



EYC and Class Blogs

Early Years Centre

The children in the EYC have had a very busy, fun filled term and have lots to share.

We are currently exploring a 'living things' line of inquiry and are documenting our learning in our floor book. The children have shown a specific interest in birds and have enjoyed watching and feeding the birds. We have been very busy creating our very own bird spotting books and binoculars to look at the Barrhill birds. We took part in the RSPB's Big Schools' Birdwatch when we spotted birds, recorded our findings then submitted them online to receive our certificate.



We have been noticing some Spring changes around us and wondered why the birds were beginning to collect lots of sticks and leaves. We found out that they are building their nests and, on our whole school and EYC outdoor day, we made our own birds' nests helped by our older friends and siblings from the school. We had to collect the materials we needed and then all worked really hard to create our nests.



We have been exploring pattern in lots of different ways, both indoors and also outdoors in our wider environment. Some of us were also copying patterns and even created our own patterns too.



We have recently completed a block of Make and Taste sessions with Shevon from the South Ayrshire Family Learning Team. It was lovely to welcome all of our parents in to prepare healthy and tasty snacks with their children.



We were also learning all about the religious and cultural tradition of Ramadan and the festival of Eid. We were really interested in some of the traditions and asked lots of questions, finding out lots of interesting information.



Our book loving EYC children had lots of fun dressing up and celebrating World Book Day. In the afternoon, we joined the rest of the school and our families for our World Book Day Party in the gym hall.



We recently took part in British Science Week and explored the theme of 'time' by taking part in a variety of experiments. We loved being scientists and were especially good at making predictions about our experiments.



Miss Clark, Mrs McKie

P1-4

Scottish Afternoon

Thank you to everyone who came to join us for our Scottish afternoon. The children all worked hard to learn a Scottish poem and presented it to the class. Four progressed through to the final and presented their poem to two judges, parents and grandparents that came in to join us. Congratulations again to Allyce for winning the P1-4 category.

We then enjoyed some Scottish dancing and a range of Scottish treats. The children loved bringing their parents up to the dance floor to teach them the Canadian Barn Dance.

In preparation for the afternoon, the class collaborated to make shortbread for the visitors. They worked together to read the recipes, accurately weigh out the ingredients and they took it in turns to mix it together.





Outdoor Days – Bird Theme

During all the outdoor days, the children chose to have a bird focus. Our first activity was to do a birdwatch in the local area and see how many different birds we could identify. The children enjoyed going to the local park and sitting quietly, waiting for the birds to appear. We then spent the afternoon making bird feeders to see if we could encourage any different birds to the school grounds and our houses.





The next outdoor day, we wanted to continue to help birds in the winter months and therefore we built bird nest boxes. The P1-2s first decorated and put together pre-cut bird boxes and then helped the rest of the children. The P3-7s worked collaboratively to measure, saw and nail together the wood in order to make the RSPB bird nest boxes. It was great to see everyone being able to take a box home with them.





Gymnastics

At the start of the term, the class enjoyed learning a number of different gymnastics skills. They worked on a range of balances, rolls and jumps. Some of the class even tried a few different jumps from a height. The P5-7 class kindly helped at times for them to perfect their skills. This culminated in the children all choosing their favourite example of each skill and combining them together to make a gymnastic sequence. They all proudly presented these in front of the class. All their sequences were filmed and shared on Learning Journals.

Vikings Topic

The class have enjoyed learning about Vikings with Miss McLellan. They first explored the kind of food that they would have eaten and where it came from. The class compared this to food that we eat today. They also looked at the attire that Vikings wore and how it differs from day-to-day clothes that we now wear.

The pupils learnt about Up Helly Aa, a popular Viking festival, and learnt the various traditions that occur around this time and still do today. They decorated their own Viking shields and explored the transport Vikings used, labelling all the sections of the Viking Longship

Nursery Transition

The pre-school children in the nursery are having weekly transition visits into the P1-P4 classroom. This will ready them for their next stage of their education. They are all settling in well and enjoying working with the other children.

On one of their visits we made bird feeders. We threaded cheerios onto pipe cleaners then made them into circles to hang onto branches.



