



Wee Rascals Too Summer Newsletter - July 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Another busy term has flown by! The team and I have worked very hard to create positive changes, implement our Improvement Plan and document the hard work put in place - resulting in a great Care Inspectorate report which you were all e mailed, and can be found on the Care Inspectorate website. We also have a paper copy of the report in the hallway which you can read at any time. I would like to thank you all for your support throughout the year.

As always, it is now that time of year where our school leavers have graduated and will be off to start Primary One soon! We wish them all the best on their new journey, and we will miss them all!

Staffing Update

Sadly, Shauna from the Busy Bee room and Jill from Little Bunnies are leaving us in a couple of weeks to join a new nursery closer to where they live. We wish them all the best in the future!

Emma Hardie will be taking over from Shauna. Emma is a qualified Practitioner and holds a degree in Psychology. She has 3 years of experience working with children and has worked with children in the 2-5-year age group whilst at nursery.

Katy Nugent is moving to this area from down south and will be taking over from Jill. Katy is fully qualified and has experience working with all age groups at nursery.

We would like to welcome back Joanne Noble from her maternity leave in August as Room Leader of the Cheeky Monkey room. Joanne comes from our Inverurie nursery, and prior to this, she worked at our Wee Rascals nursery across the road. She has worked for us for over 11 years.

Finally, I am thrilled to announce that I am expecting baby number two which I am very excited about!



Interactive 360 App

Thank you all so much for the Home Learning entries on the App - it is great to see what your little ones are up to at home! We base a lot of our learning around the children's interests.

Charity

Kayleigh's Wee Stars is our charity of the year. This is a charity which supports families financially with a child who has a terminal illness. The charity is based in Oldmeldrum but the money goes to families throughout Scotland, and supports those parents financially who need to take time off to be with their children in these very tragic circumstances. It has strong connections with hospices and hospitals across Scotland.

Last year, all the nurseries raised a total of £11, 386.47 to help the Great Ormond Street Zayed Centre for Research into Rare Diseases in Children. Great Ormond Street works along with 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.

We held our Sports day on Saturday the 27th which was a success. We raised £380 from our bottle stalls, lucky dip, tuck shop and bottle hamper, and we will let you know the final raised from our sponsor forms once we receive them all back. If you have still to return a sponsor form, please could you do so as soon as possible. Thank you all so much for coming along and supporting!



Outdoor Clothing

Please ensure clothing in your child's bag is weather appropriate. Lots of spares are essential and weather appropriate items too. Please ensure these are named.

All About Me Forms

Just a reminder for all rooms to return their All About Me Sheets as soon as possible. These are kept in the children's Personal Plan files and are used to help follow up next steps and planning! It is also beneficial for your child's key worker to learn all about their key child and anything new they are learning at home!

Learning Experiences

Little Bunnies

The Little Bunnies have been very busy this term, focusing on outdoor learning, enjoying the sunshine that we have had, and even joining the Busy Bees on a trip to the Wee Green Space! Activities have been brought outdoors and mealtimes have also been enjoyed in the garden! The children showed a huge interest in their 'Under the Sea' topic and have been exploring different textures in messy trays, creating an 'Under the Sea' wall display - they even went fishing using a fishing rod game!

They have now moved on to 'On the Farm' and have recently been creating their own tractors using different coloured and shaped paper.

Within the room, responsive learning takes place all the time - responding to children's interests, what they have been up to at home, which include next steps that they may be working on within nursery or at home.

The Little Bunnies also loved having a visit from 'Moo Music' - a musical class that created lots of laughter, learning new songs and working together to move their bodies well!





Cheeky Monkeys

The Cheeky Monkeys have also been super busy this term - off on a bus visiting Castle Fraser for a Teddy Bears Picnic! - exploring the Castle grounds, visiting the inside of the Castle and playing at the Park! They have also been heading out weekly when they can to enjoy the local community,

The children enjoyed exploring different cultures, creating their own henna handprints, painting their own temples and making Chinese lanterns!

For their Sports topic, they used the side access of the garden to enter their 'outdoor classroom' - they used the side garden to play tennis, football and golf! They also learnt about fitness, learning how to move their bodies well and use their co-ordination.



Busy Bees

The Busy Bees had the best time on their summer trip to Innoflate! They bounced, slid and ran! We then visited the beach, collecting shells and then we stopped off at Forest Farm for an ice cream on the way home.

The Busy Bees also loved a visit from 'Relax Kids', delivering a relaxing yoga and stretch session!

They have learnt all about animals this term - particularly enjoying the life cycle of a frog. They learnt all about parrots and how they are born with no feathers, and then we focused on mice - which led onto learning about time from the nursery rhyme 'Hickory Dickory Dock!'

Planning again within the Busy Bees is responsive to the children's interests and next steps they are working on.



Following on from learning about animals, the children became engaged learning about the body. They created a life-sized body, learning about organs and what their purpose was. They then cut out body parts and stuck them onto the correct areas!

We have been working on SHANARRI within the room, remembering to be Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Respected, Responsible and Included! - filling up our pom pom jar as we achieve these! We recently filled the jar up to the top and the children asked if we could have some real chickens! so we compromised and gave them some rather cuddly plush toy chickens within the room to care for.



Kind regards,

Lauren Donald and Your Wee Rascals Too Team

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