



# EYC and Class Blogs

## Early Years Centre

We have been as busy as ever in the EYC over the past few weeks and have plenty of exciting learning opportunities to look forward to over this term. We are about to begin cohort 5 of Virtual Nature School called Best Winter Ever and we are looking forward to exploring some new learning experiences. Over the coming weeks we are going to be 'Looking Up, Looking Down, Looking On, Looking Through, Looking In and Looking Under', then recording our learning and our comments in our Floorbook. Our Floorbooks are always available in our playroom for anyone who'd like to spend some time looking through them.

This term we are also welcoming our new family into our EYC and are excited to get to know our new friend, Elizabeth.

We have recently begun exploring a rhyme of the week in our EYC. Each week we learn a rhyme and have lots of fun exploring this new rhyme. Remember to check your child's Learning Journal to discover our focus rhyme and if you have fun with this rhyme at home, then please share it with us through the parent contribution tab in Learning Journals.



We have been busy exploring and using real tools. We have been learning how to be safe while using real tools and have enjoyed hammering, sawing and drilling. We even created our own traffic signals and then used them in our role play.



We have had lots of fun exploring different stories and books recently and we are doing lots of retelling stories through our play. We have particularly enjoyed the story of the three little pigs and have been retelling it through our role play, building houses for the pigs and trying to 'huff and puff' to blow them down.



Miss Clark, Mrs McKie



# P1-4

## Make It Monday

P1-4 continue to develop their fine motor skill through a variety of fun 'Make it Monday' challenges this term.

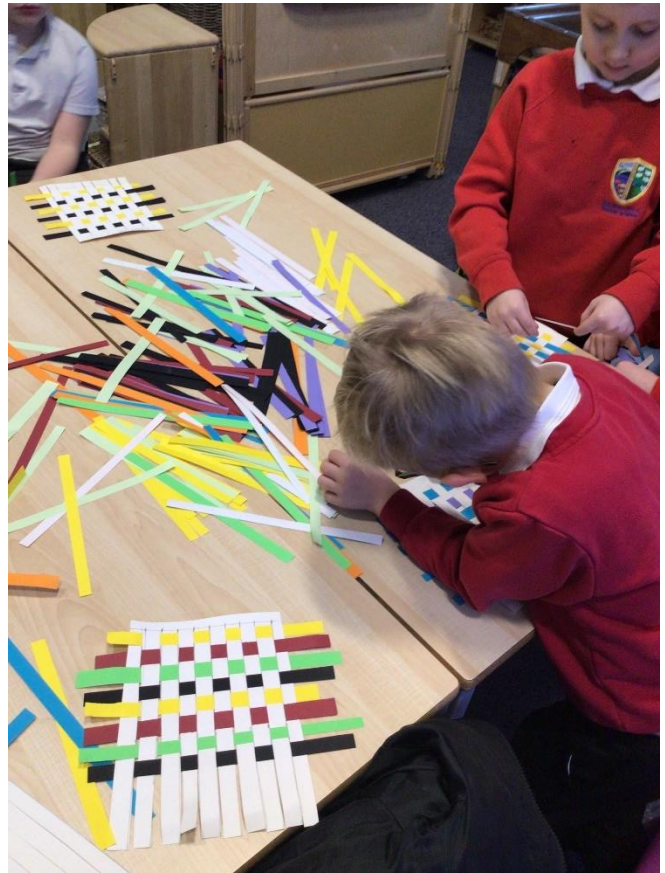
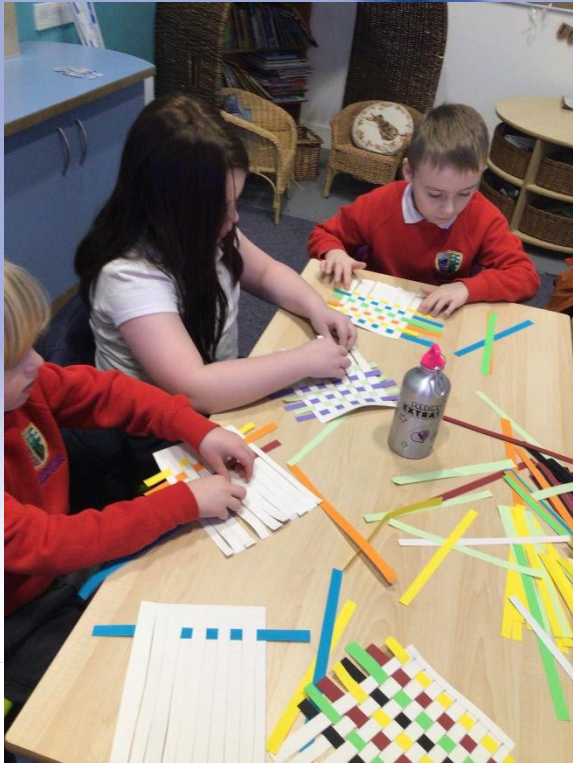
Throughout January we have been learning to weave using a variety of materials. We started weaving with paper and produced some lovely woven mats. As we engaged in the activity, we discussed creating a pattern and talked about tartan and kilts.

