



Annan News

12.03.21



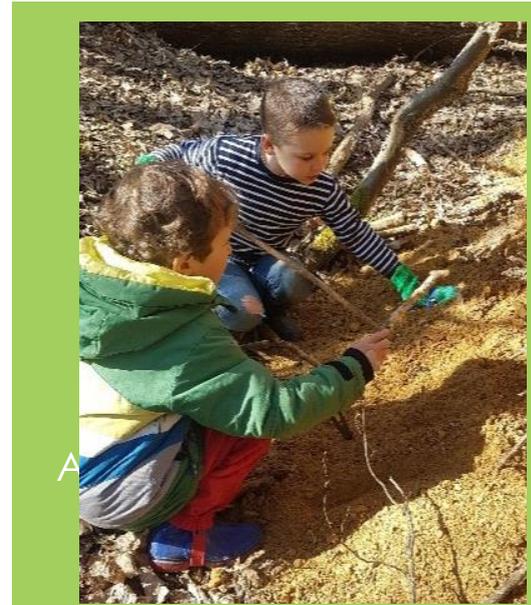
What a joy to see such happy children back to school this week. We have really missed having everyone together. It has been such a pleasure to witness how much they have enjoyed reconnecting with their friends and the environment.

Sycamore Class wasted no time settling back into school life after such a long time away and they have loved being back with their friends again. They enjoyed 'wallowing' in their play and each other's company this week, as they have been reconnecting with each other and re-establishing routines.

What a week Willow class have had. They made board games out of our lockdown experiences and then played them with each other. The children designed spaces on their board games that helped them explore the positives and negatives of their experience (Computer difficulties, go back 2/walk with my cousin, roll again/missing my friends, miss a go/playing in the garden, go forward 3!) They did team challenges like tower building with straws. They also did an artistic team challenge through working together to paint a huge Ancient Egyptian wall mural. At forest school they walked down to the river and made wild garlic pesto. The children played on the banks of the river as the sun streamed through the trees.

Elder children have been doing what they love. Working as a team at forest school to 'mine for gold'; cooking delicious food; making and playing board games and lots of art.

We all ended the week with a celebration of books for World book day - All in all, quite a week!





A big thank you to you and all the staff for all your care, support, thoughtfulness, and hard work over this last year.

I'm really grateful for the focus on what the children really need just now. Just being together and play are so desperately needed.
Two Annan Parents

Kindergarten Towers!

The Kindergarten have been learning about their sense of touch. Last week they focused on solid objects e.g conker shells, pinecones, pebbles etc. This week they have been experimenting with making cornflour gloop... 'It feels hard and when I let it go it seems slimy, but it's hard! It looks like hydrated oil.' ...and slime.

Some of the children extended their block play by building the tallest tower they could. Amanda challenged them to explore what they could build with the Loose Parts in the garden. Look at the amazing castle they created.

Froebel Conference!

As you know Debby Hunter and Mark Broad presented at the Froebel Trust conference last Saturday. Here is a message from the CEO of the Froebel Trust:

"From start to finish, it was inspirational. Over the weekend, I have seen a long stream of emails coming into the office mailbox all giving very positive feedback and thanks. Similarly, twitter was busy with lovely tweets during and after the conference. One benefit of being online was the participation of educators all over the world, some of whom were clearly taking part at very unsociable hours: a testament to the ability of Froebelian principles to traverse international borders and find culturally-relevant homes in very diverse contexts. It transpires that we had more than 2,000 attending over the course of the day. Given that it was an all-day event and on a Saturday at the end of an exhausting and challenging 11 months of the pandemic, I think that is remarkable and goes to show how very engaging all the presentations were, holding everyone's interest for so many hours."

Something which captured everyone's thinking was the talk around 'slow pedagogy' – going at a child's pace rather than learning in a hurried way. This chimes so well with our thinking especially at this time of emphasis on 'catching up'. Children need time to wallow in their play and learning.

When the recording of the event is ready we hope to share it with parents.



Menu for next week:

- Monday: Sausages, potato wedges & beans
- Tuesday: Macaroni cheese & veggies
- Wednesday: Tacos with rice, beans, cheese & salsa
- Thursday: Pizza with veggies

Dates for your diary:

- Last day of Spring Term: Friday 26th March
- Nurture in Nature: 29th – 31st March
- First day of Summer Term: Tuesday 20th April
- Summer Half Term: 31st May – 4th June

Term dates up to July 2022 are now on the website