



Merrydale Newsletter

Welcome to our nursery newsletter. We are excited to share updates on what the children have been learning and enjoying along with important dates and reminders. please let us know if there is anything in particular you would like us to include next term!

Important moments:

Preschool EARTH DAY planting session 22.4.2026

This is a lovely hands-on way to support our environment and also a beautiful way to brighten up our local community!

Please let us know if you would like to come along!



We are so proud of the babies self service during snack time!

As the warmer weather (hopefully!!) approaches, please can children arrive to nursery wearing a layer of suncream and loose fitted clothing to allow plenty of ventilation as well as protection against sun exposure



We are so proud of preschoolers supporting the younger children with hand washing!



Our Employee of the month is Serena!!! Since joining Merrydale, Serena has proved to be a strong and hard working practitioner. Serena knows the children well and always goes above and beyond to meet children's needs. We are very lucky to have Serena apart of our Merrydale team

Sustainability

We are committed to teaching children about sustainability by encouraging recycling, creative junk modelling, and hands-on activities that show how everyday actions can help the planet. Through learning to care for our environment, children develop lifelong habits of responsibility, respect, and environmental awareness.

Some of the things that we have been doing:

- **Playing with shredded paper for sensory fun!**
- **Painting junk modeling**
- **painting with tea bags**
- **watering our herbs!**



Shopping at a green grocer supports sustainability by significantly reducing plastic packaging, minimizing food miles through local sourcing, and offering seasonal produce, which lowers carbon footprints. Unlike supermarkets, they typically sell loose produce, reducing waste and supporting smaller, local supply chains.

Baby Room Learning:

The baby room has been exploring a variety of cultures through our recent concept. The children have taken part in learning about and celebrating special occasions from around the world, including St. Patrick's Day, Mother's Day, Valentine's Day, Chinese New Year, and Eid.

Through these experiences, we have explored a range of colours and colour mixing, been introduced to different languages, and enjoyed lots of singing and musical activities. This has provided a rich and engaging way for the babies to begin discovering the diversity of the world around them. We have also been out and about exploring our local community, discovering which animals we can spot along the way.

As part of this, we have been supporting our local community by visiting nearby bookshops to choose new stories for our collection. This has helped to foster a love of books while introducing the children to new experiences beyond Merrydale. The children have also enjoyed spending time with our Bertie Bear, sharing their home experiences with him. They have especially loved telling him their bedtime stories, helping to build confidence, communication skills, and a sense of connection between home and nursery. A special thank you to all of our parents who attended our Mother's Day stay-and-play session. It has been wonderful to see how relationships continue to grow between children, practitioners, and parents. We had a lovely morning exploring flowers, playing with playdough, and sharing stories. The children enjoyed talking about their home lives and what they were doing to celebrate Mother's Day. It was a meaningful and memorable experience for everyone involved.



"Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning. But for children, play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood." — Fred Rogers

Home learning: Signs of Spring hunt

Go on a Mini adventure with a special adult as see what you can find?

- 3 flowers
- spot a bird or an insect
- collect green leaves or sticks
- You can either bring the items in or drawer what you saw!
- Can you spot any lambs?



Preschool Learning:

Our first celebration during Cultures was Pancake Day, we spoke about healthy pancake options, one of our personal favourites from the children was broccoli... Next was Chinese New Year where we made lots of crafts, we tried traditional Chinese food, lots of dressing up, we tried to learn to count to 5 in Chinese although this was tough! St Patrick's day was fun! All day we had Irish singers and bands on, the children enjoyed dancing along to the music, we did an exploration activity in the tuff tray where the children had to find different objects and pictures related to St Patrick's Day.

To stick with our concept, we learnt about how other people around the world live. For example, the children loved learning about mud houses, so we made some of our own with the clay! We have a brilliant book all about different kinds of home and this has been a class favourite. Of course, we have loved tying our local area into cultures, this means we have been into the town centre and looked at all the different shops, discussing what jobs the people in our town have. The children have loved the road up from us being closed because it meant we've had all kinds of trucks going past with flashing lights and making lots of noise. This means that there has been lots of role play surrounding jobs we have seen and spoken about such as Chefs (inspired from the restaurants around us) Construction workers (seeing them over the road) and we've had a couple of hairdressers/barbers too!