We then moved from paper weaving to more risky play using 'real' needles and wool. During this activity the children were very responsible, highly engaged demonstrating increased concentration!

P1-4 can't wait to take their weaving skills even further next week. They are going to take their learning outdoors and create 3D tipis for their characters. We can't wait!









## Science

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January, P1-4 were engineers! Mrs Pettigrew and Mrs Brown from Girvan Primary School and Colmonell Primary School came to join the fun and observe our science lesson. They were very impressed with our ability to make predictions, investigate and plan a fair test. P1-4 worked in groups to find out which ball would bounce the furthest from the wall when it went down a ramp.

Very well done to Mrs Pettigrew, Tobias and Lucas who made the right prediction at the start of the experiment!

We wonder if the surface of the ramp would change the result?







## Play is the Way

This term P1-4 have started their own 'projects' during their free play time. These projects are based on the children's own interests and are supported by the teachers.

During these sessions the children are leading their own learning, working collaboratively with their peers and teachers, solving problems, working as a team as well as developing their creativity, imagination and communication skills.

We have three very different projects happening at the one time but the children are focused and highly engaged.

To document and showcase the children's fabulous learning, Mrs Logan and Miss Taylor are working with the children to create a floorbook.



### **Project 1 - Lucas, Johnny, Samuel and Cooper**



Here we have 3 'bases' for their different characters.

"These characters are like real-life people, sometimes they get on and sometimes they don't!"

I wonder what they will get up to?



### Project 2 – Sarah and Harlie

Sarah and Harlie are making a 'village' out of Lego. Their village is going to have a park for their characters to play in and a lot of shops for them to go to together. The friends are also going to have sleepovers and go on adventures.

The detail in each part of this village is amazing! Sarah has used her literacy skills to create signs and cards and other small handmade items that she has specifically designed and made for each room/shop.

This is perfect for the girls to develop their story telling, writing and roleplay. We can't wait to find out what the friends get up to together!





### Project 3 - Tobias, Liam and Steven

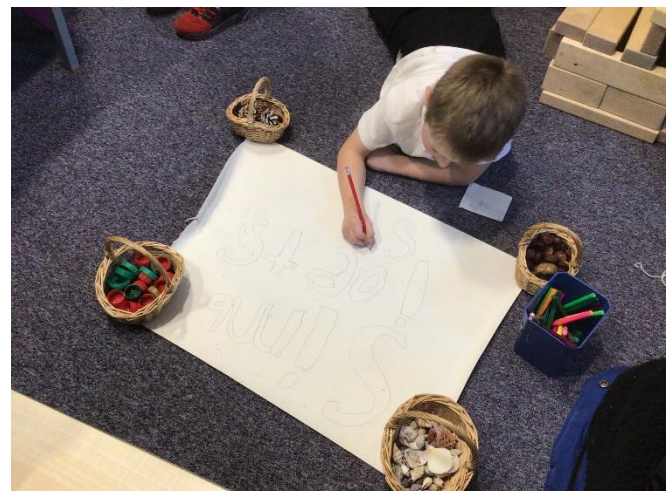


The boys have worked together to create characters that they are familiar with from computer games at home.

They have already made a base for their characters to stay in and a shop for their action figures to 'hire' equipment that they need.

Flags, showing who lives in the base have also been designed and displayed.

We have a feeling that not all of these characters are going to get on! The base is covered with Spiderman's 'webs' (created using selotape).





## Basketball

In PE we are developing our basketball skills.

Our ball handling skills are improving, and we are learning to follow instructions to start, stop and move with the ball confidently.

We are also learning to dribble the ball with control by taking part in some fun games.

