



Butterflies

www.butterfliescreche.com



Bealtaine (Bright Fire)

We have four seasonal festivals in Ireland and Bealtaine or Beltane (May 1st) marks the beginning of summer! With that, hopefully comes drier and warmer weather, more conducive to being outdoors. So encourage your children and their friends to get outside for a game of Frisbee, tag or hopscotch. A lawn bowls or skittles set will provide hours of competitive fun. Take the cricket set or frisbee down to the local park, or make your own kites and take them for a test run! If the sun is shining and the temperature has climbed, why not head to the beach for some sandcastle building and bring a picnic ...and sunscreen. Invest in a hula-hoop and skipping rope or plain old football and keep them in the boot of your car for some active fun that you can take anywhere. Make a game of seeing how long you can all keep a balloon from touching the ground. Grow green – help your children make their very own backyard vegetable patch or herb garden and encourage the responsibility of watering and caretaking with the added benefit of homegrown organic vegetables!

Food For Thought *by Joan*



Banana Bread

- 125g butter
 - 150g caster sugar
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 - 1 egg, beaten
 - 2 very ripe bananas, mashed
 - 190g self raising flour
 - 60ml milk
1. Melt butter, sugar and vanilla in a saucepan over a medium heat and add the mashed bananas. Mix well.
 2. Add the egg and stir in the flour and the milk.
 3. Pour into a greased tin.
 4. Bake at 170 C / Fan 150 C / Gas 3 for 35 minutes, or until a skewer comes out clean. Leave to cool and enjoy!



Notices

Instead of my usual editorial piece, this month I would like to ask all of our parents for your co-operation with the items listed below.

- Please bring your child in to the porch, where a staff member will be waiting to greet you. Parents coming into the class with their child can upset other children.
- Sessional times are 9.am to 12 pm. 9.15 am to 12.15pm and 1.15pm to 4.15 pm. Due to very strict staff/child ratios we cannot take children in any earlier than 5 minutes before their start time.
- Please remember that in order to keep the in/out traffic flowing we must insist that you do not arrive too early then park and wait, as this causes major congestion. This applies to both dropping off and collecting your child at Butterflies. We really appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to both the Murphy family and to Lana Farrell and her family on the recent tragic death of Noel. May he rest in peace.



Cathy

What's Going On?



Maggie & Lisa

Baby Room

All of us in the baby room hope to see a lot of the outdoors this summer! We will be enjoying nature at its best with our very own playground and activity area. Please ensure your child has his/her own sun cream and sun hat to protect their delicate skin as well as a spare change of clothes.

Early Learning/Toddler Room

April showers didn't stop us from going to the playground although we did have to put our coats on because it was still quite cool. Some of us have learned to put our own coats on and some need a little more practice. Demos are available for parents. 😊 Continuing with plenty of artwork. Singing, dancing and exercise are daily staples in Louise's room.



Louise Stewart



Hazel

Pre-Montessori Room

This month we are busy learning basic colours in Irish. The children are really beginning to use these words around the classroom. We have also been practicing our manners, saying please and thank you. Keep an ear out for our new magic words.

Montessori Room

Here comes summer and we will be busy with summer art and crafts, while also having group discussions about the season. We hope the sun keeps shining so we can continue having fun outside. We have also reached our last continent - Europe. During this month, road safety is our big topic- teaching the children how important it is to look and listen when crossing the road, while also taking the children out to practice. Practicing is so important. Keep an ear out for our safety song and join in!



Louise Hurley & Charmaine

Busy Bees



Mairead

During May and June we will be concentrating on our numeracy and literacy development, in readiness for "big school" in September. The children enjoy the challenges of matching, counting, building blocks, jigsaws, number and letter worksheets, along with learning new poems and songs to build on language, spelling, word recognition and exploration of emotions. Along with this, we incorporate arts and crafts and as much outdoor play as possible. We link all of this to some themes of Aistear, which are Exploring and Thinking, Communication and Well Being.