P5-7

Health & Wellbeing

As part of our health and well-being topic, pupils have been learning about healthy eating and why our bodies need a range of nutrients to keep us healthy. This has prompted a lot of discussion in the class about the foods we eat and pupils are now keen to make some healthier choices.



Food Groups

In the boxes below, write down everything you know about each food group. Why is each food group important? Can you give examples of the different foods in each food group?

Protein: Strengthens cells, bones, skin, hair and muscle. It also helps us to grow. (Tuna, nuts, eggs)

Dairy and Alternatives: These are a source of calcium which is important for strong teeth and bones. (Milk)

Carbohydrates: Carbohydrates gives us energy and fuel our bodies. (Pasta, bread, potatoes and rice)

Fats and Oils: They help our bodies with muscle movements oils, butter and cheese

Fruit and Vegetables: has minerals and vitamins

Food Groups

Disclaimer: The nature of this resource requires independent, critical research. It is advisable to use only preselected, child appropriate sources of information and websites that are appropriate to their age. Please also be aware that there may be aspects of a topic or individual's life which may be controversial or upsetting to some. Due to this, we highly recommend that you carefully consider all research activities before undertaking them with children.

Vitamins and Minerals

Name	What does it do?	Where is it found?	Picture
Vitamin A	• Good eye sight • Helps growth • Healthy skin and tissue	Tuna, carrots and cheese	
Vitamin B	• Helps release energy • Nervous system	Cereal	
Vitamin C	• Helps with infection • protects against disease • healthy skin, teeth and bones	Potatoes, broccoli, Dragon fruit	
Vitamin D	• Helps absorb calcium which is important for healthy teeth and bones	Cow - getting cooked by the sun	
Vitamin E	• Healthy skin • resistance to infection • Healing wounds	nuts, and Sunflower oil	

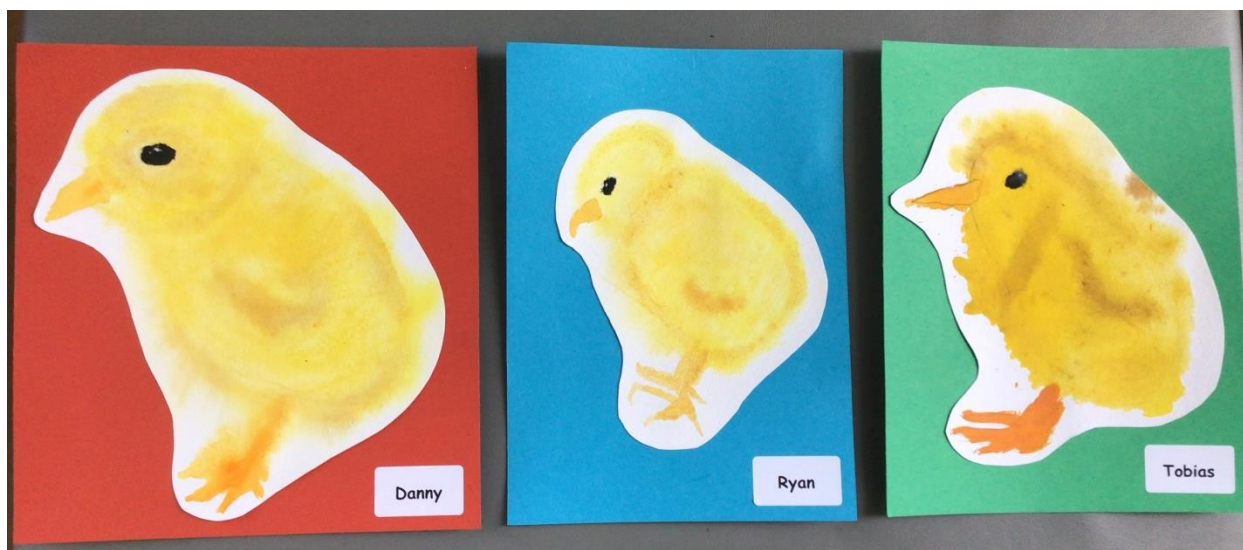
Cooking

P5-7 pupils have thoroughly enjoyed developing their cooking and baking skills. They made a tasty vegetable pasta bake, a healthy fruit pudding and baked some delicious blueberry muffins.



