

Almond Park Nursery: May 2023 Bulletin



Hello parents and carers!

Buttercup



This month Buttercup have been doing lots and lots of outdoor activities, learning about different weather types and having fun exploring lots of new exciting outdoor and indoor toys including a new mud kitchen. Buttercup have also been eagerly exploring our new and exciting room layout this month and our new soft play which has been great in supporting the development of our gross motor skills! Another area of interest is our natural heuristic play area where the children get to interact with and explore all our natural materials.

Next month we will continue to offer a wide range of activities to engage the children's interests! There will be lots more outdoor play, exploration, heuristic play opportunities and house corner play with our new pots and pans the children love to cook up a storm. Lots of mark making will also be on offer and much, much more!

Daisy



In May, Daisy room have been continuing our library trips on different days of the week. We have also been going on local walks to the beach and some parks near the nursery. We will be saying goodbye to our older children who are transitioning through to Snowdrop, but also welcoming a lot of children from Buttercup. Throughout June, we will continue our local walks and talking more about Summer and what we do in the Summer. We will have lots of activities planned to support this.

Snowdrop



Throughout May we've enjoyed lots of messy fun painting, gluing and exploring Spring themed sensory tuff trays. We've also spent time exploring the newly redesigned Snowdrop Garden, making the most of the sunshine and working on our gross motor skills in the process.

Looking into June, we will be switching our focus from Spring to Summer with sun, sea and sand themed activities and water play. We will also be helping our new friends coming from the Daisy room settle into the room.

Bluebell



Bluebell have been continuing to look after the flowers and plants. We have also added some herbs and peas. We enjoyed watching them grow and learned the names of the different parts of a plant/flower/

We took a walk to the lagoons to look for tadpoles but sadly we only saw 2. We saw plenty of fish, however. As we were learning about the life cycle of a frog, we got our books about it out and some stories about tadpoles to put in the story area.

Over the next few weeks, we will continue to visit the lagoons to see if any more tadpoles appear.

In the garden, we were excited to find all sorts of bugs from daddy long legs to ladybirds. We will add some bug finders and magnifying glasses so we can have a closer look.

Important Updates

Going forward, we plan to host drop-in sessions each academic term for parents of children who are newly eligible for funding so that we can help with paperwork and answer any questions you may have. Parents of children who are eligible for term 1 funding will be included in a post on our Famly app detailing how you can book one of these sessions and when we are offering them.

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

We have planned a graduation ceremony for the children who will be moving to their first year of primary school with lots of fun activities and some refreshments for the 2nd of June. We will be so sad to see them go but we will be wishing them all the best in the future!

Reminder for parents who had registered for it, the family paediatric first aid course is set to start on Thursday the 8th of June between 6:15pm and 8:15pm. We hope you enjoy it as it was successful the last time it happened.

As a reminder, we will be hosting a morning for parents to meet with our staff and get to know us a little better on the 12th of June. We look forward to seeing you!

Children who attend a term-time pattern will be absent for the Summer holidays starting on Thursday the 29th of June (their last possible attendance day being Wednesday the 28th of June) and returning on Monday the 14th of August. We hope you enjoy the holidays and look forward to hearing what you all did when you get back!

As Summer is right around the corner, the rooms will be making the most of the beautiful weather. As such, we would like to reiterate how crucial our sun care procedure is. Children should come to nursery with sun cream already on and over the course of the day, staff will reapply it a while before going outdoors and as necessary beyond that point. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in contact. More info about this can be found here: <https://app.famly.co/#/account/posts/6e5c1820-9517-4f5d-8128-7176b56b6c62>

What's new?

You will have seen on Famly that the entire back of the building has underwent a much-needed facelift. It was given a fresh coat of paint and the result has been a brighter outdoor area. If you missed the post, it can be found here: <https://app.famly.co/#/account/posts/018753c6-6aa1-4d61-b7c1-e40b224b86ec>.

Going forward, we will have more work on the gardens. We will be posting our progress as it happens.

Our Improvement Plan

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

As mentioned in the last newsletter, a priority area for us is the development of our loose parts resources, which we are working on through adding a wide variety of loose parts and heuristic items that will encourage open-ended play and stimulate the imagination.

We would look for things like corks, jar lids, pinecones, sticks, and more like that, and you can help us by looking out for posts stating what items we are looking for and putting what you can in the collection point at reception.

Yours faithfully,

The team at Almond Park Nursery