

*June* 2019  
*visit*

# day 1

MONDAY  
3RD JUNE 2019

This is the first full day of our June 2019 programme. The children all arrived at our base and we had a nice settling in talk where they all gave nice examples of what they were doing at the weekend and nice gifts and clothes they had received. It helped to break the ice and the new children all participated well. We then talked about safety and rules :). Following snack we made thank you cards. Some lovely designs :) Some of the girls got new nails at the weekend and proudly showed us. We then played some board games before lunch as the weather was not kind. A nice morning. Our plans for the afternoon changed. With the threat of rain and 40mph wind we headed indoors to potter around. We were very well looked after as usual. The children split up with half painting pottery and half making jewellery, mainly the boys :) some lovely designs and best behaviour before being given popcorn and juice. A nice way to spend the afternoon before heading back to base.



# day 2 ~

TUESDAY  
4TH JUNE 2019

It was another fantastic visit to Bathgate Academy. The kids enjoyed fun in the swimming pool followed by snacks in the sunshine. It was then off to the science lab to take part in some experiments. The art department saw some amazing artists at work- very impressive pieces to bring home! Afterwards they had a nice lunch in the canteen followed by a run around in the park. And guess what? No rain!



# day 3 ~

WEDNESDAY  
5TH JUNE 2019

All the kids had a great morning at Yoyo soft play. Plenty of time for running, jumping & having fun. Yoyos were also very kind a laid on a lovely lunch for the children. Afterwards it was back to school for some prep for the family event & we ended the day with a nice film "Shrek".



# day 4 ~

THURSDAY  
6TH JUNE 2019

The morning began with the annual trip to Specsavers who were incredible again. All eyes tested and all children received a gift card for The entertainer toy shop and a gift bag. So generous and kind the children gave a huge Thank you and lots of cuddles. In the afternoon the kids enjoyed a trip to Eliburn park before heading to Bathgate for fun and games at St Johns church while waiting on their turn to go to the dentist. The staff at Bathgate dental spa were great with the children again. Thanks to our extra interpreters for the day too. Another great day.



# day 5 ~

FRIDAY  
7TH JUNE 2019

After English lessons from the two Katia's we went to Almond Valley Heritage Park aka Mill Farm. The children had fun getting a close up view of the guinea pigs, goats, sheep and cows. After a short tractor ride we spent some time sheltering from the showers in the play barn and after lunch it was time for the large outdoor play area. The trampolines, pedal cars, zip slide and trolleys were well used before we headed back to Oatridge. The guy at the reception was blown away with the usual "Thank you very much" chant and was left speechless.



# day 8 ~

MONDAY  
10TH JUNE 2019

Crafty Monday today. This morning started with making lots of Father's Day gifts with glue, glitter and sparkles everywhere! Some of the boys were sporting new earrings.

Doughnuts followed then lots of outdoor fun in the sun! After lunch we headed to Get Gooney where everyone got to create their own chocolate creations including a white chocolate pizza! Whether any will make it home is another question! Everyone has had a great day!



# day 9 ~

TUESDAY  
11TH JUNE 2019

Our day started with a strict reminder for all children of the dangers of the internet before English. Many questions were being asked of our helpers in English then we had a quick snack before heading to the pool. The kids had lots of fun splashing and playing with the floats and balls. After endless hair drying we walked to Jo's JHM dance studio for packed lunch. After lunch we saw some great gymnastics from some unexpected stars :) A busy day rounded off by some great outdoor play at the range in Broxburn.



# day 10 ~

WEDNESDAY  
12TH JUNE 2019

So, today, unlike everywhere else, we were very lucky with the weather. We headed off to M&D's earlier than planned due to weather forecast. Got through for 10am as park opened at 10.30am, wristbands on and the fun began! We split up into two parties, depending on size and age. 'Tame' rides for the smaller ones, although none of the smaller ones on the chain swings came off the same colour as Artum.... Green! Promptly put his head between his knees!!! Back to the vehicles to thaw out and eat lunch. No sooner had they warmed up, they were given ice-creams..... which cooled them down!! Another couple of hours on the rides then back to the college for quiet games and toys. Great day had by all.



