

Riverside Childcare Ltd

Riverside Newsletter - Buttercups



Spring 2023

Numeracy and Literacy

We have been...

- Exploring the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and used our story spoons to retell the story and investigate the sequence of events.
- 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 with resources including corks, metal lids, pine cones, wooden pegs etc.
- Investigating a range of colours and enhancing our matching and sorting skills while participating in our pom-pom drop activity.
- Developing our early literacy skills as we made marks using crayons against the tree and using sticks in the shaving foam.

We are going to...

- Develop our early literacy skills as we explore our focus book 'The Gruffalo'

Health and Wellbeing

We have been...

- Developing our gross motor skills as we hopped, skipped, jumped and crawled along the caterpillar.
- Learning about the world around us as we planted sunflower seeds and learned how to care for them by watering them and watching them grow.
- Discussing healthy foods as we explored 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' story and used various fruits to paint a picture.
- Exploring the world around us and learning how to care for living things while participating in a bug hunt outdoors.
- Practising our new dances during busy bodies such as 'shake it off' and 'I like to move it'. Participating in daily busy bodies promotes fitness, flexibility, improves balance, develops spatial awareness, improves communication and an appreciation for art.

We are going to...

- Continue to enhance our gross motor skills by going on a 'Safari' walk outdoors.

Creativity, Enquiry and Curiosity

We have been...

- Creative learners as we participated in different painting activities such as freestyle painting, rolling the cars through the paint and down the slide and creating our own symmetrical butterflies.
- Developing our curiosity as we searched the sand to find hidden fruits. We enhanced our language skills as we learned the names of each of the fruits.
- Investigating our 'problem solving basket' and searching for the animals and butterflies to manipulate them out to safety.
- Developing our enquiry skills as we explored the light up toys and discussed the difference between light and dark and investigated shadows.
- Enhancing our curiosity as we created our own playdough mixed with flowers.

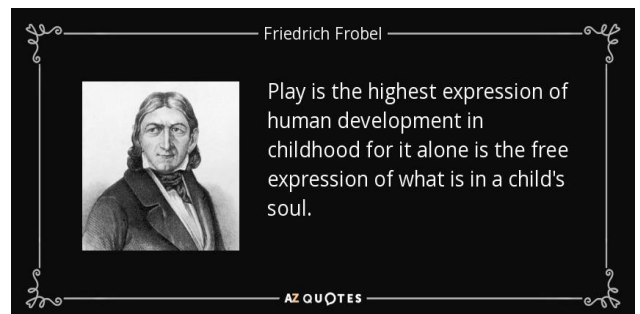
we are going to...

- Introduce a sensory beach tuff tray

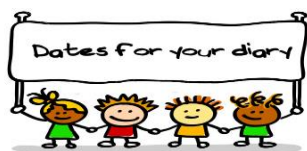
Realising the Ambition

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 given 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'

