



# Apple Tree Nursery News



Respect.Responsiveness.Achievement.Inclusion

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February 2026



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# ELC NEWS

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## Children's Committee

Our Children's Committee completed Live Argyll's survey regarding Argyll and Bute Council Budget - setting process. Our Children's Committee would like you to complete this survey as these are vital services for their future. Scan the QR code below to complete the survey!



Scan me!

## Dog fouling

While the Play on Pedals group were at the park learning to ride their bikes, they noticed a lot of dog fouling. Please can everyone ensure they pick up after their dogs to keep the area safe and clean for everyone.

## Pancake Day



ELC celebrated Pancake Day by cooking pancakes over the campfire for snack. Quinn helped make the batter and light the fire before taking turns with friends to flip the pancakes. Cooking on the campfire supported confidence, teamwork and independence through hands-on learning and play, promoting health and wellbeing in line with Realising the Ambition: Being Me.

## Visit to Mount Stuart Gardens

The Farming Committee visited Mount Stuart Gardens to learn more about growing fruit and vegetables for the Hitch and Harvest Farm Shop.

The children explored polytunnels, planted strawberries and sweet peas, and were kindly gifted strawberry plants to grow back at nursery. Thank you to Lisa and Davie from Mount Stuart Gardens for having us 🍓🌱



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# ELC NEWS

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## Well done and thank you Freyah-May!

We had a visit from Freyah-May from St.Andrews, who previously attended Apple Tree. Freyah-May has created her very own self-designed story! The little Bears adventure 📖 ✨ She confidently read to the children and then showed them how to draw little bear by themselves. 🐻



## Farewell Abbie & Lachie

We held a farewell BBQ for Abbie and Lachie as they prepare for their move to Australia, marking their very last week here at Apple Tree. To celebrate their time with us, we also hosted a special mini graduation ceremony in their honour. Everyone at Apple Tree will miss you lots and we wish you the best of luck



## Visit to Duncan's Garage



Some ELC children visited Jimmy Duncan's Garage to learn how cars are kept roadworthy. They enjoyed hands-on activities like tightening a wheel, lowering a car on the ramp, and putting air in a tyre. Thank you to Sophie, Hector, and Tam for showing us around and sharing their knowledge, and a special thanks to Tam for donating a Motor Master to support the children's learning and fine motor skills.

## Kindness Award - Nola's Gran



Thank you to Nola's Granny for handing in money to the office that she found outside Nursery, the money has been returned to its owner.

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# GENERAL NEWS

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## Thank you Mia and Theo

Thank you to Mia and Theo for donating us loads of their old welly boots for us to wear!



## You said we did!

Thank you to Nola's Mum for giving the suggestion of an obstacle course, the children created one down the hill.



## Disabled space

Please only use the disabled parking space if you have a valid badge and need it.

## You said we did!

Thank you to Lexxie's mum for suggesting a large outdoor dolls house — we will enquire with Hansons about this. We have also received a suggestion for a climbing wall, which we can explore once the pavilion hoarding has been removed.

## Tartan Winners!

Well done to Ruaridh, Ada and Autumn our winners of the Bute Fabrics Tartan Competition! Thank you to Mallory's Mum from Bute Fabrics for choosing our winners 🎉👏



## You said we did!

The lunch menu has been emailed out to families, it is also available to view on EYLog 🍴

## Eylog App

If you are not receiving Eylog notification, please delete the app and re-download it.

## You said we did!

There was a suggestion of a music area, we have one down the hill in Leigha's area! 🎵



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# TODDLER NEWS

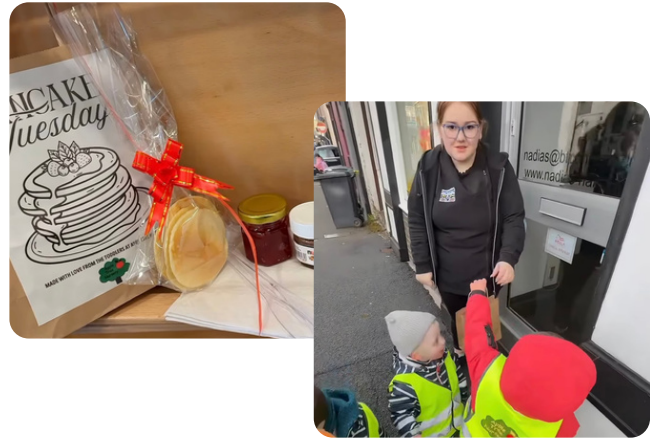
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## Chinese New Year

Coll and his toddler peers, along with his older brother Rowan had a wonderful time celebrating Chinese New Year, inspired by their Grandma's recent visit to family in China. Together the children explored Chinese New Year traditions.



## Pancake Day



The toddlers were spreading joy amongst the community, delivering their nursery made pancakes in celebration of pancake day 🥞 a delicious treat made with love ❤️

## Valentines Day



We had a fantastic turnout with toddlers dressed in red and pink to celebrate Valentine's Day. The children enjoyed tea parties, music and movement, along with sensory and creative activities throughout the day.

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# STAFF NEWS

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## Caitlin's Birthday

We celebrated Caitlin's Birthday 🎉



## Congratulations Megan

Congratulations Megan on 7 years at Apple Tree Nursery! 🎉 Thank you for all the hard work you put in — here's to many more years ahead! 🍏🌿



## Lauren's Birthday

We celebrated Lauren's 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday 🎂



## Charlotte's Birthday

We celebrated Charlotte's Birthday 🎉



## Leighann's Birthday

We celebrated Leighann's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday 🎁



## Leigha's Birthday

We celebrated Leigha's 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday 🎉



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# STAFF NEWS

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## Congratulations Charlotte

We're delighted to celebrate 7 years of Charlotte working at Apple Tree Nursery



Thank you for all your hard work and dedication — you're a valued part of the team! 🌞



## Well Done Yvonne

Well done Yvonne for emailing in at 11.20pm at night with ideas for our upcoming Common Wealth Games events! Brilliant ideas!

