

Almond Park Nursery: September Update



Hello parents and carers!

Your children have had a great time this month and we'd like to share it with you!

Buttercup



Buttercup have been exploring the start of Autumn through collecting lots of autumnal items for our loose parts area. These items have been helping us develop our fine motor skills and hand-eye co-ordination. Some of the items we have collected so far include acorns, colourful leaves, branches, sticks and lots more. We have also been practicing a variety of schemas such as transporting, trajectory and positioning through exploring these items.

We look forward to exploring more outdoor areas such as the lagoons, Pinkie playing fields and Lewisvale to gather more items for our sensory area. This will also help us develop our movement and develop our gross motor skills through building lots of strength.

The Buttercups will also be exploring Halloween, the story behind this holiday and how some of us celebrate this. Our story of the month is *The Gruffalo*

To help with our loose parts area, we would appreciate any wooden/metal/household items to add to our sensory area and house area. Feel free to pop us a message if you would be able to contribute to this. Thank you in advance!

Daisy



In September, we began counting, learning about the weather, learning each other's names through circle time, and did lots of dinosaur-themed activities, for example using dinosaur-shaped pasta as shapes for painting and reading books about dinosaurs.

We've had a good time preparing our older children for their transition to Snowbell and have enjoyed settling new children into the nursery, and we hope that our new friends enjoy their time in the Daisy room. In October we will be continuing to support our older children in their transition to Snowbell.

We have lots of fun October activities and topics planned. We will be learning about Autumn and seeing what changes in the environment around us in Autumn. Plans for this topic include making art using colours we think of when we think of Autumn, observing the changes in the weather and plants around us, learning about Autumn animals and preparing for Halloween.

Snowbell



As you are all aware, this month's topic in the Snowbell room is based on the garden. We are delighted to have had new resources ordered for us such as skipping ropes, balls and fairy lights for our garden shed. We have had lots of fun playing with these!

We have also been busy doing garden litter picks and discussing why litter isn't good for our environment.

Over the next few weeks, we are planning on doing lots of planting in the garden. We will be planting flowers and vegetables and maintaining a lovely herb garden for a sensory experience,

In the playroom, we have recently added teepees to provide more comforting areas for the children. We have observed their use and found that the children have been using them for quiet time and to read stories. We have also added cosy new carpets for that homely feel.

Important updates

We are delighted to announce that much earlier this month, Amy finished her qualification and is now a qualified member of the Daisy room. Congratulations!

In October, we will be welcoming Jamie McDonald to our team. She joins our Snowbell room as someone who has knowledge and experience in childcare and has a drive to learn about the routines of nursery life.

On the 14th of October, Claire Kelly, one of our Snowbell support workers, will be leaving us in search of new challenges. We wish her the best in her career.

We will be saying our goodbyes and good lucks to Snowbell modern apprentice Megan on the 26th of October as she embarks on a new adventure. We've valued her contribution to this nursery and wish her well in her future endeavors.

Snowbell practitioner Kimberley will be leaving us on the 27th of October as she expands her career in childcare with a nursery run by East Lothian Council. We hope she enjoys her new post there and we thank her for her work here in the nursery.

Our Snowbell senior Chloe has left on maternity leave. We wish her and her child good health, happiness and (hopefully) calm nights. Congratulations, Chloe!

Changes in policies and important dates

Please remember that from the 17th to the 24th of October (including Monday 24th October) term-time children are not scheduled to attend nursery. Our team looks forward to seeing their bright and cheery faces after their break!

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

Finally, we would like to thank you deeply for your continued co-operation and support over the last month.

Yours faithfully,

The team at Almond Park Nursery