



newsletter

Newsletter – January 2023 - Term 3



“Together we make a family!”



Follow us on Instagram and Facebook!

Two great ways for you to keep up to date with all the latest news from the KingsWellies gang!

Happy New Year and a HUGE thank you!

Happy new year to all of our children, parents, friends and staff! We really hope that you enjoyed a lovely festive period! We are all really glad to be back at nursery and are looking forward to a **jam-packed third term!**

We would also like to say a massive thank you to all of our parents, children and families for your generosity over Xmas. We received lots of lovely presents which were shared with all staff. Everyone went home with presents to enjoy. This was extremely generous of you and MUCH appreciated!

Many thanks also for your kind donations towards Mission Christmas. We managed to fill numerous boxes to donate. The generosity that has been shown over Mission Christmas is AMAZING!!

A huge number of children in the local area benefited from your generosity with North Sound Radio distributing thousands of presents.



December Highlights

We did not stop in December. We had sooo much on! We loved our Xmas parties and visits from Santa. We were also very proud of all of our children who really enjoyed their Christmas sing along's with their parents.

We celebrated St Andrew's Day and raised lots of money for charity through our bake sales and Christmas jumper weeks. We also LOVED our Christmas lunch. Thank you to Entier for always feeding us so well.



KingsWellies Parent Council

Our Parent Council will continue to meet once per term. PLEASE bring to our attention any issues that you would like us to include on the agenda for this term's meeting. Many thanks. Laura will be in touch soon.



Extra-Curricular Activities

Please see our timetable below for your information. We are pleased to welcome our specialists for 2023. We are also hoping to add Rugby Totts to our regular timetable. More information to follow.

We will also have Scholastic Book Fair at the nursery from 07-03-2023 until 14/01/2023 to help us to celebrate World Book Day

Would you like to see anything else added to our timetable? Please let us know.

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
AM – Yoga	AM - French	AM – Flash Dance	AM – Flash Dance	AM – Kids Rock
	Pm – Kids Rock	PM – Moo Music		

Chinese New Year

We have been extremely busy planning our celebrations for The Year of The Rabbit. This year Chinese New Year lands on 22/1/23. Last year we opened our very own Chinese take away – KINGS-WOK-AWAY. It was a great success. Our chefs cooked up a storm and fed the entire nursery. Look out for lots of exciting activities for this year's celebrations. If you would like to come in to speak to us about how you celebrate different family or cultural traditions, please let us know. We would LOVE to invite you in.



The Scottish Daily Mile

We will continue to aim for all of our children to walk, jog or run for at least 15 minutes each day. Most children can average around a mile in that time! Keep going gang!



let us know.

Charities

We will be fully involving our Pre-School Charities Committee to help us to plan our campaigns for the coming year. If you would like to nominate a particular charity for us to focus on, please



Staff Training Update

Individual staff will continue to attend a variety of very valuable training courses.

We work hard to ensure that all staff are confident, competent and knowledgeable and that we keep up to date with all new developments. Staff all meet monthly for a series of collegiate meetings and all staff participate in a very comprehensive continual professional development programme. 90% of our staff have achieved / or are working towards accredited SVQ qualifications also.



ALL Staff will be participating in Thinking and Talking Floorbook Training on 28/1/23. This will inform our future planning for learning and teaching. We are all really excited to get stuck in to this course. Look out for more information and please have a look at our Floorbooks which are hanging up outside our rooms.



We will also be focusing on Curriculum for Excellence Training this term, with a particular focus on Literacy, Health and Wellbeing and Numeracy. This is one of the main priorities within our Improvement Plan. We will keep you informed of our progress. Have you got any ideas on how to better improve our learning and teaching? We will be asking our children too.

Play On Pedals

Two of our staff (Connor and Jenny) will be participating in a very exciting new national initiative called Play on Pedals. They will be undergoing training in order to become Play on Pedals Instructors, this term. We have just taken possession of a fleet of brand new balance bikes, helmets and one pedal bike. The bikes have been purchased following a successful grant application to Cycling Scotland by ACC. We will be using these with our children to support and develop their gross motor skills. VERY exciting! More information and lots of photos to follow.

