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| **School Improvement Plan Update** – Forest Schools - We are lucky to have Willow working with us for two days this term providing rich learning experiences in our outdoor setting.  cid:image002.png@01D3E2F4.72A06C10**Staffing update** – I am delighted to welcome Claudia Bamford as our temporary PSA until the end of term. Mrs Bamford will be taking up post on Tuesday 8th May.  **Open Morning** – We have been very busy preparing our open morning presentations to share with you on Thursday 10th May. Please join us from 9.15am for a Fair Trade cuppie, ready to start our presentation at 9.30am. The children will be sharing a wide selection of their learning with you – including some sign language, information on growth mind-set, The UN Rights of the Child and the Global Goals – please remember to take your own mug/cup for your tea/coffee/juice as we are working hard to support Goal 12, Responsible consumption and production.  **School Show** – Our school show this year will be ‘The Pirates of the Curry Bean’. It is on Monday 25th June, 7pm start. Following discussions with the Parent Council this is going to be our last annual show for a while. We will continue to have a presentation at Christmas, share our learning during the year and also have our end of school service in summer.  **Nursery News**  Nursery have been learning lots about Spring since returning from the Easter break. Our current topics include:    **Planting -** Mrs Duncan has been busy planting with the children. We have planted broad beans and learned about roots and shoots and how we need to take care of plants.  Chillies, tomatoes, sweet peas, peas, lettuce, beans, potatoes, sunflowers, carrots have also been planted in pots, boarders and grow bags in readiness for our  Annual Plant Sale on Friday 1st June. Everyone is welcome!  Thanks so much to Isabel Turvey’s dad for coming to nursery to plant potatoes with us, and to Daniel Rippiner’s mum for organising the plant sale and getting us a much needed wheel barrow.  **Life cycles and Mini beasts -** We have been learning about the life cycles of different kinds of animals and insects. Particularly those we are aware of in our locality- chicks hatching, and lambs being born in Spring.  We have been learning all about different kinds of insects, how they are the same and how they differ, their habitats and how we can encourage them into our garden. We have also learned about the work they do and how they help us in the garden.  Thanks to Freddy’s mum for sharing her, Freddy and Elsie’s day harvesting honey with local bee keepers.  **Healthy Eating -** We are very interested in food and have been part of a consultation with parents to decide how snack in nursery will look in future. Thanks to all those parents who came in to share their views in person and to all those who took the time to complete our on line survey.  Thanks to Lucy’s mum for donating a soup/ smoothie maker to help us continue to make fabulous “Feasty Friday” snack.  We look forward to a visit from TESCO Community partners to further discuss healthy snack options, and our visit to TESCO Banchory to take part in a healthy fruit and veg hunt. Lucy’s mum is also joining us to talk about healthy eating wearing her “GP’s Hat”.  ***Look out for the Summer Term Events Calendar coming soon on email!***  Please remember drop off times for Crossroads are from 8.40am to 8.55am. Pick up times are from 11.40am to 11.55am. Please ensure your child is dropped off and picked up within these windows, this allows the children to have their full time in nursery. It also gives our nursery staff their full time to prepare activities, plan, update records etc. Many thanks for your help with this.  **School Dates for Term 4**  Monday 7th May - Holiday  Wednesday 9th May - Forest Schools  Friday 11th May - P2 Sport Morning @ Drumoak School  Tue 15th – Fri 18th May - P6/7 Residential Trip @ Glenshee  Wednesday 23rd May - Forest Schools  Thursday 24th May - P7 Visit to Academy  Friday 25th May - P3-7 Potted Sports @ Crathes School  Monday 28th May - Sports Day @ Knockburn Loch  Monday 4th June - Holiday  Tuesday 5th June - P5-7 Minature Earth, Learning Conversations  Wednesday 6th June - Forest Schools  Monday 11th June - Burnett Cup 6pm @ Crathes School  Tuesday 12th June - P7 Try a Sport Day  Wednesday 20th June - Forest Schools  Wed 20th June – Fri 22nd June - P7 Link Days @ Academy  Monday 25th June - Show @ Kirkton Hall  Wednesday 4th July - Forest Schools  Friday 6th July - Last Day of Term, Durris Church @ 2.30pm  Tuesday 21st August - Term Begins |