



Apple Tree Nursery News



Respect. Responsiveness. Achievement. Inclusion

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November 2025



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Toothbrushing Visit

We had a visit from Arleen from Childsmile who monitored our toothbrushing, she was very pleased with us!



Baby Room

John has settled in well to the Baby Room.

Fireworks



Thank you again to Jimmy Poole for a wonderful fireworks evening. It was Amazing!!

Town Light Switch On

Our ELC children sang at the Towns Light Switch on.



Remembrance Day

On Remembrance Day we were very proud of Theia and Lillian who were chosen to lay the poppy wreath at this year's Remembrance service. Lillian and Theia's dads both have a military background which makes this very special for their families. In the lead up to the remembrance service we visited the cenotaph for a practice to lay the wreath. At eleven o'clock we had a minute of silence to remember the fallen soldiers.



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Quality Meat Scotland

We're excited to share that we've begun a partnership with Quality Meat Scotland, working together this month to help promote lamb as the traditional meal to celebrate St Andrew's Day.

To support this, we'll be trying a different lamb dish each week throughout the month — and we kicked things off with lamb, mint and garlic burgers, freshly cooked over the campfire! 🔥🍔

A huge thank you to Macqueens Butchers for supplying the delicious lamb burgers from Robin Reid at Ardmaleish Farm (Isle of Bute) — they were a big hit with everyone!

💬 "Can I have more please?" – Max

💬 "It's so yummy!" – Amina

💬 "I think I like lamb burgers." – Jay



Thank you Tony

The ELC children thoroughly enjoyed a special visit from a real monster truck. Responding to their love of monster trucks. We would like to thank Tony Feeney for generously bringing in his truck for the children to explore.

Mark making in the Baby Room



The babies used their creative skills to produce wonderful colourful artwork!

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Forest Schools

ELC have finished another block of Forest Schools

Week 1 - we started off with a bug hunt, searching the forest high and low to find a variety of bugs and creatures "I've got a wriggly worm" - Lauchie

Week 2 - After building our safety circle, Sam and Edoardo lit the fire for us to roast marshmallows

Week 3 - We developed our technology skills, using the iPads to take photos of different trees, leaves and bugs around the nursery 'say cheese edoardo' - Ada

Week 4 - Sam joined us at nursery to cook breakfast rolls and sausage on the fire, to say farewell!



Eco Committee Christmas Donation



Rag Bag

The rag bag bin was emptied, we raised £60, thank you to everyone who continues to fill it!

Eco Committee

We have now planted our garlic and onion bulbs in our planters, we placed cardboard over the bulbs to protect them from the frost, please let us know if you know of other tips and tricks we could learn about.



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Thank you again Jimmy at Loch Fad

As part of our last week of Seashore Scientists we visited Loch Fad to learn about the Fish of the Scottish seas. We learned how to cast the fishing rod out into the water. "We gave the fish sweetcorn to eat" - Oliver. We used different types of bait to see if we could catch any fish. We discovered the different types of fish that live in the loch rainbow trout, pike and perch. "I love looking for fish in the water" - Chimamanda. Thank you again to Jimmy Poole for providing our children with this great experience!

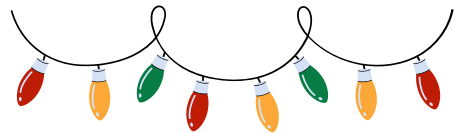


Children in Need in the Toddler Room



Christmas crafts in the Baby Room

Babies have begun making their Christmas crafts !



Thank you to the Bike Shed

Thank you to the Bike Shed for gifting us our Hitch & Harvest logos for the horse box!



Helen from Bute Pre 5 visited

Helen from Bute Pre 5 came to visit, she was met by our ELC children who gave her a tour, she then joined in with a Paths lesson before having a shot of our tree swings.



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SIMOA the Elephant

We took our new SIMOA the Elephant and backbag on their first trip to Play on pedals.



SIMOA is a Care Inspectorate safety initiative for childcare settings. It stands for Safe, Inspect, Monitor, Observe, Act, and helps staff stay aware of risks, supervise children closely, and act quickly to keep them safe.



Lonach's Nail Salon

Lonach shows a clear liking for the colour pink and gets very excited when talking about painting her nails. Her interest is so strong that she even pretends she has her own nail salon, happily "painting" nails for others. In response to this Lonach opened her own real nail salon.



Board of Directors Meeting

On 27th November our Board of Directors had their monthly meeting, the Board would like to thank the parents for their continuous support and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

School Registration

School visits took place and children going to school next year have now registered for their chosen school.



Bookbug at Rothesay Primary Pre 5

The toddlers visited Rothesay Primary Pre 5 to take part support their Bookbug session.



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Hitch & Harvest Christmas Edition

Our November Hitch and Harvest was a great success! Thank you to everyone who donated goodies for us to sell! Thank you to our new and returning customers!



Coll's love of Thomas the Tank

Responding to Coll's love of Thomas The Tank Engine....Coll and his friends set up the train track, he was showing them his blanket he brought from home, which he used for sleeping after lunch, as well as turn taking with the 2,3,4 and 5 pieced jigsaws, then we matched all Thomas' friends with the flash cards.

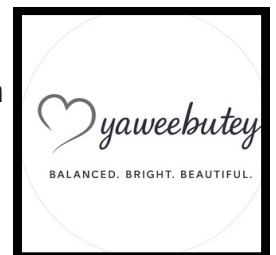


Babies celebrated Children in Need



Evelyn's Mum new business venture

Check out Evelyn's Mum new business venture, Ya Wee Beauty!



