 'snowball rescue'. Our Thistles have focused greatly on eco issues and global warming and how we can all help to save the planet. They discussed what the COP 26 summit was about and its importance for future generations.

Citizenship

We have been developing knowledge of the world around us and changes which occur in Winter. Some of the rooms have been helping to care for nature by creating bird feeders to hang outdoors for the wildlife and have been observing the birds which came to visit us as part of the Big Garden Bird Watch.

Christmas Appeals

A huge big thank you to everyone that kindly donated to the Food Bank. During December all collections were taken to East Dunbartonshire Foodbank and they were delighted with the amount we were able to provide for local families in need.



We would also like to thank everyone that participated in our annual Christmas Jumper Week. Overall we raised a total of £260 for cash for kids.



Facebook

We would like to remind everyone that each room has their own private Facebook groups where they share photos over the week of the children's learning experiences (children are only displayed on this page if they have parents/ family members within the group).

Should you wish to join the private Facebook group relevant to your child's room please email the nursery directly and identify who you would like to add to the group. Please note there is a maximum of 4 people per family allowed access.



Some requests

Outdoor play

As the weather is beginning to improve we are hoping for a good summer and will begin preparing our sun cream plans shortly. Can all parents please ensure that their children come fully prepared for all weathers e.g. sunhat/ winter hat, wellies, waterproof etc. These should be in a named bag and remain in the nursery for all days within the week. **Please refer to Recovery plan.**

Spare Clothes

Please can you ensure that your child has a minimum of 2 full changes of clothes in their named bag, should you believe your child may need more than 2 changes please provide these. We no longer have any 'spare' clothes which children can borrow should this be required. **If your child does not have a change of clothing we will need to contact you in order to obtain clothing. Please refer to Recovery plan.**

Children's toys/comforters

To minimise risks, children cannot bring toys from home at this time, however we will still accept comforters. If a child has a blanket, then we ask that the parent provides a duplicate which remains in nursery or that a named plastic container/named plastic bag which can be fully sealed, is provide for this to be stored in when not in use. Please ensure that any personal comforters etc. are washed on a regular basis. **Please refer to Recovery plan.**