

newsletter



Summer Newsletter – August / September / October 2025

“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 Wellies gang!

What have the KingsWellies, West End Wellies and QueensWellies Gang been up to lately?

We have been very busy with Graduation planning and partying, visiting Hazelhead Park and lots of local parks, Health Month, bucket fillers, stay and play days, friendships and teamwork, daily mile, visits around the community, Happy Body Healthy Me Campaign, sun safety, Eco Schools and sustainability, Forest Schools, Rights Respecting Schools Awards, planting and improving our gardens and playgrounds, sports days, picnics, pizzas, BBQs, getting ready to go to school, learning Makaton, learning all about minibests, farm animals, animals under the sea, our communities, learning about Space, people who help us, lots of outdoor play, road safety, reading our book bug bags and LOTS more.....

KingsWellies

KingsWellies Nursery LOVED our Graduation Celebrations. This year we enjoyed having Leanne from Kidz Rock to host our party before enjoying some tasty party food. After all this, we then invited the parents to come in to see all of our little graduates receive their certificates and walk the red carpet!

We have also really enjoyed taking part in our summer topics! This has included learning how to keep safe in the sun with activities such as how to apply your suncream and what to wear when outside. We have loved making our own yummy ice lollies, ice cream tuff trays and homemade smoothies!

All rooms have enjoyed going to Kingswells Park, exploring Prime Four and playing lots of games at the forecourt. Please remember to put in suncream and a sunhat so we can continue to enjoy the sunny weather outdoors!

At KingsWellies on Friday 26th September, we are holding our annual MacMillian coffee morning! All of our rooms will be baking some yummy homemade treats for you all to enjoy. This will take place in our reception area with the children helping to serve you their wonderful bakes. All monies raised will go to this amazing charity.





West End Wellies



Over the past few months, the children at West End Wellies have been participating in a wide range of activities such as hosting our own Ice cream parlour for our Queenswellies friends. We showed them around our playrooms and garden and then enjoyed a yummy Ice cream. We have also dined out in our very own Pizza Parlour which we absolutely LOVED. The children made homemade pizza dough and then with a little help from our janitors, we used our brand-new Pizza Oven to stone bake our pizzas. These were delicious!

We are absolutely delighted to announce that West End Wellies has received their very first Green Eco Schools Award flag. The children have all worked extremely hard to achieve this and we couldn't be prouder. We have also had a recent visit from Ann from Childsmile. Ann comes to ensure that we are following the correct policies and procedures for brushing our children's teeth. We are happy to announce that we have received a certificate for all of the children who continue to be Star Brushers! Very well done to all!

On Friday 26th September, we will be holding our annual MacMillian Coffee morning. Both our rooms will be home baking some yummy treats for you all to enjoy. This will take place in our Den which is located in the room on the right as you enter the reception area. We cannot wait to welcome our parents and friends to this very worthwhile charity event.

QueensWellies

The last few months at Queenswellies have been extremely busy, from graduation, to trips out and about, as well as lots of fun-filled educational activities. In June we hosted our first Graduation. The boys and girls had a great time celebrating with their friends. They enjoyed dancing, party games and even their own ice cream parlour. This was a special request from our graduates. We invited the parents in too. They really enjoyed seeing their graduate receive their certificate and enjoyed a slideshow of their time at Queenswellies Nursery. We wish our little graduates the very best of luck in Primary 1.

We have enjoyed lots of trips out and about to Hazelhead park, the Maritime Museum, Tesco and our local community. We even paid a visit to WEW to enjoy a lunch together, followed by some yummy ice cream from their ice cream parlour. The children loved meeting the boys and girls at WEW and can't wait to arrange more playdates with them and KW in the future.

Queenswellies also recently enjoyed using the brand-new pizza oven. Making their very own pizzas from scratch, they rolled out the dough and chose their favourite toppings to go on each pizza. All the children in the nursery sat outside together to enjoy their yummy pizzas allowing the older children to help serve up some snack to the babies.



