



Hello from the after-school club, we have had a really busy few weeks! It has been super to see so many faces each night coming along. As the numbers have been increasing, our regular children have all stepped up and into even more helpful roles than before, it is so lovely to see. The older children helping the younger ones washing hands, placing snacks, tidying up water bottles and coats, taking activities outside, planning and leading games. Well done to all those who are making sure everyone is included and joining in!

The children enjoyed decorating biscuits for Mother's Day, using icing sugar, sprinkles, writing icing and marshmallows; there were some fantastic creations! We are not sure how many family members actually received their biscuits as we spied quite a few children nibbling on them as they left us in club!

We were extremely grateful and fortunate to receive a donation of chocolate Easter Eggs from the One Stop shop in Brighton Hill. On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March the children attending joined in an Easter hunt searching for bunnies hiding in the trees across the playground and woodland area; those who found a bunny took an egg home.

We have a secondary school student volunteering with us every Wednesday as they are working towards their Duke of Edinburgh award. The children in club have already become very fond of them and look forward to the time spent playing (mostly football so far!)

Den building in the school hall has become a regular request, using the chairs for structure and covering with our many blankets and sheets. These dens are then used to chill, read books, play card games and have a chat.

We have been spending more and more time outside after our second snack recently which has given the children freedom and space to play. May we take this opportunity to remind you that trainers must be worn on the jungle gym so please do send them in when your child is attending club.

After school club have been included by the Sustainability Council to have their own part within the school's vegetable patch. Some of the children put their wellies on and got busy using tools to get digging and prepare the area ready for planting our allocation of carrots! We look forward to taking the next steps and watching them grow.

The children's individual folders are still proving to be very popular, somewhere for the children to colour, draw and get creative. Many have been taking them outside also. We can print out colouring sheets tailored to their individual interests. There has at some point in every session been someone sat calmly colouring, a lovely chilled activity.

As ever the roleplay is a popular resource. Miss Hallam has created a café which has been lovely to see their play and engagement with each other across all age groups evolve. If anyone has any clean take away cups we would be grateful to receive them to continue to replenish and restock our roleplay resource, thank you.

When we return after the Easter holidays, we will no longer serve the hot second snack, instead we will move back to serving a picnic style snack including rolls, wraps, sandwiches, bagels, fruit etc. We look forward to continuing to promote independence with spreading their own condiments and filling their choice of snack. This time provides a positive social environment to encourage our older children to take the lead, support, and role model to our younger children.

Wishing you all a wonderful Easter holidays and we look forward to seeing you back when we return.

The After School Club team.