



Weekly Learning Letter

Friday 8th March 2024

This week in Nursery:



Spring is in the air – finally! It has been such a relief to have sunnier and warmer days and even the children have been checking the weather each day to ask if they can just wear a sweater or jumper! With finer days the children have been really enjoying our new obstacle course outside. Testing their balancing and climbing skills, the children have been traversing with care and helping each other when needed. As their confidence has grown throughout the week, the children have added more challenging elements to the course, and it has been wonderful to see their ingenious ideas.

We have also noticed that children are more engaged with mark making this week. Outside they have enjoyed using the chalks, drawing large pictures and patterns and inside the children have been working collaboratively on large pieces of paper. We are also continuing to support and encourage children to write their names on their masterpieces. The children have been very busy making beautiful Mother's Day cards and thrilling us with their creativity and writing. So, do check their bags at the end of the day.



In cooking this week, the children made a delightful selection of sandwiches. Learning to spread butter, jam and honey (for

some all on the same piece of bread!) is quite a complex skill to master, holding a knife in the optimum position, as well as holding the bread with the other hand. They then cut the sandwiches into squares. The children did a brilliant job and listened well to the safety rules when using a knife.

Sadly, our first batch of frogspawn died, so kindly, Tracey has provided us with some more. Fingers crossed we will have more success and tadpoles will be wiggling around soon. Watch this space!

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On Thursday, we of course had World Book Day. The children had a wonderful day and loved seeing each other's costumes. We had lots of stories throughout the day, and we were lucky to have 3 special guest readers from Year 3 and a trip up to Year 6 to read with the Year 6 children. The children were also very excited to be leaving the Nursery bubble and to explore what lies beyond!

Things to Note

Clothing Your Child/ren for Nursery

Thank you for ensuring your child has suitable clothing. This is a big help!

Plastic Bags

We've run out of plastic bags – these are used for putting wet clothes in. Please bring in some of your plastic bags from home so that we can re-stock.

Science Week

Next week is Science Week! This year's theme is 'time', so in Nursery among other activities, we will be focusing on 'Once upon a time, long, long ago.' For a bit of fun with your little people, below is an activity showing how to make a sand timer. If anyone gives it a go, we would love to see the fruits of your labour.

Date for your diary

This year's Early Years Garden Party will be on Saturday 11th May from 11.30 - 2.30pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to have fun with your family, meet other Kilmorie families, whilst raising much needed funds for all of Early Phase – Nursery to Year 1.

We hope you have the loveliest of weekends and make the most of a sunny Saturday!

Tracey, Fiona, Katrina and Sophie



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LET'S MAKE A SAND TIMER!

Guide the children to build an instrument to measure time. This simple craft activity uses everyday objects that can be found around the house or collected easily. Once the children have built their sand timer, it can be calibrated and used to measure time.

🗴 30 minutes plus some discretionary time play with ≥!





2 plastic

Dry sand

Instructions

- An adult should insert the screw through the centre of each bottle cap, then remove. Make sure you do this safely and that the screw passes through the middle of both caps. Children must not use the screwdriver
- Secure the 2 bottle caps together using electrical tape. This should ensure a tight fit, preventing any leaks.
- Have the children fill one of the bottles with sand. They should pour carefully through a funnel to avoid spillage.
- 4 Show the children how to fix the caps onto the filled bottle. Once securely tightened, they should screw the empty bottle onto the other side of the cap.
- 5 Now comes the fun part! Use a stopwatch to measure how long it takes for the sand to transfer from one bottle to another. Challenge the children to adjust the amount of sand to achieve specific time frames perhaps a minute, 2 minutes, or

Visit the link below for a visual representation of the instructions: okido.com





Think and talk about

- 'a Can we see or measure time?
- Eould our sand timer help us cook an egg or pasta?
- M Adjust the timer:
 - 's Want a faster or slower timer? Add or remove sand, or change the hole size.
 - In There are 60 seconds in a minute. Let's count together using 'Mississippi'!

Next steps

Visit okido.com : to learn more about sand timers!

At home

Use your sand timer to perfectly cook an egg, vegetable, rice, or pasta. It's a fun and practical way to understand time!

(i) Skills unlocked

Curious, logical

Career options

This activity of building creating, and problem-solving lays the foundation for many future career paths. Children could become:

- mengineers **
- architects
- product designers
- scientists.

These early skills can be used to innovate and solve real-world challenges.