In August Queenswellies, will also be hosting their very first festival – Bee In The Park – the children have been working together with their teachers to plan a fun-filled, festival-inspired afternoon to end the Summer before starting a new term.

On Friday 26th September Queenswellies will be hosting their annual MacMillian coffee morning. This will be held in our outdoor classroom where parents can enjoy a hot refreshment and some lovely home bakes made by the children and staff.

Rugby Totts is also starting up at QW on 20th August. Please email admin to sign up for this exciting class.

KingsWellies, QueensWellies and West End Wellies



On 28th August we will be celebrating Makaton day. We have challenged the boys and girls to learning the song “True colours” in Makaton and invited Simone’s sister Megan in to enjoy a performance and judge our Makaton skills.

We have also LOVED working with all of our extra-curricular teachers; French, Moo Music, Chef Lisa, Kids Rock, Flashdance, Yoga Totts, Rugby Totts, Gym Bunnies. We are developing a HUGE number of inter-disciplinary skills every day. We are also hoping to introduce Cricket Totts and Soccer Wellies soon too! Watch this space!



Please contact us if you would like to know more about booking a space with us at one of our Wellies Nurseries. Please also contact us if you would like to book into one of our extra-curricular groups. Our teachers are extremely experienced and the children love having the chance to learn lots of new skills and hobbies.

Stay and Play Days

Grandparents stay and Play! National Grandparents Day is 6th of October. We would love to invite all grandparents / friends to come along to see their grandchildren in nursery, play along with them and see what they get up to! We kindly ask that there is a minimum of 2 grandparents / friends per child. If grandparents are unavailable, please feel free to extend the invitation to another family member. This will be held between 3pm – 4:30pm. Please see below dates for each Nursery setting:

KINGSWELLIES :

WellieBabies – Wednesday 8th October

WellieTots – Tuesday 7th October

WellieBeans – Thursday 9th October

WellieJellies – Monday 6th October

QUEENSWELLIES:

Wellie Bumbles – Wednesday 8th October

Wellie Bee's – Tuesday 7th October

WEST END WELLIES:

Wellie Cubs – Tuesday 7th October

Wellie Badgers – Thursday 9th October

Wellies Nurseries – Health Month

Throughout the months of June and July, all nurseries spent time focusing on Health Month. This involved planning lots of activities around the following topics: Keeping Fit, Healthy Eating, Mental Health and Keeping Safe. The children LOVED experiencing a range of different activities to progress their skills. Some of their favourites were; making smoothies, healthy recipes, road safety, football, sports days, self-portraits, developing their friendships, visits from police, fire, dentist, Childsmile, surgeons, radiographers and vet, Gym bunnies, baking with Chef Lisa, talking about emotions, having spa days and much more.



At KingsWellies, Health Month is our favourite time of the year! We absolutely LOVE taking part in all of our different weeks and had so much fun with lots of activities going on. The children at KingsWellies had a visit from the police to talk about how we keep safe and what they do day to day. We also enjoyed our visit from Ann, from child smile, who came along to show us how to brush our teeth and why it is important to keep them clean. Each room had loads of different and exciting activities going on including learning about

healthy and unhealthy foods, lots of arts and crafts, how we keep safe when crossing the road, water safety and much more. We enjoyed Gym Bunnies with Lisa and also how to make healthy treats with Chef Lisa. This included yummy flapjacks! During this month-long topic, we developed our different skills including hand eye coordination, gross & fine motor skills, following instructions and balancing skills.

At West End, the month of June is our favourite time of the year due to us focusing on Health Month. This consists of participating in fun-filled activities throughout the month that correspond with Healthy Eating, Keeping Fit, Keeping Safe and Mental Health. We would like to say a massive thank you to the Police, Fire Brigade, Ambulance Service and SAS Swimming who all came to visit us. Another special thank you goes to Aberdeen Sports Village who helped us learn all about how we can keep fit. We also loved being shown around the Sports Village too.



