



Wee Rascals Newsletter – February 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

The New Year feels like a distant memory now, and we hope you had a lovely Christmas, spending some family time over the festive period.

Hopefully, the storms and snow spells that we have been having are over - we are more than ready for summer!

Staffing

We have employed Isabella Pflieger (Izzy) who has taken over from Laura Petrie (Cheeky Monkey Room), working Monday to Friday, 9:30am-3:00pm.

Tanya MacIver will be taking over from Abbie in the Little Bunnies starting on the 4th of March. She will work a Tuesday to Friday, with a Monday off.

Charity

Last year's chosen charity was Kayleigh's Wee Stars, which provides financial support for families where a child has a terminal illness. Kayleigh's Wee Stars is based in Oldmeldrum, and the money raised goes to families throughout Scotland to support 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.

We are delighted to say that we raised an amazing **£2117.13** in total throughout 2024. We raised funds from our Sports Day, Open Day, and Sponsor Forms. We also had pizza sales, breakfast morning/PJ Day, as well commission from Tempest Photography. Many thanks for all your support and donations. All the nurseries managed to raise a massive **£12,297.39**.

This year, our chosen charity is *Archie's Child Bereavement Service* - further details will be going out shortly about this charity.

We are in the process of brainstorming ideas to fundraise, and we would love to hear your ideas! If you have any suggestions, please pop us an email or pass them onto a member of staff.

Learning Experiences

The children have been very busy over last term. Here are some highlights of what they have been up to.

Little Bunnies

The Little Bunnies have been cooking up a storm within their house corner. They used the resources to create their very own 'Christmas lunch!' The children used the pans, various Christmassy food items, and spoons to mix this together before serving it to their peers. It looked DELICIOUS!



The boys and girls got VERY messy whilst helping to make some slime, pouring glitter into the bowl to make it all green and sparkly! They then used the animals in the slime, making them jump and bounce, looking amused at the animal footprints they had created! Everyone loved feeling the texture of the slime, pulling it to stretch VERY far!



The children created lovely bright and colourful caterpillars! The boys and girls used the corks to dip into the different coloured paints before printing these onto their paper.



All the Little Bunnies really love using the playdough, rolling it into a ball before squashing it back down with their hands to spread it out. There have been some fantastic and lovely colourful butterflies and caterpillars made with it!

Cheeky Monkeys

Following on from the VERY cold weather we have had, the Cheeky Monkeys have been exploring with ice. We put water into disposable gloves and then placed them into the freezer. The children were surprised with the frozen and very cold hands when they came out! They loved how the ice felt slippery and turned their hands cold! – and they remarked how their hands felt cold. They saw the ice melt due to the warm temperature of the room and they were really curious with the new puddles they saw on the table, which of course led them to puddle in!



The children got very messy, 'shaving Santa's foam beard off' using their hands! The boys and girls loved feeling the texture of the shaving foam between their fingers and got super messy, clapping hands, making the shaving foam spray everywhere!



The Cheeky Monkeys went out for a walk to Sainsburys to pick up some ingredients for their baking. The children even helped the ladies to hand over the money to pay for the items at the till. This made them feel very responsible!

After returning to nursery, we all used the rolling pins and cutters to make our own gingerbread men. Once baked, the children took them home....and I wonder how many shared them with their family?!



The boys and girls have been having lots of fun outside in the garden, taking part in an 'Under the sea' obstacle course. This entailed them acting out as different animals which you can find in the sea. They went down the slide like 'seals', jumped in tyres like 'seahorses', through the tunnels like 'eels', walked like a 'crab' to the end where they then jumped like a 'starfish'! It was so much fun!

Busy Bees

The Busy Bees have been extremely busy last term. They have learned about Space, Christmas, and they are now learning about the World around us.

During their space topic, the children learnt all about the different planets in our solar system. Throughout this, they have learnt that there are 8 planets.



The children have also been continuing to develop their knowledge of shapes, as they drew squares, rectangles, and triangles to cut, creating their very own space rocket! They looked amazing! There was lots of creativity using the building resources – the children used their imaginations with the lego, mobilo and wooden blocks, using these to construct their own space rockets! They really looked like they could have zoomed us all up to space!



coming!

During their Christmas topic, the children were all were very excited for Santa

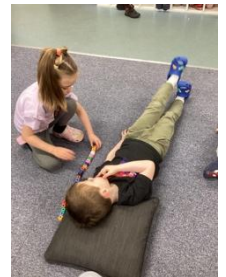


The boys and girls got very creative at the mark making table, decorating their own Christmas wreaths. They were given opportunities to use the paper plates, scissors, paint and glue to create these. Don't they look amazing?!

The boys and girls created their own elf, and they all demonstrated great team work as one of the children lay down on a large piece of paper and the other children drew around their peer. After this, they got to work, using the paper, pens, and pencils to decorate their elf. They looked fantastic! The children then decided to use the counting cubes to measure each other to find out who was the 'tallest elf' and who was the 'shortest elf'.



Since returning from the holidays, the children have been learning all about 'The World Around us.' During this topic they have already covered Robert Burns Day and Chinese New Year. They are all still very much enjoying this topic and cannot wait to share the fun activities that they cover during our next newsletter!



Trips/Visits

The Ante pre-school children had a visit to Codona's Amusement Park in Aberdeen, and the Pre-School children enjoyed watching a performance of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' at His Majesty's Theatre last term. The Cheeky Monkeys also had a fantastic time at Innoflate.

We had a great time with 'Once Upon a Tune' visiting the nursery, singing songs and reading stories to all the children.

Dates for your diary

Friday 27th June – Annual Reports will be sent out.
Thursday 3rd July – Pre-School Graduation Ceremony.
Wednesday 23rd July – Annual Parents Evening.

Kind regards

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