

Riverside Childcare Ltd

Riverside

Newsletter - Bluebells



Spring 2023

Numeracy and Literacy

We have been...

- exploring the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and enhanced our numeracy skills as we counted the different fruits and learned about portions and mathematical language e.g. half, quarter etc. while sharing the fruit.
- Participating in science week and developed our colour sorting and matching skills while taking part in the skittle rainbow experiment.
- Developing our knowledge of a fire fighters role and used a range of media to research this. We used our imagination to become firefighters and put out our 'fire' using the spray bottles and learned the song '5 Little Fire Fighters'.
- Learning about the concept of weight and measurement while participating in baking experiences such as making pizzas.

Health and Wellbeing

We have been...

- Participating in a range of experiences to celebrate St Patricks Day and developed our gross motor skills as we learned to Irish dance. Taking part in dancing promotes fitness, flexibility, improves balance, develops spatial awareness, improves communication and an appreciation for art.
- Exploring good hand hygiene while participating in our 'germs' tuff tray with the pepper and soap experiment.
- Learning the importance of caring for living things by nurturing the growth of our sunflowers. Thank you to everyone that has shared their wonderful photos.
- Learning about hospitals and the role of doctors and nurses as some of the children embarked on hospital visits. The children created their own hospital and roleplayed caring for the babies using the doctors box.
- Developing our physical skills while participating in an obstacle course which encouraged the children to climb, crawl, run, jump and hop etc.

Creativity, Enquiry and Curiosity

We have been...

- Exploring the concept of floating and sinking using items that the children found around the room and worked as a team to help identify the outcome of each one.
- Exploring colour and pattern while creating our own symmetrical butterfly paintings.
- Developing our curiosity and enquiry while participating in heuristic play sessions. Heuristic play encourages open ended play opportunities allowing the children to explore, learn and develop in a completely natural way. The main playroom is cleared away of all resources and equipment. We then set up 'stations' of everyday objects including pine cones, wooden pegs, metal lids, rollers, wooden curtain rings, mug trees, feathers, ribbons, metal keys etc alongside plenty of baskets, containers and bags for filling and emptying.

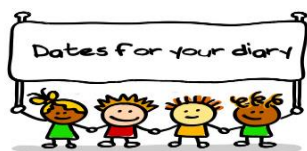
Realising the Ambition

Play is an intrinsic part of human nature and development. For babies and children, the essential role of play is well documented. Through play a child develops their cognitive, social, emotional and physical capabilities.

We know how important it is for children to be give time to play throughout the day to follow their own line of enquiry or individual interest. Play is often thought of as children's work (Isaacs, 1930) and anyone observing children absorbed in play can see how hard they work.



Nursery Information



29/6/23- Schools closed for summer- term time children off nursery

Bluebells – Teddy Bears Picnic – date TBC

16/8/23- Schools reopen- term time children return

22/9/23 & 25/9/23 - Schools closed- term time children off

13/10-20/10/23- schools closed- term time children off

22/12/23- Nursery closes 6pm for Christmas and reopens Monday 8th January

Monthly Awards for going over and above

March Awards

- *Jade
- *Cheryl
- *Sinead
- *Ashleigh

April Awards

- * Shannon
- * Noah
- * Gill



May Awards

- * Cheryl
- * Jolly
- * Ashleigh

Our Committees

Charities & Events –

Easter

Throughout April all rooms participated in a range of Easter experiences such as Easter Bunny posting box, following instructions to make our own cakes and enhancing our knowledge of size and colour as we found the Easter eggs in crazy soap.

World Book Day

Some children chose to bring in their favourite stories to share with their friends as part of our World Book Day celebrations. Reading daily with children improves communication and attention skills, develops their imagination, questioning skills, confidence and gives them a love for reading and a thirst for knowledge.

Kings Coronation

To commemorate the Kings coronation all rooms participated in a array of experiences including writing 'letters' to the king, designing a Buckingham Palace Tuff tray, hosted an afternoon tea party and created our own flags.

Science Week

We became scientists while investigating a range of experiments including a gravity ball maze, creating our own lava lamps and erupting volcanoes and learning how to melt snow/ice. Poppies also hosted a science workshop which families were invited to attend.

Fairtrade

From 27/2/23- 10/3/23 the rooms participated in a range of Fairtrade experiences to celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight. This included mark making with cotton wool balls and cotton buds, investigating Fairtrade coffee playdough and developing their imagination as they roleplayed with the pigs in 'mud' (fairtrade chocolate) and our Old McDonald farm.

Eco/ Garden/ community links

The Snowdrops have been exploring the concept of re-using by creating their own pom pom drop experience using various sizes of recycled tubes.

Buttercups celebrated Earth Day by using the fishing nets to help clear the rubbish from the ocean developing their curiosity and also enhanced their fine motor and creativity as they created their own earth pictures.

The Bluebells have been caring for living things while plating their own sunflowers and watching them grow at home with their families.

The Poppies have been responsible citizens while learning about waste and the impact this has on our environments. The children participated in multiple walks along the walkway to collect a variety of litter as part of the 'Keep Scotland Beautiful' campaign.

Nursery Information

Some requests

Outdoor play

As the weather has been a lot warmer can you please ensure your child has appropriate clothing and footwear for garden play for all weather e.g. sunhat, shorts, t-shirt, sunglasses etc. These should be in a named bag and remain in the nursery for all days within the week. **If your child does not have a sunhat we will need to contact you in order to obtain one**. 😊

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.**

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.

Drop off / collections

If there is someone at your child's room door already speaking to a staff member; please ensure you leave adequate space to allow for any private conversations. Should you wish to speak in private, please speak to the staff member and they can bring you into the reception area or alternatively contact the nursery to speak to a member of the team directly.

Family Photos

If your child attends a 0-3 year old room, please remember to bring in a family photo or alternatively email a family photo to admin@riversidechildcare.org.uk

Access via gates/ doors.

Can we please remind all families that under no circumstances should the gates/ doors be held open for other parents/ carers, visitors etc as it is vital that they must know the code in order to gain access or be approved to enter the building by a staff member via the buzzer system.

Should you have to carry your child and their belongings when exiting, a staff member will assist you with the gate if required.

Tappy Toes

Some of our Poppy Seeds and Poppies have been participating in a music and movement class within our Wellbeing building across the road with a local company called 'Tappy Toes'.

Natalie at Tappy Toes offers 30 minute classes throughout East Dunbartonshire for children aged 6 months to 5 years. Further information about her classes can be found at www.tappytoes.com/franchisees/toddler-classes-east-dunbartonshire .

A 10% discount is available on these classes please quote 'RIVERSIDE'

