



newsletter

Newsletter – November / December 2021



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Christmas Newsflash

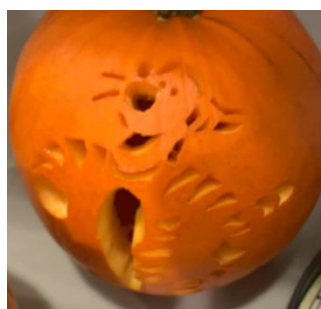
“Together we make a family!”

Follow us on Instagram and like us on Facebook!

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

Halloween Celebrations

We had a great time dressing up, baking, partying and designing pumpkins during our Halloween week. Many thanks to everyone who participated in our Pumpkin carving competition. Well done everyone! Great fun was had by all!



Well done to our winners – Teddy, Coco, Jake, Lilliana and Isla! It was extremely difficult to judge but parents, children and staff all cast their votes. Also well done to everyone who dressed up during the week! It was great fun!! We have some very creative members of the Wellie Gang!



Fun with Sparklers and Toasted Marshmallows around the Campfire

We loved toasting our marshmallows around the fire and making smores! They were delicious! Scott told us all about fire safety and firework safety and we completed our risk assessments together. We learnt all about GUY FAWKES and the gunpowder plot. We also loved writing our own firework poems, designing fireworks paintings and making our own fireworks! We also had great fun being out in the dark and making shapes with our sparklers! The Wellie dogs were also in attendance and loved their doggy smores!



Staffing Update

Welcome back to Sarah who has rejoined us. We are delighted to welcome her back to the Wellies team in the baby room

We are also delighted to welcome a number of new staff to our Wellies Gang. Please welcome Laura Burnett to the Wellie Beans room and Simone Knitter and Leah Bowman to the Wellie tots room. Kaitlyn Edwards and Connor Stewart are now working in the Wellie Beans room. Ellis Ralston and Shannon Robertson are back working in Babies. Kayleigh Gordon is due to return to us in January after being off on maternity leave. She will rejoin the babies team!



Laura Burnett



Simone Knitter



Leah Bowman

Annabell Kelly, Pamela Duncan, Chelsea McKay, Rachel Fernandes, Claire Smith, Emma Gilmour, Caragh Roopun, KClee Colville and Isla McGregor will all be providing support where needed. This is to ensure that we are always above ratio in each room.



Annabell Kelly



Pamela Duncan



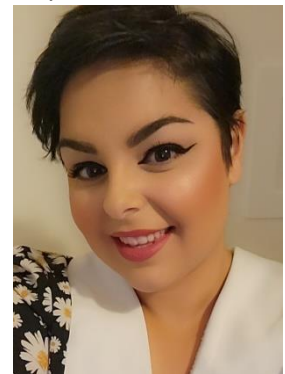
Chelsea McKay



Rachel Fernandes



Caragh Roopun



Isla McGregor



Huge congratulations to Amy Wilkins, who announced her pregnancy recently. Her maternity leave will start late December.

We also have a number of staff who have recently given birth.

Karla has given birth to beautiful baby boy, Kaison.

Lauren has given birth to a beautiful baby boy named Jax.

Rachel has given birth to a beautiful baby girl, Lucie.

Good luck ladies, we are thinking about you all!

PHEW! Lots of new additions to the KingsWellies family. We can't wait to meet them all.



Kaison



Jax



Lucie

Breast Cancer Awareness – Dress in Pink Week

Lots of fun and fundraising this week! We loved coming to nursery dressed in pink. Many thanks to everyone who donated to this very worthwhile cause.

We raised a whopping £315.28! We loved baking and then selling our bakes! They were delicious!



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!
- LOTS of Reflection Time in our interest groups; talking about our learning and what we would like to learn with our key workers. Look out for our Learning Mascots.
- Seasons – Autumn and Winter
- Festivals, traditions and celebrations
- Grow well choices – making healthy decisions
- Christmas and lots of festive celebrations
- The Nativity and the birth of Jesus
- Bonfire Night and firework safety. Who was Guy Fawkes?
- Diwali Festival of Lights
- Remembrance Sunday – Making our own poppies.
- Children in Need fundraising week. More information to follow.
- 13th November – International Kindness day
- 20th November – Universal Children's day
- 21st November – World Hello day. We can say hello in Makaton and French!
- 30th November – St Andrew's day. Wear something tartan this week.
- 3rd December – International day of persons with disabilities
- 5th December – World soil day
- 9th December – International Xmas card day
- 10th December – Human rights day
- 14th December – International Monkey day
- 24th December – Hanukkah begins (Jewish)
- 25th December – Christmas day
- 31st December – New Years Day



- Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing – **LOTS of exciting learning opportunities.**

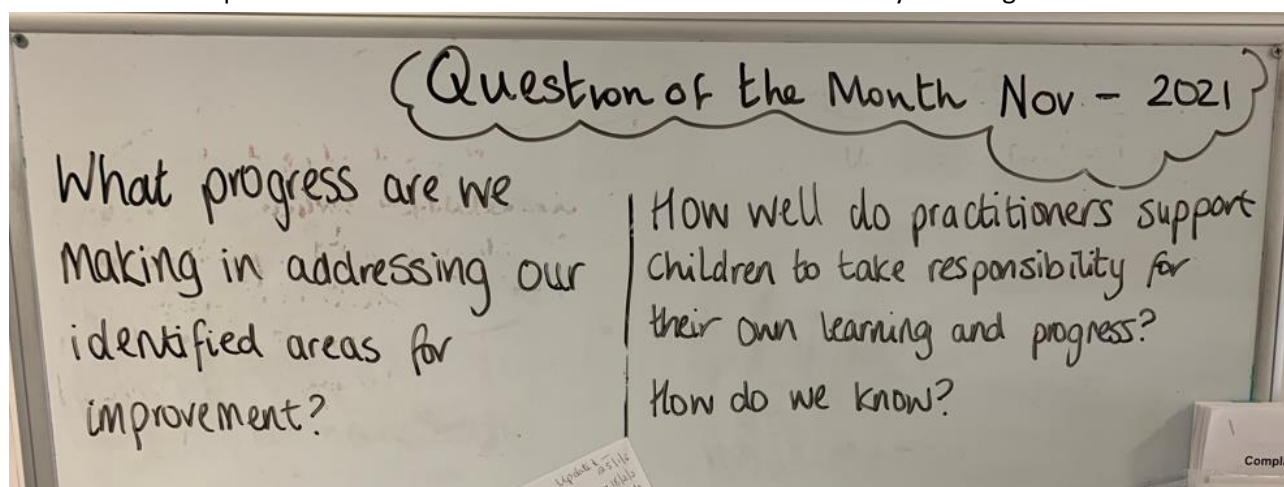


Parental Consultations

Question of the month November 2021

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 November question of the month comes from How Good Is Our Early Learning and Childcare.



All of our staff have recently been involved in refreshing their child protection training. **Kerry is our Child Protection Coordinator within KingsWellies Nursery.**

Our Parent Council will be meeting again in the new year. Please let us know if you have any items for our agenda. Please give us your comments. Your feedback means a lot to us.

KingsWellies Policies of the Month – CfE Benchmarks

This month, we would like to provide you with the opportunity to review and consult on the Curriculum for Excellence: Learning Benchmarks. These Benchmarks are core to our planning within our Wellie Beans and Wellie Jellies room. The vast majority of children should confidently be able to fulfil these Benchmarks by the end of Primary one. You can find the Early Level Benchmarks for all curricular areas at this link.

https://education.gov.scot/nih/Documents/EarlyLevelBenchmarksAllAreas_.pdf

Our staff teach the majority of these with our children aged between three to five years old. Some of the Benchmarks will not be covered until the children are at school. We hope that you find this information useful. Please give us your feedback and comments. Your feedback will shape our future priorities for improvement.

Covid Update – KW Reopening Strategy

All of the changes that we have made and continue to make, are based around ongoing guidance from the Scottish Government. We check this guidance weekly for updates and to ensure that we are not missing anything. The last updated was on 11/10/2021 and this did not change our Reopening Strategy.

To summarise, our current Reopening Strategy (V12) is still relevant. Nothing has changed. We can still only have limited visitors in to the nursery. Many thanks for your ongoing cooperation and for helping to keep us all safe. Please find our current Reopening Strategy (V12) for your information.

Christmas Holidays

Just a reminder that we are closed for two weeks over the Christmas and New Year Period. We close at 6pm on Tuesday 21st December 2021 and reopen at 7.30am on Wednesday 5th January 2022. Enjoy everyone!

