

Riverside Childcare Ltd

Riverside

Newsletter - Poppies



Spring 2023

Health & Wellbeing

We have been...

- Learning how to care for living things as we observed the life cycle of a caterpillar & tadpole.
- Spending time outdoors participating in a scavenger hunt with characters from the story 'The Snail & The Whale'.
- Following instructions and learning what is required to care for living things while planting our own sunflower seeds and bulbs.
- Participating in energetic play outdoors and explored new ways we can move our bodies while playing hopscotch.
- Exploring the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and discussed what foods are healthy/unhealthy.
- Learning about the different kinds of work people do while exploring the role of an architect and used our imagination to design new houses for the 3 Little Pigs

Literacy & English

We have been...

- Introducing Makaton and learned the song 'If your happy and you know it'. We developed/ promoted resilience while learning about the emotions; happy, sad, excited & angry.
A parent came to stay and play to teach us some new signs and have been working hard to learn the signs for good morning, please, thank you
- Focusing on the story 'The Snail & the Whale' and developed our literacy skills as we made 'snail trail' messages with glue sticks and flour.
- Roleplaying in a 'classroom' as teacher and pupils developing our confidence and self-esteem and discussing our feelings as some of the children begin their transition to School in August.
- Focusing on the story 3 Little Pigs and the children developed their imagination as they retold the story and performed as their characters. We discussed stranger danger and that an adult should open doors.

Numeracy & Mathematics

We have been...

- Using the digging tools and magnifying glasses to participate in bug hunts outdoors. We discussed the different types of bugs we found and identified how many legs, wings etc each one had.
- Developing our knowledge of weight, volume and measurement while participating in a range of science experiments' using beacons, measuring jugs, spoons, scales etc.
- Investigating the concept of time by exploring a range of clocks and creating our own. We also participated in what's the time my wolf and practised counting in rote 1-12.
- Developing our turn taking skills while playing snakes and ladders. We used the dice to identify value and enhanced our counting skills to move to the correct position.
- Introducing fractions and learned 2 halves make a whole. During breakfast the children used the bagels, toast and fruit to identify half.

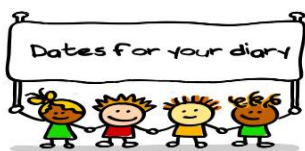
Wellbeing Building

Over the past few months we have been working hard on implementing a new wellbeing building situated across the road from the main building. Laura has recently completed training around nurture and met with our EDC Quality Improvement Officer to gain ideas for the environment. Laura will also be working with Maureen (Health & Wellbeing Champion) to ensure the implementation of the wellbeing building is a success.

We have created a 'Nurture Nook' within this area and the children have been creating their own posters using empowering phrases and learning about the GIRFEC wellbeing indicators: SHANARRI.

The children have been helping to choose new resources and some children have participated in small nurture sessions. Over the coming weeks the children will be developing their knowledge and understanding of wellbeing and how this affects our bodies and minds. The children will be participating in a range of discussion about our emotions and feelings and will participate in mindfulness sessions, a range of exercises and focus on relaxation techniques.

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'

