



Wee Rascals Newsletter – August 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that you have all had a lovely summer! We have all certainly been enjoying this lovely weather, but the wasps...not so much!!

Graduation

We held our annual Graduation ceremony within the nursery on Thursday the 3rd of July, and, as usual, the children excelled! There were very few dry eyes during the ceremony, including the staff! It is always a difficult time seeing the children going off to school, but it makes us so proud of all the hard work that has been put in to make them ready for the transition. I created personalised tee shirts for each child to wear at Graduation which they wore underneath their gowns. The children then surprised their parents with these at the end of the ceremony. Some children decided to wear their tee shirts on their last day of nursery, and we had one child who decided to wear his at bedtime!



We wish all the children who left for school a happy journey ahead in their years at primary school.

Staffing

We are pleased to announce that Molly Robertson has recently joined the team and has been settling in very well. She has been a big success with the children in the Busy Bee room! Molly will be working a Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 7:30am-6pm. She is very much looking forward to getting to know you all.

We have a couple of new girls who have joined our relief team. These are Lauren Campbell and Carly Milne.

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.

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: -

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 22nd September. Order forms with more details will be handed out nearer the time.

Halloween crafts/bake sale – Do you love all things spooky? Then this event is right up your street! During w/c 27th October, we will be making some lovely crafts/bakes for you to purchase.

Read-a-thon – During the month of November, the children will be encouraged to participate in a read-a-thon. They will all receive a sponsor form along with a reading book log sheet where they will record all of the stories that have been read to them throughout the month. There will be a small prize for the child who reads/listens to the most stories.

Story time with children is a great way for children to learn about the world around them as well as further develop their literacy and communication skills.

Christmas Fayre – We are looking at holding a Christmas Fayre. More details regarding this will follow in the next month or two.

Learning Experiences

Little Bunnies

This term the Little Bunnies have been learning about the world around us. During this, they have covered Scotland, England, Ireland, Wales, Italy and are now learning about Africa.



The children spent some time developing their creative skills whilst crafting some traditional Scottish kilts. They used some PVA glue to stick the sporran onto the kilt. They then used tissue paper and glitter to decorate their kilts and make them colourful. Lots of colourful pens were then used to show off their fine motor skills as the children drew tartan lines onto their kilts. The end results were very spectacular!

Whilst learning about Italy, the children participated in a messy play tuff tray. They explored their senses and developed their imaginations whilst cooking spaghetti and 'meatballs'. The children explored and discussed the textures and smells, and some of the Little Bunnies even practiced their cutlery skills whilst trying to cut the spaghetti up for their peers.



The children used excellent imaginative skills and coordination to build a Leaning Tower of Pisa. They had a look at a photo of the historic building before using a range of resources such as giant spools, wooden logs and kitchen roll tubes to build their own.

Recently, the Little Bunnies have moved onto Africa, where they have been learning about safari animals. The children sat together to have a look at the sunset lamp with animals we had placed in front of the light. The children used their problem-solving skills to identify which of the animals silhouettes they could see on the blind, and afterwards, the children spent some time using their imaginative and creative skills to paint their own sunset photos, which also gave opportunities for them to practice their colour recognition. They then used a playdough cutter shaped like an elephant and some paint to stamp their own animals onto their sunset.



Cheeky Monkeys

The Cheeky Monkeys have been busy this term learning about “Healthy Lifestyles and All about Me”. The children first started off learning about a range of sports that they can do to keep themselves fit. Throughout this, the children participated in lots of different gymnastics activities where they developed their balance, co-ordination, and gross motor skills as they walked up the balance beam, forward rolled along the top and slid down the other side. The children also participated in a competition with one another where their peers were the judges. Each of the children had a turn at balancing along the beam and rolling along the mat whilst their peers were using their pencil grasp to mark make their thoughts of their peer’s routines.



Whilst learning about horse riding, the children had a discussion about horses attending competitions, and they learnt that if they win, they can achieve something called a rosette. The children were shown a rosette, and they all then made a huge effort to create their own rosettes, using their fine motor skills to cut out their own ones. They then spread PVA glue along the paper and stuck down the tissue paper. We saw a lot of serious faces concentrating very hard throughout this activity.

After finishing with Sports, the Cheeky Monkeys moved onto how to keep themselves healthy. They demonstrated an extensive knowledge on how to clean their teeth and what happens to their teeth if they don’t clean them. The children showed excellent numeracy skills whilst counting how many dirty teeth and how many clean teeth were in the mouth model. Everyone demonstrated fantastic role play skills as they role played dentists, removing all the dirty teeth from the mouth, as well as brushing and flossing the teeth.



Busy Bees



The Busy Bees have started with a busy term, learning about dinosaurs. They became palaeontologists looking at all the different dinosaur bones. Whilst looking through the sand, they developed their literacy skills and letter recognition, as they identified the different letters that they found on each of the dinosaur bones.

The children have developed their numeracy skills throughout this topic as they participated in a dinosaur egg matching activity, using their number recognition skills as they recognised the numbers and counted the dots to see if they matched.



After developing a wide knowledge on a range of different dinosaurs, the Busy Bees created their very own dinosaur book, where they further developed their literacy skills, having the opportunity to write down their favourite dinosaur and the reason why it was their favourite. After this, the children then cut out a picture of the dinosaur using their excellent hand eye co-ordination with the scissors. Their wonderful creations were then stuck into the book for all their friends to see.

After dinosaurs, we moved onto the topic of Fairy tales, and throughout this, the Busy Bees got very creative, making their very own magic carpets. A range of different resources were put out for the children to use, such as glitter, tissue paper and pom poms. The children carefully snipped the ends of the paper to turn it into a carpet effect. Once they had finished their carpets, we did a small Show and Tell, and this allowed their peers to ask any questions they had, giving the children opportunities to develop their confidence whilst talking in front of their peers.



Trips/ Visits

The Cheeky Monkeys had a great trip to Hazlehead park where they had a lovely time playing on all the different climbing equipment. The children loved having a range of different sized slides to go down, as did the staff! They then enjoyed a lovely picnic for lunch before heading back to nursery on the bus.



The Busy Bees had their summer trip to Wynford farm. The children thoroughly enjoyed this trip, exploring the different activities there were to do. They loved the soft play, and had opportunities to play on the outdoor equipment, as well as having the opportunity to see all the animals.



Our fortnightly visits on Thursdays have resumed to Garioch Gymnastics for the Busy Bee children, and Laura from Flashdance in Aberdeen will also be coming to the nursery every Tuesday afternoon during term time.

Children also continue to visit Wee Green Space which they thoroughly enjoy.

Development Plan

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the parental questionnaires. We are really pleased with some of the lovely comments we have received. They have recently been evaluated, and we will be putting out a letter to you shortly. Feedback from these questionnaires contributes to our Developmental Plan for the year.

We have decided to focus on the following action points for the year ahead.

- New Planning System
- Outdoors
- Staff Training and Support

Kind Regards

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