



Hanover Street Nursery Newsletter

April/May, 2016

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What has been happening in Nursery this month?

We've been enjoying the nicer weather and been learning about growing! We've planted seeds, grown grass (which we turned into a zoo!) and been out to visit Duthie Park!



We also had a teddy bears' picnic, where we had our lunch outside and loved hearing stories in the garden, whilst sitting in the tyres.

A garden centre has been in our nursery—we've been playing and learning about buying and selling garden produce including fruit, vegetables and flowers.



But, despite all the colourful things in our garden centre and the rest of the nursery, the favourite addition was a simple, empty, big cardboard box!! The boys and girls chose to turn it into "Percy's Shed" and loved hiding in it to read books, chat with friends, and just enjoy being enclosed in a small, dark space.

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Children's Comments

Kyla:

"I liked sliding on the mushroom slide at Duthie Park!"

Lilia:

"Nicole's mummy was pushing me on the swing. I was good at taking turns."

Eni:

"Kaima and John are my new friends. I like them."

Dominique:

"The alligators are hungry and they are eating all the grass. Rrrrr!"

Kevin & Kevinas:

"We are best friends. We like fire trucks. Water puts out fire. Ambulances help people."

Laura:

"I like playing on the climbing frame with Daniella, always"



Useful Reminders...



MEETING DATES - Another Reminder!

Please join us on Tuesday 10th May at 11am (for parents of AM children) and 2.45pm (for parents of PM children). You are invited to discuss various events/dates that will be happening this term in nursery. We hope you can make it along! Thank you.

TEMPEST PHOTOGRAPHER - Wednesday 18 May

The School Photographer is booked for Wednesday 18 May. This year they will be taking "Solo or Siblings" photos. More information will follow regarding times, etc. so that your wee ones can get their happy wee faces snapped for a treasured memento!

Saturday 28 May, School Summer Fair

A reminder that our School Summer Fair will take place on Saturday 28 May, from 10am - 12noon. Lots of stalls will be there including raffles, tombola, home-baking and bric-a-brac. Please come along to show your support. All funds raised go to the Parent Council who support the school with funding trips, resources and other valuable experiences. Let's hope it's a sunny day so we can all get outside!

Parenting Information: Sun Care - How can I be "Sunsmart"?



You may have seen our "Sunny Days" poster up and around nursery. Sun care and being "Sunsmart" is something we take very seriously at Hanover Street.

Australia and New Zealand have a very successful campaign to help remember the main ways to protect our children and ourselves: **Slip, Slop, Slap and Wrap!** Despite us not having as such "good" weather as these countries, the Scottish sun can still be very damaging and their message can certainly help us.

Being SunSmart is about protecting skin and eyes from damaging UV radiation.

SLIP into a long-sleeved shirt and into the shade. Generally, fabrics with a tighter weave and darker colours will give you greater protection from the sun.

SLOP on plenty of broad-spectrum (filters both UVA and UVB rays) sunscreen with a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of at least 30. Apply sunscreen at least 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapply every two hours.

SLAP on a hat with a wide-brim or a cap with flaps. This will help reduce the risk of sunburn to your face, ears and neck. These are the most common places where we get sunburnt.

WRAP on a pair of close-fitting sunglasses. When buying sunglasses, look for the words 'good UV protection' on the label or swing tag.

More information can be found on the NHS website: <http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/pregnancy-and-baby/pages/safety-in-the-sun.aspx>

Handy Websites

Useful websites for parents:-

There are a few dotted around this newsletter related to each area of information. Take a peek!



Useful websites for children:-

<http://www.zoodles.com/free-online-kids-games/3-year-old>

<http://www.uptoten.com/>

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/home/reading-site/fun-ideas/age-3-4--2>

Something Different - Brutalist Playground

Fancy something different to play with? A new experience for you and your children to try? Mrs Gove has highlighted a new playground available in Aberdeen for a short time: The Brutalist Playground! Below you will find information on the playground at Peacock Visual Arts, which is in nearby Castle Street.



The Brutalist Playground / Assemble and Simon Terrill

Date: 28 April - 29 May 2016

Opening hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 09.30-17.30.

They will be open Sunday 1st and Monday 2nd May, and then again on Sunday 29th May.

Location: Peacock Visual Arts

Peacock Visual Arts is delighted to host *The Brutalist Playground* by recent Turner Prize winners Assemble, and artist Simon Terrill, exploring post-war design for play, as part of Look Again Visual Art & Design Festival.

*Brutalism was an architectural movement of the 1950s-70s, which aligned with a new socialist agenda. Buildings were fortress-like in form, often of grand monolithic scale and designed to bring function to the flow of people populating them. As such, Brutalism was predominately found in municipal buildings, educational institutions, shopping centres and high-rise housing. It is from the high-rise housing schemes and their surrounding social spaces and playgrounds that *The Brutalist Playground* takes its inspiration.*

By recreating the post-war playground structures in soft pastel coloured foam *The Brutalist Playground* is an immersive and climbable installation - fun for ALL AGES!!

Bookbug Explorer Bags from Scottish Book Trust



Our 3 year olds in nursery have received their Bookbug Explorer Bags (formerly the Bookbug Pirate Bag). The Bookbug Explorer Bag will boost every young adventurer's love of books and reading, as well as encouraging their writing and drawing.

Your little one will love the sense of discovery and excitement as they dive into longer books. We hope you'll enjoy cuddling up together to share a new story or enjoy an old favourite.

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 Pad - This notepad 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>



NSPCC Every Child is Worth Fighting For: Bring a Board Game Day

On Friday 27 May, Hanover Street is taking part in its first ever "Bring a Board Game Day!" We ask that children bring in 50p, along with a board game to play on the day.

We are also using this day to launch details of lunchtime clubs (some involving Board Games and Lego , etc.). So, if you have any unused Board Games at home, please consider donating them to school so that we can have as wide a variety of games as possible, for the children of all ages, to play with during these lunchtime clubs. Thank you!



<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-you-can-do/events/big-board-game-day/>

Learning Opportunities Coming up in the Nursery

- ◆ Looking after ourselves in the sun
- ◆ Getting ready for primary school
- ◆ People who help us at home and at school

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 gym classes, playground sessions, parents talks and P1 class visits. We will be in touch in due course 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.

Nursery Continuers

The Early Years Team at Frederick Street have 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS/IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



May 2016:

Tues 10th @ 11am & 2.45pm—Nursery Meetings
Tues 10th—Parent Council Meeting @2pm
Wed 18th—TEMPEST Photographer
Fri 27th—Bring a Board Game Day
Sat 28th—School Summer Fair
Week beginning Mon 30th—Science Week

June 2016:

Wed 1st - International Children's Day
Week beginning Mon 6th—Nursery Reports Issued
Week beginning Mon 13th—Pre-School Parents' Nights
Thurs 16th—P1-7 Sports Day at ASV
(info for nursery sports to follow)

Thank you again for reading this newsletter. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Miss Gillian Forbes, Depute Head Teacher