Aberdeen City Council Pre-School Funding

For all those of you who have children who are approaching aged three or are already three years old, you will be entitled to apply for pre-school funding from Aberdeen City Council. Please see Kerryn in order to complete the appropriate forms. We will tell you when you need to fill out the forms so don't worry!

Children's Uniform

Just a reminder that we have a variety of very durable uniform for sale. Our uniform is very good value for money and provides the children with a sense of identity and belonging. Please email Kerryn in the office for an order form.

Toilet Training

We strive very hard to meet all of the individual needs of our children. Just a reminder that we will support parents in all aspects of toilet training. The best time to do this is when the child is ready, which is usually round about the toddler stage. We would like to aim that all children are toilet trained by the time they reach our Wellie Beans and Jellies rooms. This is good for their own self-esteem and in preparing them for their transition to school. We are more than happy to support parents with this crucial stage in development, whilst recognising that all children are different.

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.





November/December Newsletter 2021

Christmas Newsflash

Important Dates for your Diaries



15th November – Santa Post Box! Our Christmas post box will be open and waiting for your letters to Santa. Please post your Santa letter by 26th November so that Santa has time to reply!

15th November - 19th November- Children In Need week. Children and staff can wear Bing, Children in Need or Animal related costumes/clothes. Donation cans will be at reception and outside each classroom if you wish to make a donation.

11th November - 10th December – Cash for Kids Mission Christmas 2021. We are collecting gifts to support the less fortunate children in and around our local area from Thursday 11th November. We need all donations by Monday 6th December. Please also remember teenagers (especially boys). The collection box will be in our front entrance. Many thanks for your kind and generous donations.

22nd November – Decoration time- We will have great fun decorating the nursery from top to bottom with Christmas delights!

30th November – St Andrew's Day – W/C 29th Nov – Scottish Week. Remember to wear something tartan this week to celebrate ALL things Scottish!

1st December – Advent! The countdown begins!

1st December – Frosty the KingsWellies Elf! Look out for Frosty, our very own KingsWellies Elf! I am sure that he will be getting up to lots of mischief in and around KingsWellies as he helps Santa to get ready for Christmas day!

6th December – Xmas jumper week - wear your jumpers ALL week! Wear your Christmas jumpers and donate £1 to Cash for Kids Mission Christmas 2021. Come on Mums and Dads – we would love to see YOUR Christmas jumpers too!

9th December – International Xmas Card Day – Designing, making, giving and receiving!

Monday 13th December to Fri 17th December – Kingswellies Christmas Party Week and visit from Santa (socially distanced!!). Remember to wear your party outfits!

16th December - Christmas Lunch! Roast Turkey and all the trimmings!

We will also have lots and lots of song times with Moo Music, Kids Rock and Funbox.

Xmas Parties

If your child does not attend nursery the day/time their room's party will be held, you are more than welcome to drop your child off and pick them up during this time. Please let the office know if you plan to do this. Unfortunately, parents are still not allowed into the building this year for parties/concerts. We will take lots of photos and upload to ILD/social media!

14th December – Preschool Xmas Party 2pm-4pm

15th December – Babies Xmas Party 9.30am-11am

15th December – Toddlers Xmas Party 2pm-4pm

17th December – Jellies Xmas Party 2pm-4pm



We are looking for volunteers to be 'Santa' this year. So if you or anyone you know, may be interested in getting involved for the Xmas Parties, then please email Marcia@kingswelliesnursery.com.

Funbox – Santa's Pyjama Party – Funbox (formerly of The Singing Kettle) will be sending us a video of their Xmas performance so that we can watch this at nursery! We will let you know when we receive the video and we encourage staff and children to come to nursery dressed in their Pyjamas that day too!

Tuesday 21st December – Nursery closes at 6pm

Wednesday 5th January 2022 – Nursery reopens at 7.30am

Lost Property

All lost property will be put at our Reception area for you to have a look to see if anything belongs to your child. Anything which has not been claimed by the end of the year, will be donated to charity. Many thanks.

Thank you

We are really looking forward to spending the next few weeks together making special and lasting Christmas memories.

We hope that you have a lovely Christmas even through these ongoing strange times.

Thank you ALL so much for your ongoing support during this difficult year. It really is much appreciated.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of your Kingswellies Family.

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.