Room Transitions

Transitions to the next room will be planned depending on the individual child's needs. Room staff will discuss all transitions in depth with you in plenty of time.

Wellie Jellies Extension

We are delighted to confirm that the Wellie Jellies room is currently being expanded. This expansion is making use of the adjoining space within the Prime Four Management Suite. This will enable us to provide additional high quality accommodation for around another 24 children in our 3-5 age range. It will also allow for more space in the Jellies room, create a nurture space for our children and spread out the play areas. We are hoping to open this new space around Easter 2023. In the meantime, the children have really enjoyed visiting their new larger playroom and will be fully involved in ordering resources for it and planning how it will be laid out. We will keep you informed of progress and will ensure that all works will be carried out with extreme sensitivity to the health and safety needs of our children. Staffing will be confirmed at a later date although the current Jellies team will remain in place.

If you know anyone who will be looking for a space for their child, please let them know that additional spaces will be opening up soon, across the nursery.



Topics for this term

Over the next few weeks, we will be focusing on a variety of topics in our playrooms. These will include:

- **KINDNESS – Are you a bucket filler or a bucket dipper?**
- The Scottish Daily Mile - we aim to jog, run or walk for up to 15 minutes every day!
- Winter, Frost, The Arctic, Weather – LOTS of Science experiments!
- Child-led improvement groups – Eco Group, Charities Group, Outside Play Group, Jellies Expansion Group, Gardening Group and Buddies Group will continue to work hard
- New beginnings, Time, Months of the year, Birthdays
- All about me and my family and friends
- Rules, Rights and Responsibilities – **Why do we have rules? What can we do better? We will be revising our Nursery Golden Rules. Focus - Positive Behaviour and “Catch them being good!”**
- LOTS of Reflection Time in our interest groups; talking about our learning and what we would like to learn with our key workers
- Chinese New Year – The Year of the Rabbit.
- Grow well choices – making healthy decisions

- Makaton – we are getting good at using this sign language!
- 17th January – Kids Inventor Day
- 18th January – Winnie the Pooh Day
- 23rd January – Handwriting Day
- 24th January – National Compliments Day
- 25th January – Robert Burns Day
- 25th January – Opposites Day
- 27th January – International Chocolate Cake Day
- 29th January – Puzzle Day
- 30th January – National Croissant Day
- 21st January – Backwards Day
- 3rd February – Carrot Cake Day
- 5th February – National Weatherperson Day
- 7th February – Send a card to a friend day
- 9th February – National pizza day
- 11th February – Make a Friend Day
- 14th February – Valentine's Day
- 14th February – Library Lovers Day
- 17th February – Random Acts of Kindness Day. What could we do?
- 20th February – **Love your pet day!**
- 22nd February – International World Thinking Day
- 26th February – Tell a fairy tale day. **Bring in your favourite fairy tales!**
- 28th February – Floral Design Day
- 1st March – St David's Day (Wales)
- 1st March – Pancake Day
- 1st March – Food waste action week – Our ECO group are going to be busy!



- 3rd March – World book day
- 6th March – Dentist day
- 7th – 14TH March – Scholastic Book Fair, Lots of Books to borrow and buy!
- 10th March – Popcorn Day
- 17th March – St Patrick's day (Ireland)
- 18th March – Global recycling day
- 20th March – world storytelling day
- 21st March – World poetry day
- 21st March – World Down Syndrome Day
- 22nd March – world water day
- 23rd March – National puppy day
- 25th March – wear a hat day (brain tumour awareness)
- 27th March – Mother's Day
- 1st April – April Fool's Day
- Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing – LOTS of exciting learning opportunities.



