



Hanover Street Nursery Newsletter

May, 2017

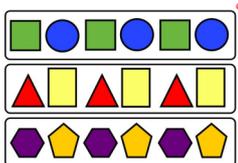
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What has been happening in Nursery this month?

We love having Alex Warham from Aberdeen Music Service on a weekly basis. He has been teaching us lots of songs, helping our language, listening, and rhythm and coordination skills. We have been using different types of voices to help us learn about feelings, volume and tempo - e.g. angry voices, gentle voices, slow and fast.



To support maths development, we have been playing and exploring "pattern".

We have been copying, continuing and making our own. John painted a lovely pattern of "red, blue, red, blue" and "u, o, u, o." Please look out for patterns with your child at home and in the environment.

After all the staff attending training on "Talking & Thinking Floor books," we have been extending their use.

We use the floor books to encourage the children to direct their own learning/ share their opinions and interests. Ask to have a look at our Spring, Transport and People Who Help Us floor books.

What will we be learning next?

We will learn lots of grown up skills to help us become more independent—e.g getting changed for gym and trying to write our names. We will also be learning how to stay safe in the sun!

Sun Care—Being SAFE in the Sun



We go outside to play as often as we can. **Please**, as part of the "getting ready for nursery routine", apply sunscreen to exposed areas of your child's skin, even on the duller days which can quickly become bright and strong with sunshine.

In the case that you forget to apply sunscreen, the nursery will have some available for you to apply when you drop your child off.

***If your child requires a certain type of sunscreen due to allergies, etc., please let us know so that we can purchase the relevant sun protection.**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FzA47J7QsVk>

Follow the 5 key SunSmart rules:



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Care Inspectorate Update



We received our draft report from the Care Inspectorate, responding to any errors. I'm glad to say that the final report is now published!

The Care Inspectorate has a policy of open access to inspection reports and the report will be made available to the public through their website and Care Inspectorate's offices.

In nursery, for easier access, we will:

- **print some copies for you to take home**
- **display it on nursery noticeboards**
- **have it posted on our school website.**

It can be viewed on this link also:

<http://www.careinspectorate.com/index.php/inspection-reports> Then search for publish date 5 May 2017.

In line with all inspections, our report contains some recommendations. Now, we will submit an action plan, identifying the actions to be taken, the person(s) responsible for those actions and the timescales for the developments or improvements to be implemented.

Self-Evaluation: Parental and Child Involvement



Effective self-evaluation is key as the starting point for school/nursery improvement. It supports development in our nursery and it is important that all stakeholders in our nursery are involved.

"Self-Evaluation Calendar". This is simply a timetable of all the quality statements/indicators from the above documents, and therefore ensuring that they are all evaluated systematically throughout the school year.

In recent INSET days, the nursery team have worked hard to reflect and discuss the self-evaluation frameworks that are used in school nurseries:

We would like to boost our involvement of parents and children in these evaluations - it is not just the staff's voice that is important. When the calendar is finalised, it will be shared with staff and parents and we will be in touch regarding your involvement.

- The Care Inspectorate quality statements and
- The quality indicators from How Good Is Our Early Learning and Childcare? (HGIOELC).



As the manager of the nursery, I am currently working on a

Policy of the Month

This month, we are having a wee break from policy of the month! We are going to use this time as a team to finish our Self-Evaluation Calendar (mentioned above) and to become more familiar and confident in the policy changes.

This session we have updated the following policies:

- Nursery Induction
- Beginning Nursery Booklet
- Healthy Eating/Snack
- Administering Medication
- Infection Prevention and Control
- Confidentiality
- Positive Behaviour Policy
- Risk-Benefits Assessments
- Physical Restraint
- Staff Induction

- Monitoring Teaching & Learning/Staff Supervision

As I'm sure you'll agree, it's a lot for us all to get our head round! But I must thank the nursery team on their dedication in contributing to, reviewing and reading the updated policies. Thank you, ladies.

