Term 2 Newsletter

November to December 2026



It is lovely to see all our children and families returning to nursery after the October break - we would also like to take this opportunity to welcome all our new children and families into the nursery, we look forward to getting to know you and have lots of fun learning through play together.

Nursery Holidays

Christmas and New Year Holidays

Friday 18th December 2025 – is the last day of Term for our **Term Time Children**

Last day for 52-week children Thursday 24th December

Nursery is closed from 25th December to 4th January 2027

All children will return on Tuesday 5th January 2026



Dates for your diary

November

Parents Chats 9th November 2026 - Baby Room Parent Chats begin
16th November 2026 - Toddler Room Parent Chats begin
23rd November 2026 - 3-5 Room Parent Chats begin

St Andrews Day We will celebrate St Andrews Day on **30th of November** with Scottish songs and dancing.



December

From Tuesday 1st December - we will be accepting donations for our Festive Food Hamper Raffle - Tickets will be on Sale for £1.00

Thursday 10th December	**Christmas Jumper Day** – wear your Christmas Jumper – don't worry if you don't have one – the children will be doing various Christmas Activities. We will also have a food donation box, with proceeds going to the local Food Bank.
Friday 11th December	Children's Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 15th December	**Parents Play and Stay sessions –** details to be confirmed

CHRISTMAS PARTIES



Wednesday 16th December

Children's Parties with Santa



Toy fund

A huge thank you for your contributions to date, your weekly donations of £2/£3 per family contribute greatly to the resources we provide for your child. e.g. food for cultural celebrations, sensory materials i.e. shaving foam/bath gel, food colouring, baking resources, plants to enhance the outdoor areas etc.

Presently our funds are running low - your continued support is invaluable, and very much appreciated.

Your contributions can be made weekly in cash, or if you would rather pay by bank transfer, please speak to Lynne in the office for a copy of the bank details.

Once again thank you for your continued support.

Pram Storage

To ensure there is enough space for everyone to use this, can we ask that you fold your pram/buggy.

Gentle Reminder - when leaving our Cosy Room Garden please **close** the gate behind you - including the top latch on the gate.

Thank You





Allergy Awareness

We would ask all parents to be ***extra vigilant*** if their child has eaten nuts or sesame oil/seeds that their hands/mouth have been washed before coming into nursery.



We would ask that you do not bring any of the above to nursery. This is due to some of our children having severe allergies. Thank you!



Staff News

Good luck to Sofia, who is leaving on 13th November to start her maternity leave, We can't wait to meet your baby when he arrives!

We would like to give a big thank you to Nafisa who is leaving on 4th December. Good luck in your new job! You will be missed by us all.

We would like to congratulate Ellen who is retiring on 11th December, Wishing you all the best in this new chapter of life

And finally, Bon Voyage to Gemma our Depute who will be leaving our nursery in January 2027 for a new life in America!

Good Luck and Best Wishes to everyone!

Children's Safety

Could we please remind you that **ONLY ADULTS** are to open and close the gates - and to please ensure that you **close the gates when entering and leaving** the nursery building and playrooms. Please be mindful when entering and leaving playrooms to ensure the safety of all.



Please make staff aware when either dropping off or leaving with your child - this is another way of ensuring all of the children in our care are kept safe within the playrooms.
Thank you for your co-operation

Mobile Phones



Could we remind parents and carers the importance of **not** using your mobile phone when you come into the nursery building - this includes their use within the nursery playrooms. This is due to Child Protection reasons, and it is also important that you give your full attention to your child when dropping off and picking up for their safety.

Snack & Lunch Menus

The up to date snack / lunch menus are available outside the kitchen in the downstairs corridor.

Drop off & Collection Times



We ask that you arrive on time for collection of your children.

We understand that on rare occasions you may be held up, however, this can not only be upsetting for your child, but it also affects our staff to children ratios.

When collecting your children, please ensure that you speak to the Keyworkers first so they can mark your child as collected on the register. This helps keep all children safe and ensures accurate records.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Parents Room



We invite you to use our parent's room for a cup of tea/coffee when visiting the nursery, if you are dropping off or picking up or helping us to settle your child into the nursery - feel free to pop in and use the space to relax. We have various different leaflets/books available to our families to help welcome and keep you informed, with support available, and other groups within the local community.

Nursery Clothing Reminder

Reminder – please provide a full change of clothes for your child *e.g. pants, socks, trousers, leggings, top etc.* Also, if you have any nursery clothes that you have borrowed still at home, could you please return them to the nursery.

We would also request that the children do not bring bags to nursery, due to limited space in the cloakrooms; the children do have their own little cotton bags on their peg.

If your child has had a change of clothing, we will store their soiled clothing in a labelled bag. Please ask the staff and they will give you the change of clothing from the box the bags are stored in.

3-5 room Name Badges



Could we ask our 3-5 Room parents/carers, when you come into the cloakroom to support your child when putting on their badges at the start of their nursery session.