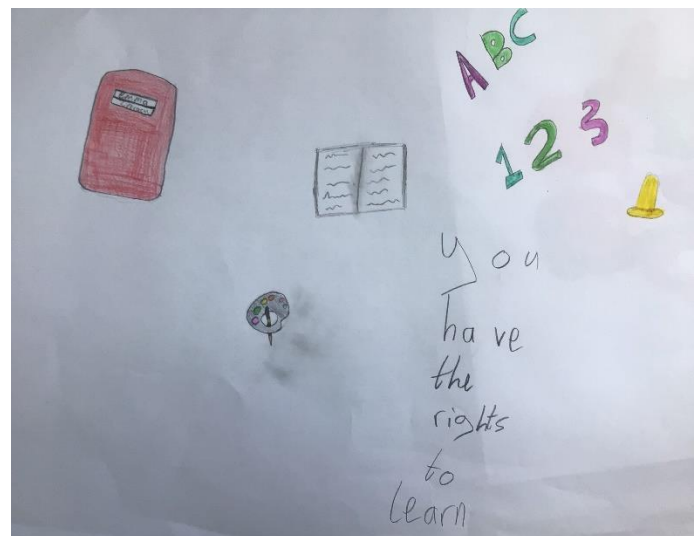
Spring Art

Our talented children painted



RRS Committee

Our RRS Committee have been working hard to promote children's rights in our school and make everyone aware of what their rights are. They have created some fabulous posters which will be put up around the school and they are keen to organise an RRS afternoon of activities in the near future. The group are also committed to ensuring that there are a range of books which celebrate diversity in our school library and will be making plans to develop global citizenship.



IDL Topic

This term, P5-7 have been learning about the Scottish Wars of Independence. It has been a fantastic topic filled with lots of learning and fun. The children particularly enjoyed creating their own shields and researching the weapons used in battle.



Reading

Reading is a very important part of our day and P5-7 are enjoying it even more since we have up-dated our class library. There are regular opportunities to read for enjoyment in class and we have a child friendly newspaper delivered to us every Friday.



Outdoor Day

During our latest outdoor day, pupils had fun learning about when, where and how birds construct their nests. They were then challenged to work together in small groups to create a bird's nest.

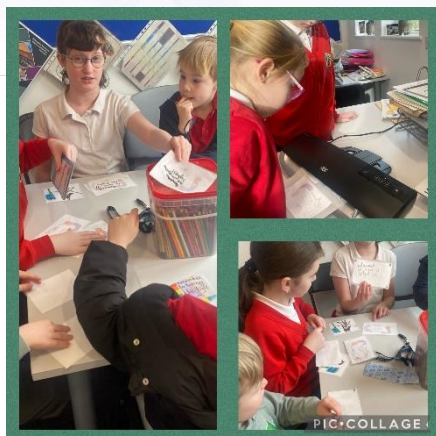




Eco-Committee Update Our Eco



Our Eco Warriors have been working hard. We put finishing touches to our 'Save energy and put lights out' signage. We then laminated, cut them out and put them up at all light switches around the school.



Update

The Eco-committee is very pleased to announce that the dead trees have been kindly taken down by Philip, Andrew, Jason and Finlay. We are so excited to finally get our Eco garden started. In the near future we will be asking for volunteers again to help us clear the area further, build raised beds, and finally start planting. This is a huge project and we could not have achieved this without our amazing parent helpers Philip, Laura and Josh and the community support.

Pupil Voice Group

World Book Day

This term, the Pupil Voice Group worked incredibly hard to organise a World Book Day Party. They planned to have a party on World Book Day in the afternoon and wanted to invite all pupils, parents and carers along to join in. They made posters and invites for everyone.

The group wanted to ensure that all the activities had a literacy focus and based a number of different stations around books that the EYC and the two classes enjoy. They set out a plan of how to set-up the room and also created a timetable of storytelling sessions throughout the afternoon. These were led by the other two pupil committees and some of the members of staff.

The day prior to the party, the committee worked collaboratively to bake shortbread for all the visitors coming in.

The afternoon was a great success and it was wonderful to see all the children dress up and enjoy taking part in all the different activities. Thank you to everyone who came in and helped us celebrate the day.



