

Almond Park Nursery: April 2023 Bulletin



Hello parents and carers!

Warmer weather is upon us, and the playrooms have been making good use of it. Here is what we've gotten up to in this last month.

Buttercup



Buttercup have been very interested in outdoor play over the last month getting out in the garden and enjoying lots of walks and trips to the park, supporting our gross motor play and exploring their independence and risky play.

We have also been exploring baking recently speaking about numbers and amounts and using super helping skills to make some yummy cakes and scones.

We have been learning about Easter and Spring and using our fine motor skills whilst participating in Spring crafts supporting out 5 senses.

Next month we will be looking at outdoor play in all kinds of weather, learning about the different weather whilst developing awareness of the wider world through play. We will also be learning and celebrating the King's coronation with tea parties and lots of fun crafts.

Daisy



In April, Daisy room has been focusing on Spring and Easter. We have been doing a lot of different activities around this. We have also been preparing and settling our children who are moving to Snowdrop.

In May, we are going to be settling our children in from Buttercup and continuing to look at road safety and doing our trips to the library and reading lots of stories to do with Spring.

Snowdrop



This month, we have been doing lots of Spring arts and crafts and making things for the Spring Fayre, which we are all looking forward to. We have also been learning how flowers grow by planting sunflowers and having mud in the tuff tray with the plant pots. The children have also been keen on painting this month and using different items to paint with like stamps, stencils, paintbrushes and even our own hands!

Looking into May, we expect to be doing more outdoor activities as the improvement in the weather will allow this. The start of the month is Sun Awareness Week, so we will be keeping safe in the sun as always and explaining to the children why sun protection is important. After that is Mental Health Awareness Week so we will support our kids to be open and let them know that they are listened to.

Bluebell



Bluebell have been very busy observing their sunflower seeds grow into plants. This has prompted conversations about Jack and the Beanstalk, so we have been reading the story and measuring each other to see who is the tallest and smallest. Looking at measurement and the tools we use to measure will be one of the things we focus on.

We have 4 new planters in our garden which we have already planted potatoes and some wildflowers in, so we will be focusing on planting over the next few weeks and getting the children's ideas for what they would like to plant and hopefully eat at snack times!

Important Updates

Amy MacDonald, who was a practitioner in our Daisy room, left us on the 27th of April. We wish her well in her new environment.

Megan B Wood, one of our modern apprentices in Daisy, will be leaving us on the 27th of May.

Katy from our Snowdrop team joined the Daisy team on the 24th of April. This change was made to allow her child to move from Daisy to Snowdrop as we try to avoid a parent and their child being in the same space. We find that this has a positive effect on morale and the environment.

We are not closed for the May holidays and your children will still be scheduled to attend. If you will be keeping your child off nursery in these times, please let us know ASAP.

Thank you to everyone who attended their parents' evening. We enjoyed being able to talk to you about your children and their achievements and we hope you enjoyed it too!

Just a quick reminder that we have uniforms available to order. Please go to the following link and order some if you're interested: www.border-embroideries.co.uk/schools/almond-park-nursery-musselburgh.html

Changes in policies and important dates

On the 19th of April a post was put up regarding changes to our sun care policy. If you haven't read it already, please do so: <https://app.family.co/#/account/posts/6e5c1820-9517-4f5d-8128-7176b56b6c62>

On the 29th of April we will be hosting our Spring Fayre. We look forward to seeing people attend and we hope you enjoy what we have on offer.

We will be hosting a 3-5 curriculum evening on Wednesday the 10th of May between 6pm and 6:45pm. Our visiting teacher and members of management will be present.

We will be hosting a morning for parents to be able to chat with staff over some refreshments on Monday the 12th of June. This is an opportunity to get to know some of the staff as well as other parents.

What's new?

There are ongoing improvements to our gardens across all rooms, and these improvements will be documented. We look forward to seeing how the children use these spaces once developed fully.

Look out for our "You Said, We Did" board in reception. This will be a way to physically show what we have done with your feedback.

Our Improvement Plan

Priority 3: to further develop the provision of loose parts.

As part of our quality improvement plan, one of our priority areas is the development of our loose parts provision. One of the action points we are focusing on is adding a variety of loose parts/heuristic items to encourage curiosity approach, imagination and an open-ended play experience.

You can support the nursery by looking out for our posts looking for loose parts items. We would be looking for things like corks, jar lids, curtain reels, pinecones, sticks and more of that nature. There is a collection point in reception for these items.

Yours faithfully,

The team at Almond Park Nursery