An eggsperience to remember!

What a fantastic two weeks we had successfully hatching 7 of the 8 eggs we received in April from Eggsploring.

Children, parents and staff across the University have been enthralled observing first the eggs hatching and then the growth of the chicks over two weeks.

Special thanks to Chris Dixon, Graeme Hughes and colleagues in ISS for setting up the webcam ensuring nobody had to miss a moment of this eggciting eggsperience!

Babyroom exploring the great outdoors

To enable the babies to fully embrace the outdoors we have purchased some new outdoor suits.

The suits have ensured the babies are kept nice and warm when enjoying outdoor activities and walks around our fantastic campus.

In addition they look enormously cute!
Caterpillars in Crèche

In Crèche 1 we have been looking after some new friends, the Caterpillars.

The Children have enjoyed watching them crawl around their home as well as growing bigger and bigger and changing into cocoons. The cocoons have now been transferred into the Butterfly Pavilion and we are now eagerly awaiting our butterflies!

The Children have enjoyed expanding on this experience by making their own caterpillars and helping decorate one for our display as well as enjoying printing with fruits.

An enchanted forest in Crèche 2

Crèche 2 staff have been very busy creating a new sleep and rest area for the Children.

With the addition of some new furniture, individual dream coracles and mats and a good sprinkling of imagination they have successfully created an enchanted forest providing a wonderfully calm environment for the children.

We hope they like it as much as we do.

Smoothie fun in Nursery 1

As part of our ‘Healthy Body, Happy me’ week we had a fantastic time making fruit smoothies.

Everyone helped to chop up the bananas, raspberries, strawberries and plums. We then mixed the fruit in a blender with some orange juice.

The children enjoyed talking about their favourite fruits but particularly enjoyed tasting the smoothie!
Healthy and Happy in Nursery 2

As part of our ‘Healthy Body, Happy Me’ week we did lots of activities relating to being active, but we also wanted to think about what we put in our bodies, we are what we eat!

So the children with a little help made fruit cups.

We used a few techniques in the process, bashing the bran flakes with the rolling pin was fun! We scooped the yoghurt with spoons and very carefully we cut the strawberries in half so we learned a lot about being safe too!

After that we put the cups in the freezer, the yogurt froze and went hard so we learnt that things change when the temperature changes.

If you want the recipe please follow the link below and search for Frozen Yogurt Granola Cups

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJFp8uSYCjXOMnkUyb3CQ3Q
Pre-School 1 started this term with visits to the orchard, woods and allotment! We looked and talked about lots of different things; blossoms, buds, frogspawn and tadpoles.

We then planted lots of our own seeds which we water daily; they are already starting to sprout! So hopefully we will soon be eating our very own home-grown peas, beans, lettuce, strawberries and herbs to name but a few!

We have also been discussing ‘Healthy body, Happy me’, and the importance of a balanced, healthy diet, we talked about the effect of sugar on our bodies, we explored food groups and we made and ate porridge!

We also used a very large set of teeth and practiced brushing our teeth using the right techniques.
Pre-School 2 news

It’s been very exciting in Pre-School 2 with the arrival of fish.

Ted has kindly donated 2 fish for us to look after.

There is a black fish called Mater and an orange fish called Chick!

We have enjoyed watching the fish swim round the tank, under the rainbow and through the cave! Inside the tank is a blue shark called Olaf.

Chick and Mater have settled well in Pre-School 2 and seem to like watching us almost as much as we like watching them.

Pre-School 3 news

Following the children’s request some of us built a volcano in the sandpit outside Pre-School.

The children involved worked really hard helping to create the volcano.

They explained in detail that the Lava comes out of a hole in the top of the volcano and that the Lava is very hot and will burn you.

We added rocks to the volcano to represent the Lava.
Parents & Children
You are invited to a birthday tea party fit for a Queen to celebrate the Queen’s 90th birthday Thursday 9th June 4pm – 6pm

Please RSVP to the Office

Don’t forget to dress in your best party clothes!
Can parents who access the Pre-School Lay-by please enter and exit as indicated above.

When the lay-by is full there are a number of additional spaces marked in yellow on the above map which have been designated as Pre-School spaces, you are also welcome to use any available space in Library Avenue.

2 Babies and a Wedding!

Congratulations to the new Mr & Mrs Thompson, aka Sam the Man and his soon to be new wife Anna. We would like to send you both our very Best Wishes for your future together and for your wedding day on Saturday 14\textsuperscript{th} May 2016.

Congratulations also to Rachel and Andy on the birth of their little boy born Saturday 23\textsuperscript{rd} April weighing 7lb 3oz, and Nichola and Matt on the birth of their little girl born Thursday 28\textsuperscript{th} April weighing 7lb 13oz.

Language acquisition Seminar

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Professor Padraic Monaghan for organising and presenting a recent seminar on Monday 9\textsuperscript{th} May relating to language acquisition. The seminar was extremely interesting and enjoyed by both staff and parents, it was fascinating to hear about how children acquire language and the role we play in that learning.
On the 4\textsuperscript{th} and 5\textsuperscript{th} of May in preparation for the creation of the Barefoot Walk we were joined by artists Tina and Catherine. The children worked in the Nature Nest with the artists creating tiles and pebbles that will be incorporated into the path. We are hopeful that work will commence on the walk early June.
Keen to give the children new challenges we were delighted to find this new and exciting range of products. T4kids is a company which has created a range of woodwork equipment for early year’s staff to use with young children.

The best part is all the tools are real, they have been specifically designed for small hands and are a great way to develop practical skills. Safety is obviously very important and the children are only able to access the tools and equipment when supervised.

Wearing the woodwork uniform and safety goggles adds to the experience and signifies this is a really important activity, they listen well to instructions and we trust them to be careful.

We want to promote this as an activity for both boys and girls and to address typical gender stereotyping therefore our special grown up woodworkers are Women.

For more information on encouraging girls in engineering have a look on the following link. Its early days, but we can plant the seed!  
[https://www.wisecampaign.org.uk/](https://www.wisecampaign.org.uk/)
Can we please remind parents now that the warmer weather has (hopefully) arrived to apply sun prior to your child attending and to also supply sun cream for staff to re-apply throughout the day.

Why not order nametags for school uniform, water bottles, book bags etc. and raise money for the Pre-School at the same time. Please visit www.MyNametags.com to purchase.

Pre-School’s ID number is 47494.

**Term Dates:-**

4\(^{th}\) April until 26\(^{th}\) August 2016

**Undergraduate Terms:-**

18\(^{th}\) April until 24\(^{th}\) June 2016

**Invoice dates:-**

6\(^{th}\) June until 1\(^{st}\) July 2016

4\(^{th}\) July until 29\(^{th}\) July 2016

1\(^{st}\) August until 26\(^{th}\) August 2016