

Riverside Childcare Ltd

Newsletter - Snowdrops

Winter 21/22



Health & Wellbeing

During Winter we have been....

- Moving our bodies whilst using streamers and musical instruments dancing to the Christmas music at our Christmas parties.
- Exploring outdoors in all weather and with the recent snow fall we were able to go sledging all around the garden.
- Reintroducing our daily toothbrushing as part of our routine. The Snowdrops show great enthusiasm every morning at 9am when we put out our toothbrushing mat and toothbrushes whilst singing our toothbrush song promoting good oral health.
- Visiting our new outdoor area which has been purposely renovated for Snowdrops to include a sheltered area with artificial grass inside.
- Experiencing new tastes and textures (children 1 and over) with our winter menu. A healthy balance diet is needed to support brain function, ensuring healthy growth and development in young children.

Numeracy and Literacy

During Winter we have been;

- Exploring our December focus book 'That's Not My Santa'. We had lots of 'HO HO HO's during this month as we experienced Christmas together.
- Investigating our focus book for January and February 'That's not my Penguin' and learning our rhyme 'Snowflake rhyme'. Offering opportunities for new stories and rhymes are fun ways to develop early literacy.
- Enhancing our senses while exploring the size, shape and weight of the artic animals in ice.
- Participating in a pom pom drop which had various sizes of tubes and big and small pom poms encouraging early numeracy skills.
- Reading one of our favourite stories this season 'How To Bath Your Dinosaur'. The children were able to bath their own dinosaurs in crazy soap to extend their learning and knowledge of this book.

Creativity, Enquiry and Curiosity

During Winter we have been;

- Enhancing our creativity while designing our own Christmas card, calendar, letter to Santa and reindeer food for Rudolph.
- Developing our curiosity as we explored real snow which we brought in from the garden.
- Learning about penguins with our focus book and created our own art work using penguins and paint to mark make.
- Using our 'problem solving basket' with artic animals to navigate the artic animals out the basket safely.
- Experiencing reflections and light while using tin foil, light up sticks and torches.
- Participating in a 'Winter Snowman' sensory bag which included pom poms, carrots, conditioner and real images of hats and scarfs to touch and explore.

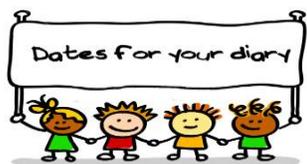
Relationships

We have welcomed new children into the Snowdrops this season. Relationships are essential to a baby's health and wellbeing and within the snowdrops 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.



If you haven't done so already, we would appreciate if you could please bring in/ email a family photo including pets etc. to add to our family tree board.

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.**