



## **Wee Rascals Newsletter - October 2025**

Dear Parents/Carers

We are all missing the warm weather already! Here is the latest news at Wee Rascals.

### **Staffing**

Beth Blake joined the Cheeky Monkeys team at the beginning of October. She is settling in very well and has been popular with the children. Beth will be working Monday-Wednesday, 7:30am-6:00pm.

### **Charity of the Year 2025**

This year, we are supporting The Archie Foundation – Archie's Child Bereavement Services. Archie's Child Bereavement Services offers support to families and professionals working with children and young people free of charge within Grampian, Tayside, and the Highlands and Orkney, giving them individual, tailored support to help with bereavement. Many referrals are received from schools and health professionals. The charity recognises that every child is different, and believes that with appropriate support, information and guidance, all children and young people will manage their grief. ACBS supports children who have experienced bereavement no matter the relationship. We really welcome your support throughout the year, as this charity really means a lot to us.

### **Learning Experiences**

#### **Wee Green Space**

The Busy Bees have enjoyed Den Building at Wee Green Space and have used magnifying glasses to hunt for bugs. On the way there, we have been identifying the numbers on the houses and the bins. We have lots of discussions with the children about the importance of outdoor play, and they enjoy taking part in risk assessments for their visits.

We go out with 5/6 children in each group every two weeks, and this is rotated on different days. A reminder of the days your child will be going to Wee Green Space is placed on the parental notice board in the Busy Bee room.

#### **Sharing Days**

The Busy Bees Sharing Day details are on the parental notice board, and they are also updated on the website. Children gain confidence and develop their language skills when speaking about what they have brought to nursery.

### Stay and Play

We have been having a Stay and Play week for parents to attend in the run up to Halloween and this has gone very well. The children have been doing lots of baking activities during the week for our Bake Sale, with the proceeds going towards our charity.

### Little Bunnies

The Little Bunnies had great fun learning about different countries, before moving onto their flower topic.

We had a fantastic time travelling on the public bus to the garden centre where we picked up various types of seeds to plant in the green house. With some support, the children each planted the seeds into the compost. They thoroughly enjoyed caring for their new plants, and watering them with the watering cans.

Unfortunately, the big wind managed to take our greenhouse away, so we will be looking to buy a new one and position it in a different place.



The children got creative whilst using kitchen roll tubes, printing their own flowers. They transferred the paint from the tray to the paper and were very intrigued to see the different patterns they created.

We have been looking at autumn, developing problem-solving skills, and the children have been colour sorting the various coloured leaves onto the corresponding-coloured tree. They demonstrated excellent concentration skills as they identified that the green leaves come out on the green tree and the orange leaves fall off the orange tree.



During our Halloween activities, the children got VERY messy whilst exploring the pumpkin tuff tray. Throughout this, they used their senses to investigate the contents of the tray.



### Cheeky Monkeys



The Cheeky Monkeys have finished learning about how to keep themselves healthy and have now moved onto looking at books, where they were given the opportunity to choose different books which they wanted to learn about.

They took a great interest in the book "The Ladybird Heard" story, and they had fun making their own ladybird cakes, collecting each of the ingredients from the shop to create them. The children developed their numeracy skills as they helped to weigh out each of the ingredients and mix them together, and then they looked for all the red smarties to place on top of their cakes, which they then took home to eat!

The Cheeky Monkeys loved creating their own witches' hats, as they moved onto the "Room on the Broom" book. The children used a range of different textured items to create their hats, using feathers, buttons and chalk drawings which they stuck down with glue with their glue sticks. All the children then used their role play skills as they role played the "Room on the Broom"



The children created wonderful autumn lanterns, gluing various coloured and different sized leaves and glitter onto laminating pouches to create autumn lanterns. After making their lanterns, the children then used torches to shine through them.



For Halloween, the children have been participating in fun activities. They used tweezers to carefully take the spider off his web, and then counted all the legs he had, which was eight!

### Busy Bees



This term, the Busy Bees have been very busy! They have been learning about recycling and why it is important to recycle. They created their own posters and were able to draw their own recycling bins. When their posters were complete, they went for a walk around the Kintore area and stuck them up to encourage people in the community to recycle more.



The children have been developing their knowledge about body parts whilst participating in body part bingo. They listened to each of the different body parts being called out as they searched their board to see if they had it, and once they found it they shouted "BINGO" and placed a coloured counter onto their board.

As you will know, the Busy Bees had their very own caterpillars and were extremely busy looking after them. The children checked their caterpillars daily and ensured they were all doing well. Once the caterpillars turned into cocoons and had hatched into butterflies, the children were delighted to release them into our garden.



The children developed their numeracy skills whilst weighing and measuring using the scales, using the autumnal loose parts with the weighing scales. Each child picked an item to put in each side and then identified which of the two items were lighter/heavier.

## Trips/ Visits

Last term, the Busy Bees had a fun filled trip to The Fairy Woods at Federate where they sent their letters to the fairies in the post box. The children had a picnic after exploring the trail of Fairy doors. After finishing the trail, they were all delighted to bring back their very own pumpkins.



Laura from Flashdance in Aberdeen continues to visit the Busy Bee room every Tuesday afternoon during term time, and the Busy Bee children also visit Garioch Gymnastics every fortnight each term on a Thursday.

## Improvement/Development Plan

We are continuing to work on:

- New Planning System
- Outdoors
- Staff Training and Support.

Any changes and improvements can be found on our Improvement Plan wall display located at the left-hand side of the front door entrance.

## Dates for Diary

A reminder of the events that we have planned for the rest of the year –

**November - Read-a-thon** - During the month of November, the children will be encouraged to participate in a read-a-thon. Your child should have already received a sponsor form along with a reading book log sheet where they will record all the stories that have been read to them throughout the month. There will be a small prize for the child who reads/listens to the most stories. Story time with children is a great way for children to learn about the world around them as well as further develop their literacy and communication skills.

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November** – Once upon a Tune visiting for a music session with the Little Bunnies.

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December** – Children's Christmas Parties

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Fayre** - Our Christmas Fayre will be held at the nursery on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December from 10am-1pm. Tickets will go on sale soon!

### **What to expect**

- Some fantastic stall holders booked in to join us.
- Santa will also be at the Christmas Fayre, in his Grotto for the children who wish to book a slot to visit him. He may even have some Christmas gifts to hand out!
- A coffee pod
- Fun activities for the children.
- All Christmas Fayre tickets include soup and sandwiches for lunch.
- Raffle – includes the chance to win some fantastic prizes and vouchers as well as a lovely Steven Brown canvas!

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December** – Pre-school trip to His Majesty's Theatre in Aberdeen to see the panto which is Cinderella this year.

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December** – Cheeky Monkeys and Ante Pre-school trip to the Lemon tree to see the panto – 'A Land beyond Winter'.

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December**- Nursery Christmas Lunch

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December** – Busy Bees Nativity Show

*The nursery will close at 6pm on Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> of December and will re-open on Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> of January 2026 at 7.30am.*

Kind Regards

*Jade Shanks*

*Nursery Manager*

01467 633270

[weerascals@summersnurseries.com](mailto:weerascals@summersnurseries.com)