



Greengairs Nursery Class

January/February Newsletter 2025



Learning in nursery: Wow, what an adventure we had during December, lots of lovely interactions, experiences and fun!

December can be a really busy month in early years, but it is always worth the time and effort to see the joy on the children's faces at the final party, and meeting our special visitor. Santa Claus.

Our learning focus was all about winter and Christmas, I think we can agree our programme of events was full.

Lots of literacy for children to engage and enjoy. Lovely listening skills, reading stories and learning new words for our sing-along. Children demonstrated their understanding by following the rules on stage, perfectly.

We focused on social studies learning beyond the nursery. The daily mile with children pointing out places they were familiar with. Winter walk looking for signs of winter as a joint exercise with P1/2. And a visit to Cumbernauld theatre to see 'A special deliver' pantomime.

Children were learning numeracy skills through experiences such as using the advent calendar counting back, understanding position and shape in the art area and measurement in filling, pouring and counting items for our little enterprise.

We visited the woodland and had a wonderful surprise in Santa's grotto, lots of treats, wonder and excitement and toasted mallows. We met horses, saw signs of winter and went back to nursery content. This was amazing experience for children's wellbeing, they were happy, excited and connected with the season.

We were developing physical skills during all our outdoors walks as well as dancing at our Christmas party.

Overall, the impact of our last learning focus has been wonderful, children will remember the events they were part of and will talk about it over and over again.

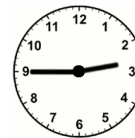
Nursery pace of the day:



Nursery door opens at 8:45 a.m. and learning starts as soon as children walk through the door. Routines, coats, shoes, mini person and sign in.



Nursery door opens at 2:35p.m. to allow time for parent's to support their child to change, sign out and have a chat to keyworker.



Nursery closes at 2:45 to allow staff time to tidy up, organise playroom and set up next day's plan and share any relevant information.



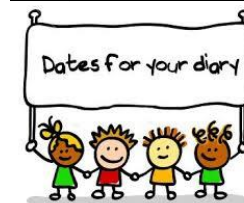
Staff finishing time. Nursery is closed and staff clock off!

Please be mindful of our nursery times. We endeavour to try and be as flexible as possible and understand at times things can happen and sometimes being late cannot be helped.

Our daily opening and closing times were set to allow parents with children at school time to drop off and collect without interruption to primary school times.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Diary Dates - January/February



17th January: Book bug starts

7th February: First Friday funday 'Odd sock day'

14th February: Friendship Day

17th February: Mid-term break, nursery closed

18th February: Mid-term break, nursery closed

19th February: Inservice training day, nursery closed.

Parking: Please be mindful where you stop or park your car when dropping off or collecting your child. It is important we park in the designated areas to avoid any accidents. We are in a school area and the exits must be kept clear at all times. This is the ruling from North Lanarkshire Council, and we have to ensure everyone adhere to this.

Staff training:

North Lanarkshire recognise the need for staff to continually improve their skills and knowledge in early years.

17th January: Frances-Self-evaluation and continuous improvement.

January/February: All Staff-Food hygiene course

24th January:  the promise
scotland

All staff took the opportunity during storm and are now trained in 'The Promise.' Safeguarding and recognising trauma in children and families.

28th January: KeriJane-Three Read Approach.

6th February: Emma-Improving brain development.

11th February: KeriJane (A.M.) and Alisha (P.M.)
Creating a loving lunch environment.

19th February: All staff- teaching and Talking toolkit

26th February: KeriJane Realising the Ambition.

Change of clothes

Please remember to keep checking your child's bag, for clean socks, pants, and bottoms. We are running out of changes in our own boxes and need your help to keep a good supply of clothing.

Gathering evidence:

We will be sending out several questionnaires over the next few weeks to gather evidence of a variety of topics to help us improve the service we provide. You will be given a QR code that you can scan easily. If you do not have the function to use QR codes, we can provide a paper copy. Although QR codes generate the statistics we need. Please complete as many as you can to help us be the best we can be, GREAT!



Weekly Contributions:

Thank you for your continued support with your weekly contributions. So far, we have used your donations this month to provide varied snacks, purchased new books and a few resources. You don't realise the difference you make with your kindness.

Bookbug is here!



Heather is our Bookbug coordinator and visited our nursery last week for the first group session.

Hopefully everyone will have the opportunity to attend Bookbug. We will try to organise a new date for anyone else who would like to join our Bookbug classes.

Improvements:

Recently we had our floor in the cloakroom re-laid with new vinyl. We think it is super and so much cleaner for the children to change out of their muddy boots. We are looking at improving the experiences we provide for our children. More challenges and to support deeper thinking and analysing skills. We will continue to share your children's learning through Learning Journals.

Focused learning time:

You will be aware we recently introduced group time at the end of the day. We feel it is now the right time to move forward working with small, focused groups. Children have enjoyed the altogether time at the end of the day with stories, songs or exercises. These experiences are now implemented throughout the day with Mindfulness, gym hall time and Three read or the story corner. Our story corner has had several changes however, our recent change includes three or four of the same story and allows children to read together and share their thoughts. It is essential a staff member is on the door for safety and help with any of your needs in the cloakroom area.

Please remember to sign your name in full. This is a requirement as we need to know who dropped your child off or who will be collecting your child. Remember anyone can write mum or dad but they cannot always forge a signature. Sign in sheets are kept on record for a few years, so are an official record.

A wee phone call if you're child is staying at home is necessary to keep us updated. This is just part of safeguarding and hope you understand.

Contact and follow us on



X/Twitter: @greengairsnc

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