Staffing Update

We have recently welcomed Gracie Melvin, Shona Lindsay and Eva Jirgena to the nursery. They have settled in very well with the Wellies Gang. Pedro has decided to return to his job as a primary teacher, however will still work with us during all school holidays. Also, a Big Congratulations to Samantha Fryers (Wellie Jellies) on her pregnancy announcement We can't wait to welcome him/her into the Wellie Gang. Simone, Marcia and Steph will also be returning to us this year, following their maternity leaves. We will keep you updated with all staffing announcements.



Pudding Our Guide Dog Puppy

We are delighted to continue to sponsor Pudding, a guide dog puppy in training. We will follow Puddings' journey as he grows from a tiny pup into a fully qualified guide dog and transforms the life of a person with sight loss. Ask the Wellie Jellies all about Pudding. They have been learning all about the importance of this charity. The Wellie Jellies also have their very own Pudding puppy who has

been on lots of adventures with them! The other rooms have been taking Ziggy and Patsy Cline on adventures all over the place too! Watch out for them coming home soon and for their adventures on facebook. They have also been writing their very own storybooks to read to each other in class.



1140 Hours Funding

Scott will keep you right in applying for funding if your child has just turned three or will be turning three soon. If you would like to book additional funded sessions, please do so now, whilst we still have spaces available.

Enhancing our Environments

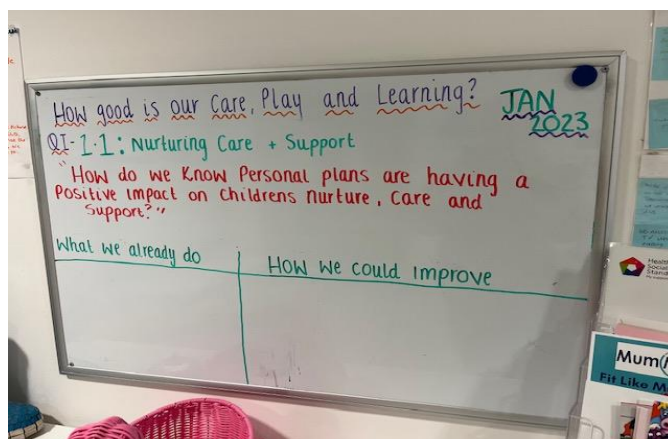
We are always very busy enhancing our environments. The children have loved designing their new areas too. What do you think? We are always looking for junk, natural materials, wooden toys and old technologies (cameras, phones, remote controls etc). Please donate if you are looking for a new home for anything that you think would be useful to us.



Parental Consultation – Question of the month – January 2022

Each month we strive to self-evaluate our practice because we want to be a better nursery. We also need our parents to give us feedback.

Our January 2023 question of the month comes from A Quality Framework for Daycare of Children, Childminding and School-aged Children (Care Inspectorate, February 22). We very much value your feedback.



Parental Consultations

Feedback

Please be reassured that all feedback is taken very seriously and is acted upon immediately. Individual parents are always responded to and ideas implemented immediately within the nursery environment. Unfortunately, we don't receive much feedback, but we will keep trying, as this is extremely valuable to us.

Stakeholder Consultation

Please see our attached Stakeholder Consultation for your information. Please give us your feedback. We want to make our consultation meaningful for our parents and carers, so please let us know what you would like us to ask you.

Curriculum Rationale - Consultation

Please find attached our Curriculum Rationale. We last reviewed it with our parents, staff and children in April 2018. Do we need to change it? Add anything? Please let us know. Many thanks.

Comments, Compliments and Concerns

Please give us your feedback – good and bad. It means a lot to us! We only want to keep improving in order to provide the BEST service possible. PLEASE make us your first port of call if you have any comments or concerns. If we work together, we will be able to achieve the very best for all of our children. Many thanks.

We also have Compliments slips available in reception in relation to our staff. The staff work very hard and we all know that it is nice to hear a compliment from time to time. Many thanks to those parents who have already paid staff members a compliment. We are always looking for Workers of the Week and Workers of the Month.