At QueensWellies we also recently celebrated Health Month. This is one of our favourite topics as the children gain so much from all of the visitors, trips and activities that take place within the month. Throughout the month we had visits from the ambulance service, a vet, firefighters, childsmile, a radiologist and a special visit from a service dog. We also enjoyed various educational trips to the sports village, the park and our local care home. Each room participated in lots of health inspired educational experiences which

also included baking with Chef Lisa and Gym Bunnies. It was great to see the children having fun and learning lots of new skills.

Staffing Update

As always, we have some summer staff who have been helping us out this year. Our staff also really enjoy helping out across all sites. This is great for sharing good practice and developing professional dialogue.

Please see our regular staffing updates on our Facebook pages. We also have staff photo boards outside each room and in each reception.

Children are also becoming more involved in the recruitment process as we ask candidates to read them a story or complete an activity with them. We then ask our children and candidates for their feedback. This is working well.

Recently we have welcomed lovely new staff to join our growing KingsWellies team!



We have welcomed Paige D and Paige R into our Wellie Jellies room and they have settled in really well! In our Toddler room, Amy C has joined the team. Amy has gotten stuck right in and all the children love their daily cuddles. Ruth is enjoying getting to know all of the babies in our WellieBabies room, and loves leading group time and coming up with new songs to sing! Welcome to the team girls.



In our kitchen, we have welcomed our new Chef Sandra! Sandra is settling into her new role well and loves home baking with children in the kitchen.

In the next few weeks, we will also welcome Eilidh, Matthew, Lily and Chloe! We will keep you up to date with our staff changes.



Cari has decided to take a career break and spend more time with her daughter Millie. We wish Cari all the very best in the future. Sadie has also left us to move to a nursery closer to home. All of the children and staff will miss her lots.

In the next few weeks, we will sadly say goodbye to our supervisor Amy in the baby room. Amy is moving on to work in an ASN setting. We have no doubts you will do amazing Amy!



At WestEnd our staff team just keeps on growing. We would like to give a warm welcome to Emma Forsyth who has settled really well into the Wellie Cubs room. All the children are loving spending time with her. Lucy Cumming will also be starting within the Wellie Cubs room soon. She will be getting to know the routines and the children. Welcome to the team Ladies!

Chloe Fraser has recently moved upstairs to join the Wellie Badger room. We are delighted to have her.

We would also like to wish Megan from the Wellie Badgers room all the very best on her new adventure. She is starting University to become a Primary Teacher but will continue to work with us on a part-time basis. You will make an amazing teacher Megan!

At Queenswellies we have recently welcomed Samantha and Erin to our Wellie Bumbles room. Samantha is our new room supervisor. Both Samantha and Erin have settled in really well to the Wellie Bumbles room and have loved getting to know the other staff and children! Welcome to the team Ladies!



We will sadly be saying goodbye to our deputy manager Steph as she will be going on maternity leave soon. Good luck, we can't wait to meet the new baby! Simone will be stepping up to cover Steph's maternity leave and Hannah will be stepping up as supervisor alongside Simone in our Wellie Bees room. Well done Ladies!



Children's Attendance and Registers

Please let us know by 10am if your child will not be attending nursery on that day. Staff will contact parents after 10am to ascertain the whereabouts of your child. This is in line with our Child Protection and Health and Safety Policies.

Please also let us know if you have any holidays booked and your child will be absent. This saves us from bothering you when sunbathing by the pool! Many thanks.



Best of luck to our boys and girls who are going to P1 and school nurseries

We will miss you ALL very, very much but know that you are all ready for P1 and that each and every one of you will go far! Remember to send us photos of you in your school uniforms!! We have been very busy speaking to your new P1 teachers and also to your parents.

Good luck everyone!

P1 School Leavers, Graduation Ceremonies and Parties

This year we have had around 65 children leaving us to go to school. These children are going to 19 different school settings. We have worked hard to have very productive dialogue with each of these feeder primary schools. We will also get in touch with each one again at the end of term 1. This is to gain feedback on how well our Wellies children have settled into their new school environments. We only want the very best for them all and want them to be as ready as can be, for the next part of their educational journeys. This feedback is very important to us and helps us to plan our future transition processes.