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Babies prepped for Hitch & Harvest

Babies helped make chocolate bark for the hitch and harvest farm shop.



Annie the bus

Annie the bus has been borrowed by the Brandane Bulls to travel their football matches and Mount Stuart to use as a shuttle bus at their family Christmas Event .



New email address

Early years have requested we create ourselves a new domain email address, if anyone is an expert on this please let us know.

- Do not use at least fourteen mixed alphabetic and numeric characters
- Do not use a phrase with spaces between words
- Do not repeat characters (111 or AAA) and avoid obvious sequences (123...or ABC...)
- Do not use names, dates, user-'d, or words associated with yourself

Thank you to everyone who purchased Photographs

We seen lots of lovely smiles whilst Tempest Photography visited.



Visit from Quality Meat Scotland

We were delighted to welcome Abby and Tracy from Quality Meat Scotland to our nursery. They taught us about the farm animals they work with and how important good animal care is! The children learned to look for Scotch labels when shopping and watched a video from Abby and Farmer Neil about life on the farm. We then made lamb mince nachos together, with the children helping to prepare the vegetables before enjoying the food. A huge thank you to Abby and Tracy for a fantastic visit and the generous goodies!



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Progress Trackers

Progress trackers and assessment for all children were completed prior to parents night.

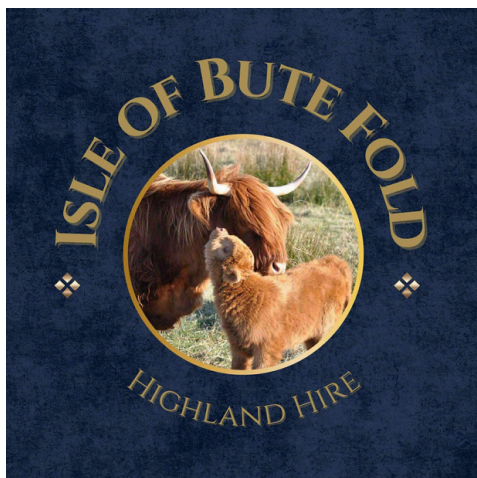
Children in Need

We raised awareness for Children in Need on Pudsey Day, we made a donation on behalf of Apple Tree Nursery.



Isle of Bute Fold Highland Hire

Please check out Findlay's Mum Samantha And Fraser's Mum Sarah Jane new business venture.



Children's Committee - Defib check

Whilst our Children's Committee were carrying out their regular checks on our Defibrillator, they realised that our Ettrick Bay Defibrillator battery was running low, we have now purchased a new one and fitted it, costing £180. Everyone on Bute is safe! The children's Committee will organise fundraising for the battery in the new year.



Naming Farmer Neil's Cow!

Thank you to everyone that commented on our Facebook post with name suggestions for Farmer Neil's cow. We decided on Tracey McCarry's suggestion of Scalpsie.



Visit from Violet's Mum and colleague Calumn

Following our recent visit from the ambulance and fire engine, Violet's Mum Rachael came to visit and are also happy with our parking



Staff News

Megan Training

Megan travelled to Inveraray to take part in a full-day CPD course on Building a Sensory Curriculum, supporting her ongoing commitment to delivering high-quality education for all learners.

Ellie's Birthday

We celebrated Ellie's birthday!



Heather Training

Heather travel to Inveraray to take part in Play is Curriculum training. She then traveled to Inveraray again to take part in Literacy and Numeracy training.

Erica's Birthday

We celebrated Erica's Birthday



Staff Meeting

We had our staff meeting on 29th October, from 5.30pm-6.30pm.

Abbie's Birthday

We celebrated Abbie's birthday!



Charmayne Training

As part of her ongoing CPD, Charmayne engaged in a full-day Nurturing Nature training course, expanding her knowledge and enhancing our setting's ability to offer rich, high-quality learning experiences for every child.

Bookbug Training

Megan attended a Bookbug training day in Inveraray, she is now a Bookbug Leader.

Lesley-Anne Training

Lesley-Anne took part in Head of Centre training for looked after children.



Wider Achievements

Well done Theia

Well done to Theia who passed her Highland Dancing Exams!



Well done Louis

Well Done Louis who passed his first swimming lesson!



Upcoming Events



DECEMBER 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1	2	3	4	5
8 BABIES GROTTO 5.30-6.30	9 BUTTIE & BLETHER 8.30AM - 9.00AM DROP IN	10	11 TODDLERS GROTTO 5.30-6.30	12
15 Wellbeing Ambassadors from Academy visiting St. Andrews Nativity	16 ELC CAROL CONCERT 9.30AM 292 HALL ----- ELC NATIVITY - CINEMA 5.30PM & 6PM	17 Carol Singing at the Hospital	18 CHRISTMAS PARTIES BABIES & TODDLERS - 4.30-5.45 ELC - 6.00-7.15 ROTHESAY GOLF CLUB	19 STAFF NIGHT OUT 6.30PM EARLY PICK UP WOULD BE APPRECIATED
22 Toddlers Christmas Bookbug with Janice	23 CHRISTMAS LUNCH FOR EVERYONE 	24 	25 	26
29 	30 	31 	REOPEN - MONDAY 5TH JANUARY 2026	