



Inverurie Summer Newsletter - July 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

We are well into summer and all the children are thoroughly enjoying their time outdoors - the big hit being the new climbing frame!

We have had a great term and are saddened to be saying goodbye to our school leavers. Graduation was a great success, and we wish all the pre-school children all the luck in the world, off on their new adventure - they will smash it!! Remember to visit!

For those who are heading off on holiday, I hope you all have a fab time, and we can't wait to hear all the stories upon your return.

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend our annual Parents Evening. We received great feedback from those who returned their evaluation forms – 19 Very Beneficial and 4 Beneficial!

Staff News

Jodi Douglas & Elize Bruce are still working through their SVQ Level 3 and are progressing well!

At the end of April, we welcomed Adele Ritchie to the 2-3 Room. Adele works Monday – Friday, 9.30 – 3pm so she does not see many of the parents, however she has been a great asset to the room.

In May, we welcomed Ellen Smith to the team. Ellen has been working between the 0-2 Room (Tuesday & Wednesdays) and the 2-3 Room (Monday & Fridays), enjoying her time with both age groups.

We said a Fairwell to Pip at the end of June, who has now gone off on maternity leave. We wish her well when the time comes and can't wait to meet the new addition. In Pip's absence, we have now welcomed Nicole Booth to the 3-5 team. Nicole works Wednesday – Friday, 7.30am – 6pm.

Sadly, Chloe Muirhead will be leaving us to take up a teaching assistant post in a school. We wish her all the best. Erin Lamont, maternity cover Room Leader of the 2-3 Room will be stepping up as Pre-School Room Leader of the 3-5 room, and she is very much looking forwards to the challenge. Eilidh Littlejohn from the 0-2 Room will therefore step up to being Trainee Room Leader of the 2-3 Room.

We are pleased to announce that Jorja Cameron, 0-2 Room Leader/Assistant Manager will continue as Assistant Manager, as Joanne Noble will be moving to our nursery in Kintore in August to become 2-3 Room Leader when she returns from her maternity leave.

Charity of the Year 2024

This year's chosen charity is Kayleigh's Wee Stars, which provides financial support for families who have a child with a terminal illness. Kayleigh's Wee Stars is based in Oldmeldrum,

Aberdeenshire, and is run by four trustees and a CEO who all work together to maximise the charity's fundraising efforts to enable families to be supported when they need it most. Money raised goes to families throughout Scotland and the charity has connections with hospices and hospitals across Scotland. We can't wait to fundraise for this amazing charity this year and we hope you can support us with this too.

We held our very popular Coffee Morning on Saturday 23rd March which was a great success as always! We managed to raise a fantastic **£1184.00**. Thank you to all the families who came through the door - we received positive feedback in our evaluation.

We have just completed another successful Sports day on Saturday 29th June which was held at the Sport's field across the road, and what a turn out it was!! We hosted an array of races (the parents one being the highlight) with refreshments, lucky dip and tattoos on offer! Thank you to everyone who came along and to those who got sponsors, we appreciate the support! We managed to raise a whopping **£1108.85** which is FANTASTIC!

Just a reminder that last year, all the nurseries raised a total of £11,486.69 to help the Great Ormond Street Zayed Centre for Research into Rare Diseases in Children. Great Ormond Street works alongside University College London tackling some of the most challenging children's diseases.

The money raised will be used: -

- To develop groundbreaking treatment for babies born with rare birth defects to the oesophagus (OA) where the upper part of the oesophagus fails to connect with the lower portion of the stomach.
- To evaluate the impact of early genetic testing and diagnostic outcomes for babies with epilepsy, monitoring seizures and measuring progress of diagnosis.
- For delivery of not-for-profit Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products for rare diseases.

All about Me/Contact Details

Thank you to everyone who returned their updated Contact and All about me sheets, and Care plans. Please can I ask if you have not returned your All about me sheet, please do so as soon as possible, as this helps to strengthen the link between nursery and home. Please continue to let us know of any changes to personal details, to ensure we have the most up to date records for your child all year round.

Weather Appropriate Clothing/Bags

We have recently been experiencing rain recently, so can we ask that you are vigilant with appropriate clothing to suit the forecast. We do look at going out in all weathers, so changes of clothes within your child's bags, as well as waterproofs/wellies are beneficial. Can you also ensure that bags are well stocked, ensuring pants & socks and a few changes are available in case of any mishaps/water tray etc

Outings/Trips

Both the 2-3's and the 3-5's enjoyed their trips to Aden Country Park in Mintlaw. The weather was on our side for both outings, and the children were an asset to the nursery, showing their best behaviour and being responsible.