Wellies Nurseries Class of 2025 🎓🖍️✏️

Here are some suggestions to help prepare your child for starting school in August 2025:

- ☀️ Do they recognise their own name? If not make a sign together for their room and where they hang their jacket at home, so that they are used to seeing it.
- ☀️ If you are going to teach them to write their name please only teach the first letter as a capital. If they learn their whole name in capitals, it then takes time for them to unlearn it. The capital / upper case letter is called the "name" and the lower case letter is called the "sound".
- ☀️ They will not have the same child : staff ratios as in nursery. One teacher with up to 30 / 33 children. Encourage them to be as independent and resilient as possible, from now.
- ☀️ Remember school is different from when you went, they will be unlikely to have their own desk but they will be very used to the set-up as it's similar to Nursery.
- ☀️ Label EVERYTHING!
- ☀️ Encourage them to open their own snacks so that they are able to do it at playtime and lunchtime.
- ☀️ Velcro shoes are best!
- ☀️ Don't share your concerns with them and don't talk about how they are your baby and they aren't ready! They are taking their lead from you!
- ☀️ Can they put on their own jacket and zip it up? If not, start encouraging them now!
- ☀️ Can they use the toilet independently and wash and dry their hands independently? Now is the time to work on this.
- ☀️ When you find out their gym days it's best not to put them in shirt and tie on these days.
- ☀️ In Scotland all P1s-P3's get a free lunch. When you get a menu, pop it somewhere in the house and let them know what the choices are each day and decide what they will have together.
- ☀️☀️ P1 teachers are angels in disguise, we promise you can trust them with your children! 🤗

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts

Lots of our children have already started to leave us and I have to say that all of the emails, messages and cards have really brought a tear to my eye. The very kind words mean such a huge amount as it proves that we have achieved what we set out to do. We genuinely only want the very best for all of our children and families.



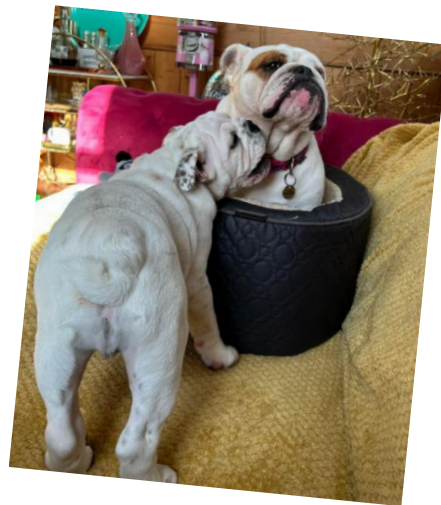
Over the next few weeks, we will be focusing on a variety of topics in our playrooms. These will include:

- Happy Healthy Me
- Cultures of the world – PLEASE talk to us about your childhood memories, your culture, your traditions, your beliefs and your celebrations. We really want to learn more about cultures around the world.
- Rules and Routines
- KINDNESS – Are you a bucket filler or a bucket dipper?
- Child-led improvement groups – Our Eco Group, Kindness Group, Forest Schools Group, Toothbrushing Group, Rights Respecting Group, Charities Group and Playground Improvement Groups will keep working hard to improve our nursery.
- Holidays and Landmarks
- Seasons and sun safety– Summer
- Gardening, making dens and improving our playgrounds
- Our environment and local communities
- Our families and friends



- Autumn
- Walks out and about around our community and lots of outdoor play
- Daily mile – scavenger hunts, environmental print, shape, numeracy, literacy and pattern walks
- Writing our names and learning lots of rhyming words
- Getting ready for school and our new school nurseries

