

# Riverside Childcare Ltd

## Newsletter -Buttercups

### Winter 21/22



#### Health & Wellbeing

During Winter we have been...

- Learning about vegetables as we discussed the importance of healthy food. We also used the vegetables to mark make in the paint.
- Developing our knowledge of the world around us and how to care for living things while participating in the Big Garden Bird watch.
- Exploring different ways we can move our bodies as we danced to a variety of music including Scottish bag pipes, Chinese drums as well as our new busy bodies song; 'Do you want to be a superhero?'.
- Exploring outdoors in all weathers and got to experience snow !! We used paint to make marks in the snow developing our gross and fine motor skills.
- We have been learning to share and take turns as we participate in a range of experiences such as playing on the trikes in the garden, waiting our turn to go down the slide and rolling the balls down the tubes.

#### Numeracy and Literacy

During Winter we have been;

- Developing our early numeracy skills while exploring the different sized jugs and used them to fill with water and empty.
- Using the paint and sticks to mix a variety of colours into the shaving foam and were able to begin recognising the colours red, green, blue and yellow.
- Enhancing our language skills as we explore our focus book 'The Magic Sky' which has taught us new words including long and huge.
- Developing our early literacy skills as we have been using the chalk, pens and crayons to make our own marks. Mark making in the early years is when children start to intentionally create their own lines, patterns or shapes using their bodies or tools. It is the first step in a child's developmental journey to writing and drawing.

#### Creativity, Enquiry and Curiosity

During Winter we have been;

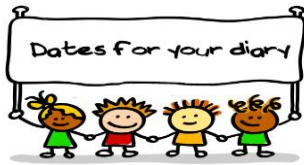
- Developing our creativity as we used a variety of items to paint with throughout the season including Christmas baubles, tin foil, cotton buds and cars.
- Developing our curiosity and problem solving skills while using a range of tools to break the ice and free the frozen leaves and flowers.
- Exploring our new busy board and enquiring how each part works e.g. locks opening/closing, spinning the wheels around, beeping the horn and pressing the switches.

#### Relationships

We have welcomed new children into the Buttercups this season and in Buttercups the importance of respecting children and ensuring they are welcomed into a safe, secure, loving and familiar environment cannot be overstated. It is essential that all staff working with children are aware of their responsibilities in ensuring and promoting positive relationships with children and our keyworker system helps ensure strong relationships are created with not just children but their families also.



# 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  
4<sup>th</sup> place runner up Employee of the Year: Kirsty  
3<sup>rd</sup> place runner up Employee of the Year: Stacey  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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 25<sup>th</sup> 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.**