# day 11 ~

THURSDAY  
13TH JUNE 2019

We received a very warm welcome from P6, upper school charity group children and staff at Uphall PS. Following introductions from all children - it was so lovely to see the excitement and the friendship hugs with children recognising each other from last year - we then enjoyed a tasty Scottish breakfast. We split into 6 small mixed groups for STEM challenge activities on a rota with some amazing efforts and teamwork displayed. At snack time we were joined by P4 class and then split into two groups visiting P4 and P6 classes on a rota. P4 children had prepared PowerPoint presentations about Scotland - we found out some very interesting facts! - and P6 children had made their own board games/puzzles to play with the children. At lunch-time we were served a traditional school lunch - delicious options. Some outside play followed with the children joining in all the playground fun - fantastic skipping skills from Vasilisa, Nastya T, Nastya K and Vika. After lunch the children buddied up for personal walk around tours around the school. 'Thank you very much' to Uphall Primary School for hosting our children and for their continued friendship links. On return to Oatridge the children did some singing practice (we need a charity CD - their voices) and played games. Such a pleasure to spend a day with the children!



# day 12 ~

FRIDAY  
14TH JUNE 2019

Today's blog! We did some family event practice in the morning (top secret!) then we headed to Jupiter Artland. The children had fun running about and were fascinated by the weeping girls! We then had lunch in the bothy and a walk through the woods. In the afternoon we headed back to do some cake decorating. The children loved making their marshmallow sheep. Finished off with a play outside! Happy Friday.



# day 15 ~

MONDAY  
17TH JUNE 2019

A busy start to the week. Straight down to our friends at Broxburn Primary where we split into 2 groups, older kids joining P6, younger group with P2. Both groups started with craft making tartan, kilts and Highland Coo's. After joining the whole school for playtime the P6s taught our older kids highland dancing and our younger group joined P2 learning some football skills. All children were then given gifts and a cheque for £479.48 was presented to the charity. Well done to P2s for raising such a fantastic amount. We all then moved on to the dance studio for lunch before heading to Xtreme Combat at Newbridge which was enjoyed by all. Back to base for a well earned drink, snack and rest.



# day 16 ~

TUESDAY  
18TH JUNE 2019

Today we started off with an English lesson and the children asking the helpers what we like. We then went swimming where the children had great fun splashing and jumping on floats. We then headed to JHM dance where we had lunch in the cafe.

The dancing started with a warm up with Jo then some boys went with Steven for some break dancing and the other children did some gymnastics then cheerleading with Jo.

We finished off with a play at the range! Great weather for playing outside today!



# day 17 ~

WEDNESDAY  
19TH JUNE 2019

Nine of our children and two interpreters returned to Specsavers to collect their glasses - thank you again to the helpful staff. We then all met up at Innoflate receiving a very warm welcome from the team as they gave us our wristbands, socks and safety talk. All the kids (big and little!) enjoyed the inflatable chutes/climb/ball pool followed by a delicious pizza lunch. On return to Oatridge the children entertained us with their lovely singing practice for the forthcoming family evening and then we headed outside in the sun and fresh air for bat and ball games/skipping/handstands/football - very happy children.



# day 18 ~

THURSDAY  
20TH JUNE 2019

So, this morning, before English lessons, we had a visit from Martin with his bagpipes. All the kids had a go!! English lessons done, snacks, then it was off to the beach! Sandcastles, sea, sun, rain, wind..... We had it all, but the children had an absolute ball! It was another fantastic fun day!