- 1st August – UK play day
- 2nd August – National day for play
- 3rd August – Watermelon Day
- 5th August – National sisters' day
- 6th August – Fresh breath / toothbrushing day
- 8th August – International cat day
- 9th August – International planting and allotments week
- 9th August – National book lovers day
- 10th August – World lion day
- 11th August – Son and daughter day
- 12th August – Elephant appreciation day
- 19th August – World photo day
- 22nd August – World plant milk day
- 26th August – International dog day
- 30th August – National beach day
- 31st August – Eat outside day
- 1st September – World letter writing day
- 5th September – International Charities Day
- 6th September – Read a book day
- 6th September – Zero waste day
- 8th September – International literacy day
- 9th September – Emergency Services day
- 9th September – Teddy bear day
- 13th September – Roald Dahl Day
- 13th September – Positive thinking day
- 16th September – World clean-up day
- 17th September – International country music day
- 18th September – Jewish new year
- 18th September – Eat an apple day
- 19th September – Pirate Day
- 20th September – Recycle week



- 22nd September – World rhino day
- 25th September – World dream day
- 28th September – Good neighbour day
- 29th September – International end food waste day
- 1st October – International day of older persons
- 1st October - World vegetarian day
- 2nd October – Grandparents Day
- 5th October – World teachers' day
- 6th October – National poetry day
- 7th October – National smile day
- 9th October – World post day
- 16th October – World food day
- 25th October – Diwali
- 25th October – World pasta day
- 27th October – Tell a story day
- 31st October – Halloween
- 31st October – World cities day



- Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing are the responsibility of ALL nursery and school practitioners. We have LOTS of exciting learning opportunities planned for our Wellies Gang!

Nappies and Toilet Training

We are making a plea to ALL parents to please support us in ensuring that your children are fully toilet trained by the time that they move into the pre-school rooms (aged three years). Whilst we fully appreciate that all children are individuals, the toddler stage is the most appropriate age for this training milestone to happen. Once in the older rooms, children become much more aware of themselves and wearing nappies can lead to embarrassment. We also really want to focus on lots of high-quality learning and teaching with our older children. Nappy changing takes staff away from this very important part of their job. Our staff are ALL here to help you with this very important milestone. Nappies are also only supplied by us until children reach 3 years old. Parents must then supply their own. Please don't hesitate to discuss with us and we will provide our full support.

Aberdeen City Council Pre-School Funding – Session 2025/26 – 1140 hours

As per Kerry's previous emails, Wellies Nurseries will continue to provide the 1140 FREE hours from August 2025. **This equates to 30 hours per week over 38 weeks of the year.** Please ensure that you read ALL of the 1140-hour funding information that we send you. We are constantly inundated with queries around this. We provide you with this so that you can adequately plan your finances. There should therefore be no surprises.

Regardless whether we work a 38-week model (which we do), a 46-week model or 50-week model, you ALL receive exactly the SAME amount of free hours and funding across the year. It is up to you to choose the nursery and pattern that suits you best. All parents are expected to pay their own invoices out with the free funded period. We also only accept children who are with us for 52 weeks of the year. We do not accept term-time children only. There is no exception to this. Many thanks.

Messy Children are Happy Children

As always, we have been playing outside as much as possible. Water walls, water slides, mud kitchens, shaving foam, playdough, construction, messy play, painting, planting and allotments, loose play, minibeast hunts, hedgehog preservation, picnics, forest schools, eco schools, park visits and so much more! We are having so much fun but sorry if we come home a bit messy!



I would also like to reiterate that ALL of our children are outside every day in all weathers. This includes our Wellie Jellies. The Wellie Jellies do not have direct access to our playground. However, they come to the playground daily, have direct access to the forecourt and spend lots of time out and about in our local community. They have exactly the same opportunities as our other KingsWellies children. This is not in question and never has been.

Wellies Nurseries Policies of the Month

If you would like to review any of our Policies, please get in touch and we will send you a digital copy immediately. We have a huge range of Operational and Curricular Policies which are reviewed on an ongoing basis. These are used to support staff with their daily routines and have all been agreed in consultation with Care Inspectorate and Aberdeen City Council. These can be found in folders within reception areas, outside rooms and within each room. Just ask a staff member. As always, your feedback will shape our future priorities for improvement.

