



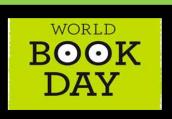


Newsletter Spring/Summer 2021

Spring/Summer Newsletter

QUICK CATCH UP!

We've been busy. Have a look and see what we have been up to.



On Thursday 4th March 2021 we celebrated World Book Day. The children had great fun dressing up as their favourite book characters and taking part in lots of fun activities during the day. The children enjoyed lots of role play activities, sharing stories and making story boards.



Thank you to all those children and parents who helped to raise money for charity on Friday 19th March 2021 for Red Nose Day. We raised an amazing **£87.00** for Lennox Children's Cancer Fund!

Home Learning Packs

Throughout the lockdowns and temporary closure of Greenleaf site, we provided parents and carers with Home Learning Packs to support their children's learning and development at home. We hope that you found these helpful and easy to use. We will soon be asking all parents and carers for some feedback about these and we would be grateful if you would kindly complete the feedback form and return it to us.

Important dates for your diary

Bank Holiday Closures-	Monday 3 rd May 2021 Monday 30 th May 2021 Monday 31 st August 2021
Annual Summer Closure-	Monday 2nd August 2021 to Friday 6 th August 2021. The nursery will be closed for one week. Children return Monday 9 th August 2021.
Staff Inset Day-	Monday 6 th September 2021 <u>The nursery will be closed for one day.</u> <u>Children return Tuesday 7th August 2021</u>
Christmas Closure-	Friday 24 th December 2021 to Monday 3 rd January 2022 (includes national bank holidays 25 th , 27 th & 28 th Dec 2021 & 3 rd Jan 2022)

Other dates for your diary

Tues 1st **June 2021- International Children's Day Picnic.**Children to wear cultural clothes or dress as book characters.

Please see end page for nursery calendar. Please also be reminded that full fees remain payable over all nursery closures.

Ramadan Activity



The children at nursery have been learning about Ramadan and Eid and the importance of this holy Muslim month through fun activities. Here is a great activity you can do at home with your child to learn together.

As the beginning of Ramadan and Eid is determined by observing the moon, why not make some fantastic binoculars to see how the moon's phases change every day. All you need is two cardboard kitchen roll tubes, sellotape, string and colourful paper or felt tip pens to decorate.

- 1. Sellotape the two cardboard rolls together.
- 2. Decorate the binoculars as desired, the more colourful the better. Think moons and stars!
 - 3. Sellotape some string to each side of the binoculars. This optional, please remember string can be a choking hazard, so always supervise your child when using the binoculars if used.
- 4. When it gets dark outside, start observing the moon. What changes can you see?







Newsletter

Spring/Summer 2021

Parents as Partners

What's New?

We are returning to our normal opening hours!



As of Tuesday 4th May 2021, the nursery will return to normal operational hours. The nursery will be open from 7.30am to 6.30pm. COVID 19 procedures for drop off and collection will remain as before, but we will keep you posted of any changes. We also ask all parents/carers to bear in mind that we are guided by government guidance and therefore there may be changes and alterations to opening hours and service provision in the future in response to the pandemic. However, we are so excited to be offering normal hours of provision and look forward to returning to normal as much as possible.

The new summer menu is here!



Our new summer menu has been finalised and a copy will be emailed to all parents/carers. As of Tuesday 4th May 2021, children can enjoy a range of summer inspired meals. As usual, all our meals are designed with young tummies in mind and are healthy, freshly prepared using the best seasonal ingredients. Children's individual needs and dietary requirements have been considered and will be catered for. We are always interested in feedback and new ideas, so please do let us know if you have any meal ideas or recipes you would like to recommend for future menus. Get stuck in!

Staff Annual Leave

Some of our staff will be taking annual leave over the Ramadan and Eid period and at other times, but please rest assured that your child will continue to be supported by at least one of their key-persons and other familiar staff. We will inform parents/carers individually if their child's key-person will be taking leave.

