

Riverside Childcare Ltd

Newsletter - Poppies

Winter 21/22



Health & Wellbeing

During Winter we have been....

- Developing our awareness of feelings/ emotions and how to express these through a range of experiences including mirroring emotions and emotion dice.
- Learning about living things and how they grow, develop and are nurtured by caring for our plants and flowers.
- Exploring the outdoors in all weathers and learning about how different weather is formed e.g. wind, ice, rain, snow. We also went walks along the walkway to identify the changes happening around us to the trees, plants and wildlife.
- Developing our fine motor skills and learning how to stay safe while using tools to practice hammering/ screwing nails and screws into wood/ cardboard boxes etc. and discussing their findings.

Numeracy and Mathematics

During Winter we have been....

- Learning about the value of money while roleplaying in our home corner restaurant.
- Using the scales to measure and weigh the ingredients for our baking experiences.
- Investigating the sizes and skeletons of dinosaurs in comparison to humans and have been counting the difference in bones between the two species. We worked as a team to create our own dinosaur and became archaeologists as we used our tuff tray to dig for bones/ dinosaurs which we created ourself.
- Participating in minibeast hunts while outdoors and used our minibeast tick lists to identify the types of insects we found and discussed the colours and how many legs etc each one have.

Literacy and English

During Winter we have been...

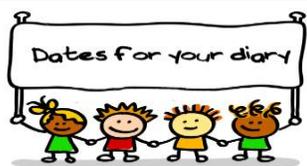
- Developing our writing skills while creating our own shopping lists for ingredients we required to purchase at the shops.
- Turning the home corner into a 'restaurant' and designed our own menus for our customers.
- Linking with a local care home and performed some of our Christmas Show songs for them via a live private link online.
- Enhancing our knowledge of the country we live in while celebrating Robert Burns Day. We also had a special visit from Amy who played a few songs on the bagpipes for us.
- Exploring other methods of mark making by using the sticks outdoors to make marks in the mud.

Other Experiences

During Winter we have been...

- Developing our creativity skills as we designed our own cards, calendars and presents as part of our Christmas experiences.
- Responsible citizens by learning about the importance of looking after our community and its wildlife by litter picking.
- Participating in a range of science experiments with paint to investigate what paint can do e.g. bubble painting, squeezzy tube paints etc.
- Focusing on a pirate project and created a pirate tuff tray using characters, a boat and water. We also created our own maps using coffee to stain the paper and marked an 'X' where the treasures were buried.

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
11/6/22: Pre School Graduation

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.**