



## News Story – Our Sweet Week of Ice Cream Fun!

### Babies

This week we explored a range of ice-cream themed tuff tray activities. The babies enjoyed a taste-safe ice-cream cone activity using whipping cream, where they crushed the cones, added their own sprinkles and created their own ice creams. This supported their fine motor development and imaginative play.



We also made fresh playdough and set out different coloured pieces on a tuff tray with bowls, allowing the children to role-play and design their own ice-cream creations.

Outdoors, we set up a messy sensory activity using water and cornflour, along with sprinkles and cones. The babies loved exploring the textures and engaging in sensory play.



To finish the week, the Dixon Ice Cream van visited nursery. The babies were taken to the van, and each enjoyed their own cold ice cream, which was a lovely treat.





## Toddlers

The toddlers have had a wonderful and exciting week at nursery! Our theme has been *all things ice cream*, and the children were especially thrilled by a very special ice cream visitor.

In the malleable area, the children explored an ice cream parlour tuff tray, using chocolate-scented playdough to create their own chocolate ice creams. They used rolling pins, cutters and whisks to design their treats and develop their fine motor skills. Another popular activity was a sensory STEM ice cream tray, where the children experimented with melted ice cream, glitter and sprinkles. They loved scooping the mixture into bowls and cones while observing how the texture changed from solid to liquid.



In the home corner, the toddlers enjoyed imaginative role play, pretending to run an ice cream van and selling ice creams to their friends. Over on the maths table, the children practised number recognition by matching the correct number of scoops to each numbered cone.

The highlight of the week was a visit from the Dixons Ice Cream van. The children were full of excitement as they watched the van arrive. They lined up beautifully to collect their ice creams, remembered to say thank you, and then sat together to enjoy their delicious treats.





## Pre-School

What a fabulous week we have had at nursery! Our little ones have been exploring all things ice cream, combining sensory play, maths, and exciting real-life visits.

**Sensory & Messy Play:** Our tuff tray was transformed into an ice cream parlour! The children used shaving foam for the ice cream, red food colouring for the sauce, and decorated their creations with glitter, sprinkles, and pompoms. It was a fantastic way to explore different textures.



**Imaginative Role Play:** We opened our very own ice cream shop in the home corner. The children loved taking on the roles of shopkeepers and customers. They used price lists and order forms to buy and sell their favourite flavours, building great communication and sharing skills.



**Maths & Counting:** On our maths table, the children used scoops and cones to practice their counting. They matched the correct number of sprinkles to the matching number printed on the cone. This helped them build early number and matching skills in a really fun way!



**A Special Visitor!:** The highlight of the week was a visit from the Dixons Ice Cream van. The children were thrilled to listen for the ice cream tune and watch the van pull up. They asked lots of questions about the vehicle before stepping up to the window to order a real ice cream cone. On a beautiful, sunny day, there was no better way to celebrate!

