

Riverside Childcare Ltd

Riverside Newsletter - Snowdrops



Spring 2023

Numeracy and Literacy

We have been...

- Learning about spring with our focus rhyme 'spring chicken' and book 'Oh Dear'.
- Participating in various experiences with the animals from 'Oh Dear' including finding them in shredded paper, rescuing the animals from the tin foil parcels and mark making with them.
- Communicating in a variety of ways, discovering new things and interacting with others. Babies will do this by practising their skills over and over gain returning to previous connections in order to make sense of their world. (Realising the ambition: being a baby)
- Investigating the concept of big and small as we participated in the pom-pom drop experience.
- Creating Buckingham Palace during the Kings Coronation celebrations. The children used different shapes, sizes and weights of blocks to manipulate together along with a real image of the palace to explore

Health and Wellbeing

We have been...

- Participating in a range of experiences outdoors including mark making on the walls with paper and sponges, practising walking with the push along toys, taking steps on the various surfaces, practising stepping up and down levels and developing our ball skills by learning how to roll and kick a ball. 'Experiencing fresh air and being outdoors in different weathers and natural environments develops my understanding of life and benefits my wellbeing' (Realising the ambition: being me)
- Using our new indoor trampoline, developing our gross motor skills and co-ordination as we climb on and off and lift our feet to bounce.
- Investigating the relaxation basket which includes soft shaving brush, 2 wheel massager, 4 wheel massage roller and a tripod massager.
- Exploring our new 2 metre long fibre optic spray. This resource provides visual stimulation, encourages focus and attention and creates calmness as you can touch, hold, capture and feel the fibre optic tails.

Creativity, Enquiry and Curiosity

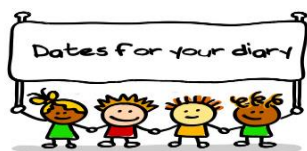
We have been...

- Enhancing our creative skills while making mothers day cards. The children were able to choose which card they wanted then were encouraged to use their hand and thumb to make their masterpiece.
- Using frozen paint to create our own Union Jack flags during our Kings Coronation celebrations.
- Participating in various experiences with Spring flowers as we learned about the new season and changes which occur throughout it. We enhanced our mark making skills with daffodils in crazy soap, posting flowers into the metal utensil holder, creating artwork using daffodils and paint, and heightening our senses while touching and exploring frozen flowers.
- Developing our fine motor skills while using the crates, tyres and guttering outdoors to roll the Easter eggs then collect them in our little chick bag.

We have been 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.



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'