Aden has a great big park that we all managed to explore - a wee museum and lovely grounds to have a walk. We saw a pond, ducks, a monkey puzzle tree, a castle ruin, and not to mention the children's favourite – the tree house!!

The children loved going on the big bus and having a picnic snack and lunch.



Each trip is rotated on different days to ensure that all children have the chance to attend one over the course of the year.

All trips are risk assessed and permission is sought from parents prior to attending.

Learning Experiences

Book bug

The 0-2's and 2-3's enjoyed a session from Book bug, where they get opportunities to listen to lovely stories, as well as sing songs as part of a group. The children always sit so well at these sessions, and some of the younger children learn new nursery rhymes.



0-2 Room



The babies have been loving getting out for fresh air in the buggies, with some of the older children getting the opportunity to walk, holding hands, which allows for independence and responsibility. Sometimes, when out, we walk past a chicken coop which has an honesty box, and the children have loved watching the chickens from the comfort of the buggies.

The boys and girls went on a trip to Morrisons one day, where they had the opportunity to choose their own snack. The favourite was definitely the blueberry muffins, yum!!

The children have also been to visit the police station and the Garioch Sports Centre. We were all welcomed warmly as we looked around inside.

Book Week – This was a great week, exploring the various books we have on offer and incorporating them into play. The children got the opportunity to develop various skills throughout the day, painting with the dabbers to make Elmers Spots, pressing and rolling with the Hungry Caterpillar, and counting and pinching when going on a bear hunt.



2-3 Room

The 2-3 room had their very own live caterpillars to look after. This sparked discussions about what happens when a caterpillar grows. The children told us they need food to grow, and when they grow up, they turn into butterflies. We all enjoyed taking the time to learn all about caterpillars and what they become. The children checked them each day and helped to feed and water them once they hatched from their cocoons. Once the butterflies had fully formed, they were released into the garden.



The children loved our Emotion week, learning all about their feelings and what they all look like as visuals. Looking in the mirror, each child pulled a different face and then placed the correct emotion into the correct emotion column.



The children enjoyed a trip to Morrisons to buy some seeds to grow, choosing runner beans and tomato seeds. Once back at nursery, they enjoyed planting them, and then, as the weeks went on, we watched them grow. We learnt about what they need to grow, and each child took a turn to water them daily.

This past term has been a very caring and nurturing one. The children have really enjoyed looking after and caring for things, and have been keen to watch their progress. This has enabled everyone to participate in class discussions and speak about how they felt in a nurturing environment.

3-5 Room

The children have loved having their very own playdough making station within the room, where they are encouraged to make their own playdough following the visual guides. The children have been so good at following the instructions and problem solving with quantities, adding more flour if it's a bit sticky. It has been so good to see.





We have a new quiet/calm area in the room and the children have been enjoying a safe space to regulate their emotions during a busy nursery day. It has been actively used daily and the children have shown respect for the resources. We have had lots of discussions about emotions, using the emotions monsters and colour story on a regular basis. We have also purchased a collection of different emotion books that the children often ask to read.

The children have been enjoying using the loose parts when out in the garden to build their own obstacle courses, using fantastic problem-solving skills, as well as developing good balance and gross motor skills whilst walking across the planks and jumping down. The children enjoy getting outside daily.



Wee Green Space



We continue to have our weekly visits to our 'Wee Green Space', learning more and more about the outdoors.

We have five groups that are rotated on a weekly basis. You will have been informed who is in which group and what day they plan to go. Can you please ensure your child is fully equipped for their trip that day.



Parental Involvement

Using our Interactive Diary – 360 app, we love to see you posting observations from Home! These are a fantastic talking point for the children which leads to extending their learning further at nursery.

All rooms have access to the app and we like to make it as interactive as possible through the use of home learning, any upcoming events, and daily activities.

Show & Tell

Show and Tell happens on a weekly basis and helps to build the children's confidence as well as their vocabulary when speaking in front of a group. Children can take in an item/picture relating to



the chosen theme. Please see the list which is situated on the 2-3 and 3-5 door as you enter. These dates are also put up on their ILD and the Summers website.

Upcoming Dates For Your Diary

Tempest Photography - Friday October 11th
Pizza Week- Wk. 21st October
Halloween Parties – Thursday 31st October
Bacon Roll Week – Wk. 4th November
Christmas Fayre – 23rd November
Ante Pre School-Trip – Date to be confirmed (First week of December)
2-3 Trip – Friday 6th December (to be confirmed)
Pre School Pantomime – 10th December
3-5 Nativity – December (date to be confirmed)
0-2 Christmas Party – Monday 16th December
2-3 Christmas Party – Monday 16th December
3-5 Christmas Party – Wednesday 18th December

Thank you

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