# day 19 ~

FRIDAY  
21ST JUNE 2019

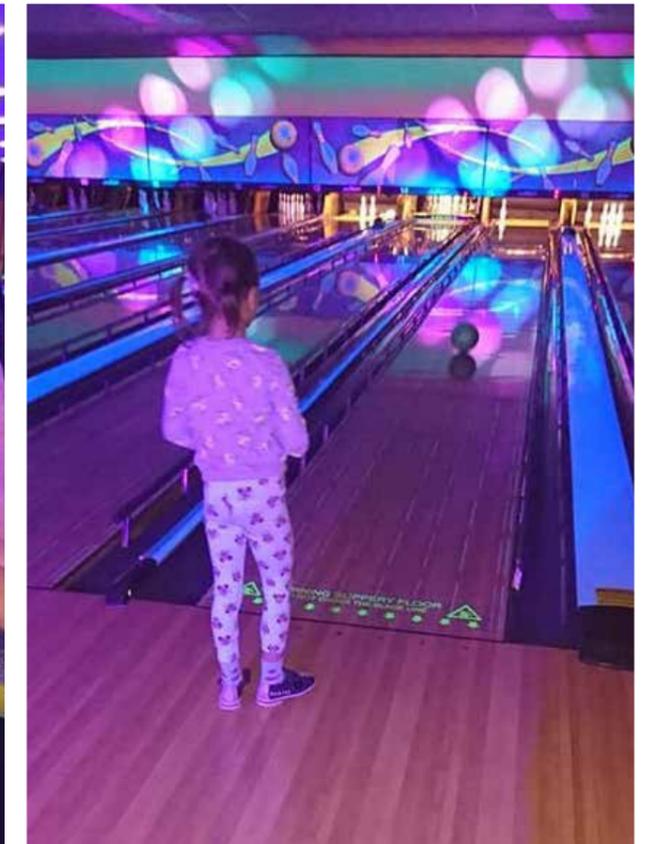
Taking advantage of some unseasonably good weather we visited Dalkeith Country Park today. The play area has been extended since our last visit and the children spread themselves far and wide, they also knew that there were more photos to be taken and it became a proper game of hide and seek as they all shouted when Ross was approaching with camera in hand and scattered like leaves in the wind. After a quick lunch break it was back to the fort and maze with the swings also being used for a little quieter timeout for some. On our return to Oatridge we had an early celebration of Nastya Tod's birthday with a lovely unicorn decorated cake.



# day 22 ~

MONDAY  
24TH JUNE 2019

A busy start to our last week with appointments at the optician, dentist and hospital today. There was still time for an English lesson to start the day before we all headed to the ten pin bowling. Well done to the weather watchers for changing the program to an indoor activity at short notice. The children all had a great time before heading back to Oatridge for lunch. A very productive afternoon with lots of craft work and concert practice.



# day 23 ~

TUESDAY  
25TH JUNE 2019

This morning we payed our weekly visit to Broxburn swimming pool. Lots of noise, splashing, floats and plastic balls flying all over the place and Ross getting a stern look and a shake of the head from the lifeguard for helping the children jump backwards into the water, the lifeguard was just a spoilsport. After virtually burning out the hairdryers in the changing rooms we had a short visit to the play park before going into Broxburn United's pavilion for lunch. Then it was organised play thanks to Leigh Lauder at BUSC ably assisted by Stuart Gebbie along with Janice MacPherson's Mum and Dad with the children having the chance to try archery, basketball and football. On return to Oatridge there was some concert practice and play outside or hamma beads etc for the children before home time.



# day 24 ~

WEDNESDAY  
26TH JUNE 2019

Today started with a little chat with the children to find out what they liked most about the visit. Interesting answers. After some preparation for tonight we went to the Range for a play and chill then back for lunch before heading to Livingston for final concert practice.

In the evening we had our family meal, party and concert. The children were great and said thank you in their own special way.

Thank you to everyone for such a great visit.



Before our 2019 Visit

FOCC West Lothian

www.focccwestlothian.com  
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Aliona



Artum



Daryna



Ksusha



Lera C



Lera



Luba



June Visit 2019  
(before visit)



Katia & Katia



Maksim



Marina



Matvey



Nastya



Nastya K



Nikita



Sasha



Sasha



Sergei



Sveta



Vasilisa



Vika



Vlad



Yanna



Zarina

After our 2019 Visit

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Aliona



Artum



Daryna



Ksusha



Lera C



Lera



Luba



June Visit 2019  
(after visit)



Katia



Katia



Maksim



Marina



Matvey



Nastya



Nastya K



Nikita



Sasha



Sasha



Sergei



Sveta



Vasilisa



Vika



Vlad



Yanna



Zarina

thank you for helping us to restore hope

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Friends of Chernobyl's Children  
West Lothian (SCO44448)

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