Drive Carefully

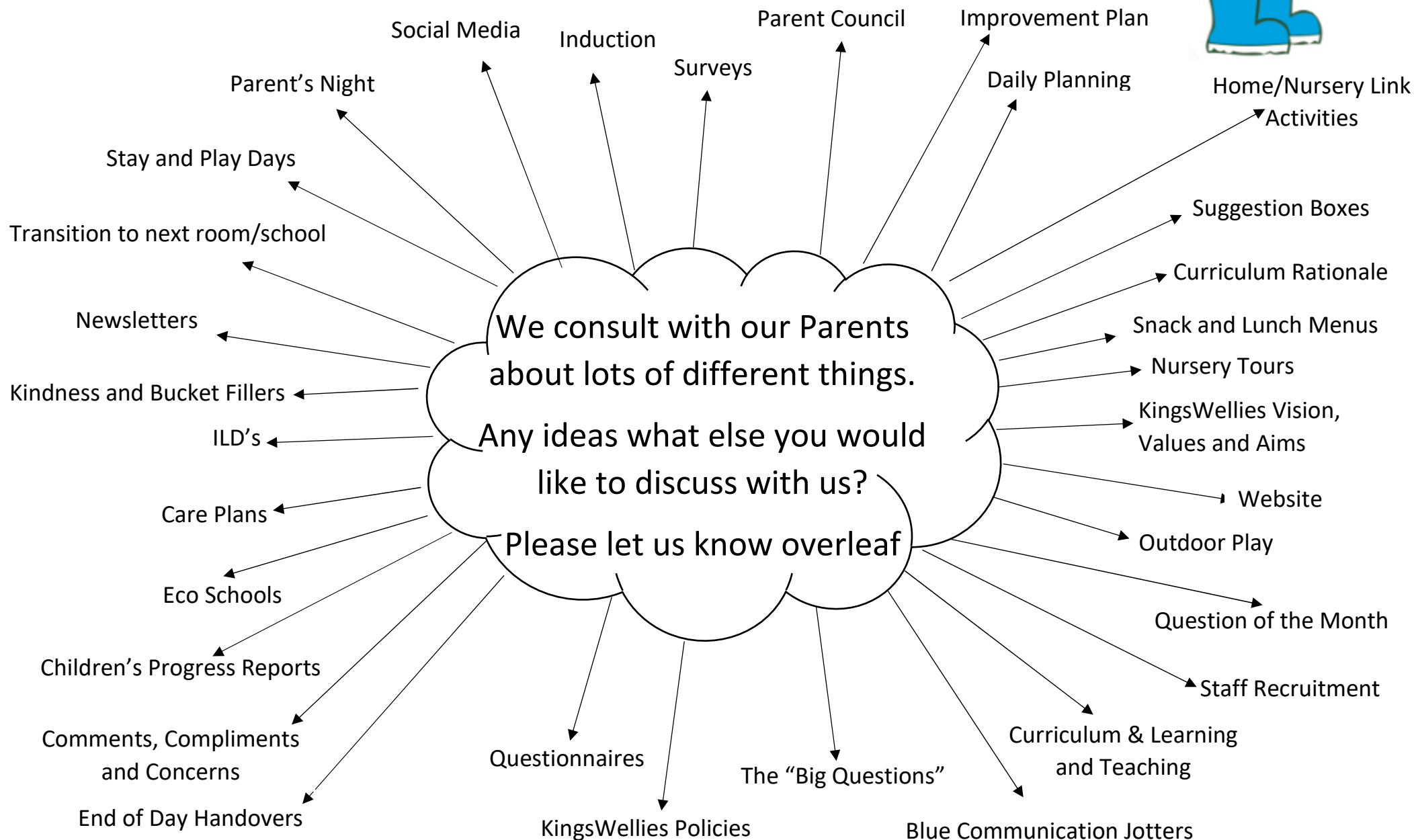
Please always drive carefully and reverse park when in our car park. The speed limit is 5 miles per hour at all times. Many thanks.