So far, P1-4's favorite game is 'Rob the Nest.' They can't wait to 'rob' all the balls from Mrs Logan's nest again!

I wonder who is the most competitive?





## Science in the Junior Class

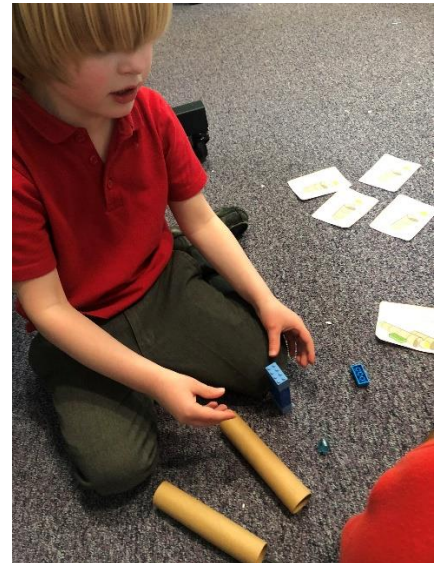
The Junior class have started their new Science topic. They are learning about Forces. We have completed a variety of experiments investigating push and pull forces.

We experimented with different sizes tubes to see if a marbles would need more 'push' to reach the end. Then we used ramps to try and increase the speed of the marbles.

Using dominoes, we built various designs to see what would happen when we pushed the first domino.







Mrs Logan, Miss Taylor



# P5-7

## Scottish Afternoon

P1-7 pupils and parents enjoyed an afternoon of poetry, dancing, games and crafts at our Scottish afternoon. All P5-7 pupils learned and performed a Burns poem, and winners from each category performed in front of our guest judge, Mr Alastair Sykes. Our joint P5 winners who recited 'Up in the Morning Early' were Danny and Ryan. Our P6 winner was Erin who recited 'To a Louse' and our P7 winner with 'To a Mouse' was AJ. Our overall winner this year was Danny.

Congratulations to all our winners and well done to everyone who participated.





## Science

This term, we have been learning about forces. So far, we have learned about the forces of friction and gravity. P5-7 pupils have worked together in groups to carry out a bottle flipping experiment to find out which amount of water is the best for achieving the perfect bottle flip. We have also investigated which materials cause the most friction and made shoes for our little dinosaurs to help them walk up a slope without sliding back down. Next, we are going to explore air resistance with a focus on parachute




Friction Finlay, AJ, Ryan


**Dinosaur Shoes**

Friction is a force between two surfaces that are sliding or trying to slide, control each other. Friction always acts in a way that slows down or stops an object from moving in the direction it is trying to move.

QUESTION: Which material creates the most friction?

MY HYPOTHESIS: We think sand paper

OBSERVATION: 

CONCLUSION: Yes Sandpaper won with 22cm 

How much do you like this experiment? 1 2 3 4 5

How to ensure a fair test:

- start at the same point
- wind the toy up the same number of times
- keep the ramp the same height

sand: paper 27cm  
tuber: 18.5cm  
Tinfoil: 16.6cm





Finlay, AJ, Ryan and Danny

Amount of water	Finlay	Ryan	AJ	Danny	Total
50ml	1	1	1	1	4
100ml	1	1	1	1	4
150ml	1	1	1	1	4
200ml	1	1	1	1	4
250ml	1	1	1	1	4
300ml	1	1	1	1	4
350ml	1	1	1	1	4
400ml	1	1	1	1	4
					over all Total
					13



## Dolphin House

P6 & P7 pupils are looking forward to their residential trip to Dolphin House at Culzean on the 6<sup>th</sup> February. They are very excited, and I am sure we will have lots of exciting news and photographs to share with you when we get back.

## Topic

Our interdisciplinary topic this term is World War Two. So far, we have been learning about how WW2 started, The Blitz and Anderson shelters. We are looking forward to making our own model of an Anderson shelter, designing our own gas masks and learning what life was like for children who were evacuated from cities to the countryside.





## Eco-Schools Update

Our Eco-Schools' Committee has been busy creating and implementing their Eco-Schools' action plan.

One of our priorities is to reduce waste within the school. We aim to Reduce, Re-use and Recycle.

We have now got new recycling bins in all our classrooms. We also have an industrial card/paper bin outside the school so that we can send our card and cardboard to be recycled.

Our next plan is to create a space in our school grounds to encourage bees and provide a home for insects.