We have also almost finalised our Improvement Plans for Session 25/26. We will send these out to all parents and stakeholders within the next couple of weeks. All Senior Managers have worked hard on completing these and have also taken into account your feedback, comments, compliments and concerns over the last session. Your feedback very much shapes our future improvement priorities. Please give us your feedback on these important documents. Thank you.

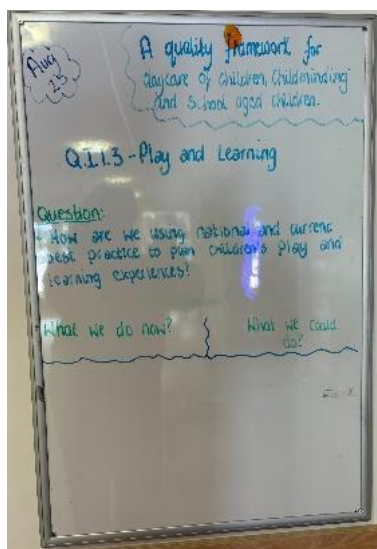
Parent Tips, Ideas and Suggestions

This is a space for parents to communicate with each other. If you have any suggestions, please email us with your ideas so that we can include them in this section of the newsletter.

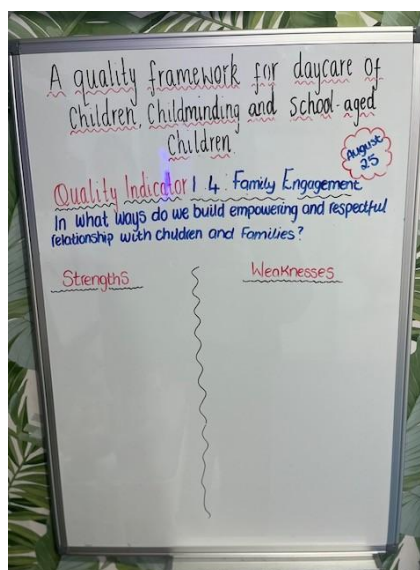


Question of the Month – August 25

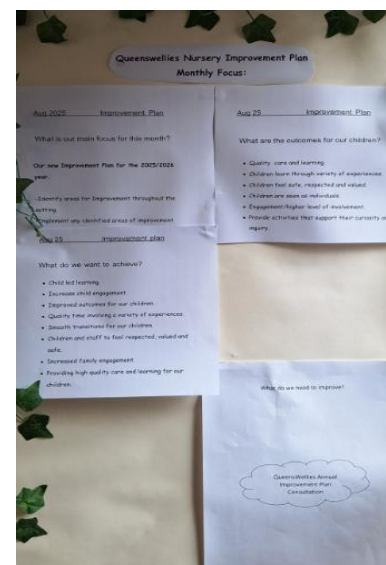
Please take five minutes to add to our self-evaluation boards in our receptions. We also have consultation walls. Please help yourselves to any of our consultations. Many thanks.



KingsWellies



West End Wellies



QueensWellies

Social Media

We would also like to remind parents that if you do NOT wish your child to be featured in any of our social media photos / posts, please let our Admin team know straight away. This is no problem at all. We do ask all parents to complete a consent form. This is part of your admissions pack when you join our Wellies Nurseries. Whilst some parents do not wish their children to be part of any social media posts, most do. We therefore believe in giving parents a choice, which is why we ask you to complete the relevant consent form and to update this every six months. Many thanks.

Parental Consultation

We are nearly ready to send out our Improvement Plans for session 25/26. These are extremely important documents and shape our future development priorities. Please give us your feedback. We very much appreciate this. Many thanks.

We have also recently sent a Parental Questionnaire and our Vision, Values and Aims for your feedback too. Your feedback means the world to us and we take every comment very seriously. Thank you for your time with this as we realise that everyone leads very busy lives!

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.

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