At pick up time, could we also ask parents/carers to return your child's individual name badges to their basket at the end of the day/session too (this will help get your child into a nursery routine).

If you child has accidentally taken home their badge, that is no problem, just remember to bring it back in for their next nursery session as these can be costly to replace.

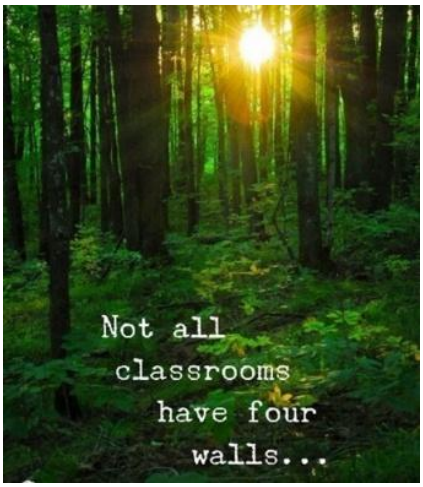
Thank you

Outdoor Play at Festival Park

Outdoor learning is a big part of children's learning at nursery. All children will explore outdoors within their nursery session. [with the exception of severe weather conditions!]



We provide every child with wet suits and wellies for outdoor play, so we can be out in all weathers. Please only put on clothes on your child that you don't mind getting dirty.





If you would prefer to provide your own suits and wellies, you are most welcome to - please don't forget to label your child's wellies and suit if this is something you would prefer to provide.

Seesaw App

All children's learning at nursery will be shared using the seesaw app. Every child will have their own individual profile which will be filled with photos, videos and voice recordings of their time at Festival Park Day Nursery.

This is a great way to communicate from the nursery to home but also a way which you can share your adventures at home with the nursery too!

If the nursery has any service updates, or any other important information we will communicate with you using the Seesaw app and emails.

[please ensure that you are connected up to your childs Seesaw profile, and that the office has your correct email address and telephone contact number].

If you do not have a QR code for Seesaw please speak to a member of staff.

Taking Care Of Our Playrooms & Outdoor Spaces

We understand that children are curious about their environments, but could we please ask our parents and carers to encourage the children to not pull at the nursery displays or take any resources or toys from the playrooms or the outdoor areas when leaving the nursery.

It can be very costly to replace any broken or missing items, we very much appreciate your help with this.

SOME SAFETY ISSUES OUTSIDE THE NURSERY

Leaves

As we are directly across from the park we do constantly have leaves at the front of the building at this time of year. We do our best to keep things as clear as we can, but please do be careful when walking as they can be very slippery.

Parking / Stopping

Please be aware that the pedestrian crossing outside of the nursey is a strictly **NO PARKING/STOPPING AREA.**

The area covered by the bollards should be kept clear at all times.

The Police & Parking Attendants will regularly be in attendance to monitor this.



NURSERY INITIATIVES

Paths Programme The Pre-School children take part in our Paths Programme. This programme promotes alternative thinking strategies and looking at emotions. Sometimes the children will take home some of the characters.

If your child will be starting school in August 2027, and you'd like to find out more – please speak to Michelle.

Colourstrings

3-5 years children take part in the Colourstrings Programme, enabling children to develop their sense of pulse, rhythm and pitch, and to explore musical concepts.

If you want to find out more, please speak to Lizanne.

Travelling Ted

A home link offering children to take Ted home and share their adventures with their friends in the 2-3 room.

Lending Library

Your child will be able to choose a book from the Nursery library for a week at a time. Story time is valuable to children's learning and promoting their listening and literacy skills.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

Babies

We have been busy settling new children into the Baby Room. We have been exploring outdoors and taking part in lots of fun sensory activities. The children are enjoying the song bag with puppets and props.

Toddlers & 3-5 years

We have been celebrating Diwali and Halloween.

We have also been embracing the autumn weather and learning about the different autumn effects, such as the changing colour of leaves, and the leaves falling off the trees.

The children have been involved in changing some of our learning environments.

We have started our **Paths** and **Colourstrings** initiatives, and the children have been welcoming their friends who have moved up from the 2-3 years playroom.

Children have been learning Scottish rhymes and have enjoyed bringing nature indoors observing the change of seasons.

Care Home Visits - we have started our care home visits again, with the children visiting the residents and enjoying various activities - arts & crafts, baking, singing etc.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Robert Burns Day 25th of January 2027

National Storytelling Week begins 30th January 2027 -

HIGHLIGHTS

We Celebrated the **Festival of Lights** with a Diwali Party – the children enjoyed reading stories, making Diva lamps and dancing to some traditional music.



The children had fun getting dressed up and 'dooking for apples' at their Halloween fun days.

A huge thank you to everyone who we received donations from for our

Spooky Boogie Bash!

We raised over £400 for the nursery!





We would like to wish you all a fun filled break over Christmas, and the Festive Season.

Happy New Year for 2027