We aim to collate feedback from yourselves as parents (and even the children!) on the changes so far. Once we have gathered feedback and finalised these draft documents, they will all appear on our website. Look out for us coming to see you soon on one of the selected policies above!

Bookbug Week! Monday 15 — Friday 19 May

Our 3 year olds in nursery will receive their Bookbug Explorer Bags (formerly the Bookbug Pirate Bag) from then Scottish Book Trust on Friday 19 May.

We will be having a celebration day where our reading buddies will work/play with us. **This will be on Friday 19 May and all children (and staff!) are encouraged to wear fancy dress!**

What does the Bookbug Explorer Bag include?*

Three picture books - These beautiful books have been specially selected by a panel of Early Years experts as well as being tested with families.

My Bookbug Explorer Activity Book - This activity book is a great way to encourage children to share their drawings. There are also some pull-out activity pages based on the books and some handy book recommendations.

Bookbug Explorer Pencils - These 6 brightly coloured pencils are ideal for children learning to write.

4 large postcards - These postcards are perfect for sending to grandparents, neighbours and friends, with plenty of space for children to write their own personal message.

Parent Leaflet - this includes tips on sharing the

books and other items with children.

Bookbug alerts sign up form - Bookbug Alerts let a parent know when their next Bookbug Bag is due as well as giving them reading tips and book recommendations.

All contents come in a **sturdy child sized canvas bag with smaller handles**. Children will love carrying their books around by themselves!

My Bookbug Explorer CD - This CD is packed full of songs and nursery rhymes for families to enjoy.

Many of the songs and rhymes can also be heard at local Bookbug Sessions. See Aberdeen City Council's website for where your **FREE** local Bookbug sessions are: http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/Library_Service/Children_YoungPeople/lib_bookbugsessions.asp

See also the Scottish Book Trust site for more information:

<http://www.scottishbooktrust.com/bookbug>



School Fair

The school's summer fair will take place on Saturday 3 June from 11am - 1pm. There will be home bakes, face painting, nail painting and various other stalls.

If you would like to volunteer or support in other ways (providing bric-a-brac, home bakes for sale, tombola prizes, etc.) then please do reply to the PTA letter coming out soon.

Nursery to Primary 1 Transition

It is getting to that sad but happy time of year again when we are getting our Pre-Schoolers ready for starting Primary 1 in August. Various transition activities will be taking place including parents' talks, playground sessions, joint Nursery/P1 assemblies and P1 class visits.



We will be in touch very soon about when all these will be happening. If your child is going to a different school for Primary 1, we do hope that their induction goes smoothly.

Please, if you have any ideas in how to improve our transition (we aim to support parents as well as the children), do let us know. We received very good feedback from parents regarding last year's improvements and wish for this to continue.

Until then, our P1 Induction policy is available on our school website: <http://hanover.aberdeen.sch.uk/our-school/nursery-policies/>

UPCOMING EVENTS/IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

May 2017

Friday 19th—Fancy Dress Day to celebrate Bookbug Week

Monday 22—Friday 26th—Science Week

Wednesday 31—TEMPEST Photographer in today!

June 2017

Saturday 3rd—School Summer Fair

w/b Monday 5th—Nursery reports out this week

Wednesday 7 June—Monthly Munchies

w/b Monday 12th—Nursery Parents Consultations this week

Friday 30th—A special treat in nursery for our last day of session!



Reports and Parents Nights

Mrs Williamson and Mrs Lemmon are currently working on all the reports for the children. These will be issued the week beginning Monday 5 June, with Parents Meetings the week after, beginning Monday 12 June. Time slots for during nursery time and after school will be made available.

Nursery Continuers

The Early Years Team at Frederick Street has been busy confirming and allocating places for nursery continuers for next session. They have been working together with yourselves and the school in allocating AM/PM places. We at Hanover Street will be in touch soon regarding confirmed places and staffing for next session, etc.