If you would like this newsletter or any other documentation from nursery translated in to another language or an alternate reading format, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Wishing you a very happy Chinese New Year and a very prosperous and healthy 2023! Gong xi fa cai (Mandarin) and Gonghey Fat Choy (Cantonese)



KingsWellies Stakeholder Consultation



KingsWellies Stakeholder Consultation



We consult with our Parents
about lots of different things.

Any ideas what else you would
like to discuss with us?

OUR CURRICULUM RATIONALE

We asked parents, staff and children what skills and qualities they felt were important to develop in our KingsWellies children. These form the smaller stars on route to the North Star which was created by our staff.

- We have designed our curriculum around these skills and qualities.

We are on a
Learning Journey

KingsWellies
Nursery
Curriculum
Rationale

To be able to read well and be able to understand texts as well as express themselves in writing.

To be successful learners

To demonstrate leadership skills and have integrity, self-respect and ambition

To be able to make good choices about physical and emotional health.

To be enterprising and creative.

To be resilient and recognise that making mistakes is part of learning and be able to take measured risks.

To have good knowledge of KingsWellies and its place within the community.

To be aware of our emotions and why we are feeling or behaving in a certain way. To be able to express ourselves in order to problem solve in our relationships with our families and friends

To be kind, considerate and respectful of others.

To be able to work with numbers in order to solve problems.

To be confident learners who can successfully evaluate their learning and set targets for future

To be able to set high standards for themselves and be aspirational about their future.

To be effective contributors

To be able to think critically and solve problems.

To be responsible citizens.

To develop knowledge of the world and Scotland's place in it.

To be confident individuals

To be able to work independently as well as with others and show openness for new ideas.

We encourage all learners to be the best they can be. We provide a safe, caring and motivating learning environment where high quality experiences and teaching ensure a culture of success and achievement.

KingsWellies Nursery – Curriculum Rationale

Rationale

We, the staff at KingsWellies Nursery, believe that all children deserve success in every form. In order to ensure that our children have ongoing, sustainable opportunities to achieve this success, we have built a curriculum which develops the whole person. Our curriculum strives to include (but is not limited by) the necessary knowledge, skills, understanding and attitudes which will drive their motivation for learning. It is lively and engaging for all ages whilst remaining flexible and responsive to the children's needs and interests.

At KingsWellies our rationale is to provide children with a sound basis for their development as lifelong learners with the capacity to develop skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

Our curriculum is based around the Scottish National Curriculum documents, "Pre-Birth to Three: Positive Outcomes for Scotland's Children and Families" and the Scottish "Curriculum for Excellence".

The promotion of Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing underpins much of the curriculum to provide a supportive and inclusive learning environment for all children, whatever their age and stage of development.

Aims and Objectives

Curriculum for Excellence is about ensuring that we help develop and educate our children and invest in them to become:

- Successful Learners with enthusiasm and motivation for learning and openness to new ideas and determined to reach high standards of achievement.
- Confident Individuals with physical, mental and emotional wellbeing and self-respect and ambition.
- Responsible Citizens with respect for others and a commitment to participate responsibility in political, economic, social and cultural life whilst developing a knowledge of the world and Scotland's place in it.
- Effective Contributors with resilience and self-reliance, who can communicate, work in partnership and apply critical thinking, solve problems and be enterprising and creative.

Implementation

- Challenge and Enjoyment – To ensure the children find their learning challenging, engaging and motivating. The curriculum should encourage high aspirations and ambitions for all.
- Breadth – All children should have opportunities for a broad, suitably weighted range of experiences.
- Progression – The children should experience continuous progression in their learning from 3 to 18 within a single curriculum framework.
- Depth – There should be opportunities for children to develop their full capacity for different types of thinking and learning.
- Personalisation and Choice – The curriculum should respond to individual needs and support particular aptitudes and talents.
- Coherence – Taken as a whole, children's learning activities should combine to form a coherent experience.
- Relevance – Children should understand the purpose of their experiences. They should see the value of what they are learning and its relevance to their lives, present and future.