## Congratulations Leigha



Congratulations to Leigha on 4 years at Apple Tree! 🎉

Thank you for all your hard work over the years — it's really appreciated!

A hiring poster for Apple Tree Nursery. The background is a blurred image of children playing. At the top left is a white star. At the top right is the Apple Tree Nursery logo, which is a green tree with a red apple. The text 'WE'RE HIRING!' is written in large, bold, black, hand-drawn letters. Below this, it says 'We are looking for a Supply Practitioner to cover staff holidays, training and busy periods.' To the left of a white rounded rectangle containing requirements is a black and white megaphone icon. The requirements list: 'Requirements: Applicants must meet SSSC requirements for a Childcare Practitioner. Reliable, flexible, and passionate about working with children'. Below the requirements is the text 'What we value:' followed by a list of three bullet points: 'Respect - treating every child, family, and colleague with care', 'Responsiveness - adapting to the needs of children and the nursery', and 'Inclusion - celebrating diversity and making everyone feel welcome'. At the bottom, it says 'Join our team and make a difference every day!' and 'Email [appletreelal@aol.com](mailto:appletreelal@aol.com)'.

## Thank you Stephanie & Scott

Thank you to Stephanie and her partner Scott for staying late after a busy day of working to cook all of the Chinese food for our Chinese New Year Celebration!

THANK YOU!

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# BABIES NEWS

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## Cut up & catch up



The Baby Room hosted a Cut Up & Catch Up session for families, sharing knowledge about safe food preparation.

It was lovely to see families learning and chatting together — thank you to everyone who attended. A special thank you to Marco's family for kindly donating the meat for the event. QIF – Nurturing Care and Support: Building strong relationships with families helps create a warm, welcoming environment and enhances children's experiences.

## Pancake Day

To celebrate Shrove Tuesday, the babies made healthy pancakes using carrots and bananas. They enjoyed them so much that we sent the recipe home along with a carrot to try again.



## Puddle Jumping

The babies wandered along to the entrance of the woods where Caitlin and Stephanie knew there is a great spot for puddle jumping 🌧️ Autumn shouted “splash splash” as we got closer to the puddles 🌧️ In the Scottish Government guidance ‘Out to Play’ it encourages children to experience different weather conditions and describes splashing in puddles as a meaningful sensory play.



## Chinese New Year

This week, the babies explored Lunar New Year with The Very Hungry Caterpillar, learning about Chinese culture through Bookbug sessions, snacks, crafts, dragon dancing and sensory play.



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# BABIES NEWS

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## Willow came to visit



Leo's keyworker invited his friend Willow into Nursery for a wee party after he had been calling out her name.

## Thank you Rae

Rae kindly gifted the Baby Room a Mr. Potato Head as a farewell present when she transitioned to the Toddler Room.



## Owen's big brother Callen

Owen's big brother, Callen, came into the Baby Room for a stay-and-play session, spending time joining in with the babies' activities and exploring the room with them.



## Duck visit 🦆

Thank you to Helen for bringing in her duck! The babies loved seeing and interacting with the duck making for a fun and exciting experience in the Baby Room.



## Valentines Day in the baby room



The babies explored Valentine's Day through a variety of fun and engaging activities, all themed around pink and red. They enjoyed creative play, sensory experiences, and festive decorations that helped bring the celebration to life.

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# WIDER ACHIEVEMENTS

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## Well done Oliver!



Huge well done to Oliver for opening the Young Farmers Concert on both Friday and Saturday night — what a fantastic achievement! 🙌🌟

## Well done Ruaridh

"We recently had a day out with family to celebrate our nephew's birthday. One of the activities we did was ten pin bowling. This was Ruaridh's first time playing ten pin bowling and he had the most amazing time. He demonstrated his turn taking skills and was quick to pick up the steps we needed to take when it was his turn - choosing and setting up the ramp, choosing and collecting a bowling ball and placing it on the ramp, pushing the ball down the ramp and then making sure we moved the ramp ready for his big cousin's turn. He even 'bowled us over' by scoring a STRIKE...! Well done, Ruaridh!" - Ruaridh's Mum

## Well done to Brody



"Responding to RJC Primary 3a class community challenge to get outdoors and take a video reciting a Scottish song or poem, Brody sang Coulters Candy (Ally Bally Bee) which he learned at Apple Tree. His entry was selected as the best and was awarded a certificate and a National Book token voucher.

## Well done Theia!

'Theia got 2x5th places in her first ever highland dancing competition we are all super proud of her as she was very nervous and wasn't sure if she wanted to go up on the stage but she put her brave pants on and she done fantastic!' - Theia's Mum



# Family Buisnesses

Iona's Grandpa - Mini drivers



Iona's Uncle - Gary Hebdon Painting & Decorating



Violet's Dad Reece - Campbell Plastering & Rendering



## Upcoming Events

	Fluoride varnishing - 18 <sup>th</sup> March	
	Closed Easter Friday 3rd April & Easter Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> April	<i>Happy Easter</i>
	Photographer - 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2026	
	Closed May Day- 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	
	Graduation - 31 <sup>st</sup> July 2026	
	Photographer - 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2026	