The Early Years Foundation Stage

The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is being updated in September 2021. The EYFS is the curriculum which supports the learning and development needs of children aged from 0 to 5 years old, and is used in early years settings and reception classes. Some of the changes being made are to the focus and content of some of the areas of learning and development that we use to observe, assess and plan for your child. The learning goals are also changing too. We are still planning for these updates and will also be updating and amending all polices and procedures accordingly. We will keep you posted of the changes that we make. You can read about the EYFS and the new updates by copying and pasting the links below into your search bar. If you have any questions please get in contact with us.

GOV.UK -

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/change s-to-the-early-years-foundation-stage-eyfsframework/changes-to-the-early-years-foundationstage-eyfs-framework

Early years alliance -

https://www.eyalliance.org.uk/changes-eyfs-2021

Staff training updates

We recognise the importance of continuous professional development in achieving best possible practice and for improving outcomes for all children.

As result many members of the staff and management team have been busy studying!

During our last INSET day in April, the whole management and staff team took part in *Feelings* and *Behaviour in the EYFS* training.

Additionally, other individual managers and staff have been completing other training, which includes:

Level 5 Diploma in Special Educational Needs
Autism Awareness Training
Health and Safety Training

As an early years setting, we continue to support the next generation of early years practitioners by facilitating the apprenticeship programme for some of our team.









Parents as Partners

International Children's Day picnic

Tuesday 1st June 2021

International children's day is celebrated every year on the 1st June. It aims to celebrate children from all over the world and recognises the importance of childhood. There is a strong focus on promoting children's rights and wellbeing.



We will be joining this celebration by hosting a special picnic in the setting. Children are invited to wear cultural clothes or dress as their favourite character from children's books or literature. We will provide lots of yummy healthy snacks and we will plan lots of fun activities for the day. Unfortunately due to COVID 19 parents and carers cannot join us on this occasion, but we will take some great photographs to display.

Helping children to learn Recommended reading



Maths is a very important area of development and one where children need lots of experience to understand and practice key skills such as counting and problem solving. Play is so important for providing opportunities for children to learn early practical maths skills which they can later link to more abstract learning.

In the nursery, we provide maths opportunities everyday in many different ways, such as through cooking activities, construction toys and group games. We make sure children are surrounded by numbers, for example on clock faces, calculators, books, ICT equipment and labels. We want children to develop a positive experience of maths. The article below explores this topic in more depth and is definitely worth reading.

Teach Early Years- Getting Hands-on with Maths https://www.teachearlyyears.com/learning-and-development/view/getting-hands-on-with-maths

COVID 19 Procedures



Early years settings are no longer required to keep children in "bubbles" as per Government guidance. We are therefore working with children in smaller groups as recommended, but will begin to join groups to form one larger group at both Erskine and Greenleaf site.

However, we will continue with our thorough infection control measures which include; checking your child's temperature upon arrival and on departure, using the hand sanitiser, regular handwashing, shoe disinfecting and cleaning the setting regularly throughout the day. We will continue to provide you with verbal feedback over the phone regarding your child's day in the nursery.

In order to ensure that we minimise the risk of COVID 19 infection within the setting, and to ensure that children who have been unwell are able to return to the nursery, you will be required to complete a Health Declaration Form. This form will ask you share what symptoms your child had when they were unwell, the action you took and the result of the COVID 19 test if one is performed. You will be asked to confirm that your child is COVID symptom free and well enough to return to the nursery.

Please beware that if your child displays any of the COVID 19 signs and symptoms whilst at the nursery, you must take them home. Your child cannot return until a COVID 19 test has been performed and the result received. You must adhere to Government guidelines with regards to isolation if required.

We respectfully ask all parents/carers to adhere to their allocated drop off and collection points, in order to minimise children and parents/carers arriving/leaving at the same time.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers for their continued support

Thank you!

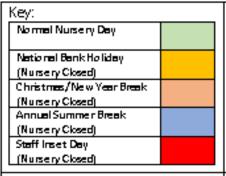






Nursery Calendar -

Jan 2021 - Jan 2022





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Other dates for your diary

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