



Greengairs Nursery Class

December Newsletter 2024



Learning in nursery: We finished our learning about rock, stones and crystals and overall staff evaluated the children were really engaged in the focus. Some children are still pointing out different things they see in a stone. It might be a pattern, a colour or the size, or if it is smooth. We will continue to support their interest and understanding in rock, stones and crystals. We have started out new learning focus Winter, Christmas and Celebrations. It was so lucky to have a freeze at this time to introduce our learning focus about winter and bring into nursery, trays of frozen ice! Our children have been enjoying using hammers to smash the ice, they have been transporting ice into the water tray and pouring water in tubs to leave outside to watch it freeze. We aim to use the cold weather to stimulate the interest and freeze some outdoor resources. You could try this at home too! We will look at plants and small toys to encapsulate the frozen blocks of ice. This will create conversation and capture children's imagination. We are also thinking about health and encouraging children to keep warm and keep their jumpers on, even indoors.

It will be nice to follow this interest and see where the children take it. If you try anything at home, please upload your photos on your learning journal.

Diary Dates - December

5th Parents Partnership Christmas Fayre 5-6:30
all welcome.

6th Christmas Lunch

Onesie/pyjama first Friday fun day.

12th Christmas jumper day.

13th Nursery Coffee afternoon sing-along and enterprise.

17th Special delivery Cumbernauld theatre. 10-12:00.

18th Winter walk with P 1&2 and hot chocolate.

19th Nursery Christmas party, Special visitor expected to appear.

Updating information: Please remember if you have changed your mobile phone number or moved house, please update staff or clerical.

Nursery pace of the day:

Doors open: 8:45 We have a flexible programme we follow every day to engage children in intentional learning and responsive learning. Our staff plan experiences but wait and follow to see where the children go with the provocation to learn.

Morning: we have sign in cards and try to encourage all children to use these daily. From their sign in we can see where they are and how they can be supported.

Throughout the day children are continuously planning their own learning and staff watch and wait until they can intervene at the appropriate stage rather than interfere with the child's interest.

Lunch: is a sociable occasion where the children all come together to sit with their group and enjoy an unhurried meal. Children are encouraged to set the table with table cover, cutlery and jugs. We help ourselves using tongs and serving spoons and finally we tidy our place. We return to nursery and relax with some mindfulness music to help us be ready to continue our interest before end of the day.

Doors open 2:35 Home time: We all come together to sing, dance, or keep fit. Our learning is over for another day. We gather our work, say goodbye, and leave staff to organise our next day of learning. Staff leave 3:00. Please remember staff only have 15 minutes and need time to clean and prepare for our next day learning.



Watch this space!

Bookbug is coming in January!

Younger siblings welcome too.

A list will be available when we so you can express an interest in joining the first block.



Staff leaders in learning

Staff have been working hard to ensure all children are given the same opportunities to help raise attainment in literacy and numeracy.

Alisha: our **Three read champion** works with small groups of children to engage interest in stories. Three read also promotes an understanding element of books that will have a lifelong impact on children's love of reading.

Emma: our **lending library champion** works with all children every week to support each child choose a story. The lending library will support a lifelong habit of borrowing books that will enrich reading skills and lifelong learning.

KeriJane our **Forest school champion** is outdoors every week whether its raining, snow, ice or wind. Forest school creates a love of nature and stimulates conversation. Children are exposed to the wonder of outdoor learning in a stimulating environment.

Lorna our **Adventure Friend champion** provides a soft toy in a backpack to take home for a sleepover. Children are learning about taking turns, caring and creating opportunities to talk about new adventures at home.

Lindsay our **toothbrush champion** supports children every day to clean their teeth correctly. Promoting healthy habits and good hygiene for life.

If there is anything you would like to ask any of our champions, we are available for you anytime.



Improvements:

We aim to continue the improvements we have achieved so far with our latest improvement activities. Children are thriving with all the experiences they are part of, they are participating in the celebrations Christmas brings, full of magic and wonder. They are designers, performers, artists and being creative, and part of our young enterprise scheme.

Sign in sheets:

Please use our sign in sheets to write your name instead of Mum, dad or gran. This is a requirement we must ask as we need to know who dropped your child off. Remember anyone can write mum or dad but they cannot always forge a signature. Staff all recognise everyone, but new staff or visitors will not be aware who you are. Therefore, we kindly request you sign your name at drop off. A wee phone call if you are absent is still necessary to keep us updated. This is just part of safeguarding and we hope you understand.

An act of kindness.

Your weekly contribution is always appreciated and used to replenish items such as markers, snacks, festive and celebration resources. We thought it would be nice to kindly request cake or biscuits donations for our coffee afternoon, if you feel like baking that would be lovely too, although we must put a sign on all home baking as ingredients may not be peanut free. Your weekly contributions can be used to support learning in other ways.

Contact and follow us on

X/Twitter: @greengairsnc

Email: enquiries-at-greengairs@northlan.org.uk

Telephone: 01236 632067

Greengairs nursery staff would like to thank everyone for their support throughout the year and take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.