



Wee Rascals Newsletter – May 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you all had a lovely Easter weekend and have been enjoying the recent warm weather we have been having! Let's hope it continues!

Staffing

There are a few staff changes happening this term: -

Shannan Ross from the Little Bunnies room unfortunately left us on Thursday the 24th of April. Carrie Murray will be taking over from Shannan, and we will let you know when she will be starting with us.

Caitlin Moir from the Cheeky Monkey room has now moved to the Busy Bee room. Caitlin's hours will remain the same, working Tuesday-Friday, 7:30am-6:00pm.

Gill McLean (Busy Bees), has moved to the Cheeky Monkey room. Gill's hours will also remain the same, working Wednesday and Thursday 7:45am-5:45pm and Friday 7:45am-5:15pm.

Izzy Pflieger (Cheeky Monkeys) hours of work have changed, and she will now work a Monday to Wednesday from 7.30am to 6.00pm. Previously she worked 9:30am-3:00pm, Monday to Friday. Chloe Morrison will be starting on the 30th of June and will be doing Izzy's old hours.

Charity of the Year 2025

This year we are supporting The Archie Foundation – Archie's Child Bereavement Services. Archie's Child Bereavement Services offers support to families and professionals working with children and young people free of charge within Grampian, Tayside, and the Highlands and Orkney, giving them individual, tailored support to help with bereavement. Many referrals are received from schools and health professionals.

This charity is very personal to us as our Finance Manager, Loretta Ross, sadly lost her husband, George, very suddenly at the end of January this year., leaving behind Loretta and her two children, Lucas (10) and Keira (8). Prior to having her children, Loretta was Nursery Manager for eight years at our nursery in Inverurie.

Deborah Mathers, who worked previously with us, and volunteers with the charity, bringing it to our attention, also lost her own husband very suddenly a few years ago. Deborah's two boys were also very young at the time.

The charity recognises that every child is different, and believes that with appropriate support, information and guidance, all children and young people will manage their grief. ACBS supports children who have experienced bereavement no matter the relationship.

The Archie Foundation was formed in 2000 to support the building of a new Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital which opened in 2014, and the Grampian Child Bereavement network joined the Archie Foundation in 2019.

We really welcome your support throughout the year, as this charity really means a lot to us.

Events we have planned over the coming months are as follows: -

Pizza making – During w/c 5th May, we will be making pizzas with the children for you to take home and cook. Order forms have been handed out for this, should you wish to purchase any. Please note, it will be your own child who makes your order. If your child has allergies, staff will support with this.

Breakfast morning – Imagine being able to purchase a bacon roll or pancake with a hot drink to take away with you after you drop your child(ren) off at nursery! Well, you can!! This will be held w/c 9th June. Order forms with more details will be handed out nearer the time.

Bake sale – Do you have a sweet tooth? Then this event is right up your street! During w/c 21st July, we will be making some lovely bakes for you to purchase.

Learning Experiences

Little Bunnies

The Little Bunnies created some lovely fire pictures whilst learning about Fire Fighters. They used forks to dip into yellow, red and orange paint before dragging them across their paper. They looked fantastic!



The boys and girls have been getting creative whilst out in the garden.

They have been creating pictures of their own smiles by using the pens to mark make, and glue to stick on small pieces of paper to resemble their teeth.



The children enjoyed using the mirror to have a look at their smiles and teeth. There were some beautiful smiles going on! They also stuck their tongues out to add this onto their picture!

The Little Bunnies took part in some spring themed yoga! The children were able to copy the poses such as 'hopping like bunnies', 'spinning like flowers in the wind' and 'rolling like Easter eggs!' They followed the instructions so well!



Cheeky Monkeys

The Cheeky Monkeys have been learning about road safety whilst out in the garden.

The boys and girls took part in a 'crossing' role play, where they were learning to stop, look and listen for cars before crossing the road.

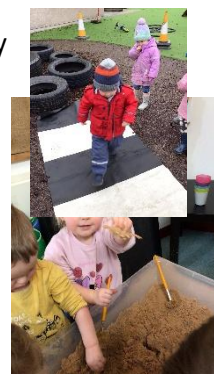
The children had lots of fun doing this before they crossed over the zebra crossing. They were even using the bikes and trikes to act out as the traffic.



The boys and girls have been getting messy in the sand tray!

They have been using the paintbrushes to act as 'palaeontologists' to hunt and search for dinosaur bones which were buried in the sand!

The Cheeky Monkeys had lots of fun doing this and were discovering lots of different types of dinosaur bones! "Look I found one" they said as they excitedly showed off their findings!



Everyone loved being super creative using the playdough and oats to make some 'porridge' for the bears, copying the fairytale 'Goldilocks and the Three bears.'

The children used the different cutters to make their 'porridge' into different shapes and then fed them to the bears!

It all looked delicious!



Busy Bees

The Busy Bees have been learning all about the 'World around Us' this term. During this, we have learnt about all the different ways we can travel around the world!

An uncle of one of our children, who is the manager at Aberdeen Airport, came in to speak to the children about what working at the Airport entails! The boys and girls were very excited about this as he took in some props which included the ground control panels and some headphones which the children got a turn at using! It was so much fun!



We learnt all about Africa, and we discovered that some people in tribes wear different masks. The children got very creative at the mark making table using the paper plates and different resources to design their own tribal masks. They all looked amazing!

After this, the children then used their masks and danced along to some tribal music, showing off their best dance moves!



When touching on some of the colder countries, the boys and girls have been learning why penguins' feathers are waterproof. We became 'Scientists' during this and took part in our own experiments!

During this, the children learned that penguins have a special gland in their body that produces oil to make them waterproof. How cool?!

The boys and girls then had lots of fun with a bag filled with water and oil, trying to shake the bag as hard as they could to mix the two together, but we discovered that this was not possible. We realised that the oil in the penguin's feathers protects them from the wet and icy weather.



The Busy Bees have since moved on to learning all about transport. We can't wait to see what exciting things they get up to during the term ahead!

Trips/Visits

The Busy Bee children had lots of fun on their spring trip to Hazelhead park. We had a lovely time playing at the park before having a picnic lunch and then spending some time at the Pets corner, where we were able to see lots of different animals!



The children in the Busy Bee room are loving their Thursday, fortnightly visits to Garioch Gymnastics!



Laura from Flashdance has also been attending on a Tuesday afternoon with the Busy Bees, and we always have so much fun with her!

The Little Bunnies and Cheeky Monkeys really enjoyed their music sessions with Moo Music on the 11th of March and the 22nd of April! It was so much fun!



Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 4th June – Pre-School Graduation pictures.
Thursday 5th June – Busy Bee trip. (Details to follow)
Tuesday 17th June – Cheeky Monkey trip. (Details to follow)
Saturday 28th June – Sports day.
Thursday 3rd July – Pre-School Graduation.
Wednesday 23rd July – Parents evening.

Kind regards

Jade Webster

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