

# Braehead Nursery January Newsletter



Welcome to a new term and a special welcome to all our new pupils and families starting with us at Braehead Nursery. Here is a short newsletter to keep you up to date with our plans this term.

## Care Inspectorate Visit



As many of you know, we had a visit from the Care Inspectorate Team on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January. We would like to thank everyone for taking the time to complete questionnaires, talking to the Inspector and for your ongoing support. We are very much a team here at Braehead Nursery and thank you so much for your input. The feedback from this visit will be published and shared with parents in due course.

## Social Studies



This term, we have started with a topic on 'Toys', following the children's excitement with their new Christmas presents. We have started a new method of planning called 'Clouds of Wonder'. When we start a new topic, we find out what the children would like to know and do in Nursery. We then link this to the Scottish Curriculum for Excellence.

## Can you help?



- 1) We would like to help the children understand that toys today are different from toys/games from long ago. We are looking for any parents/grandparents/great grandparents who would like to come to Nursery to help us to learn about toys long ago. Does anybody have an old rhyme/game from long ago we could teach the children? Does anybody wish to visit the Nursery to show or talk about toys that they played with?
- 2) We would like to help children learn about how technology was not always as we have today. eg - black and white tvs, record players, gramophones etc. If anyone has any resources to show the children or would like to talk about this area, please let us know.
- 3) This term we will help the children to develop an awareness of looking after a baby. We are looking for somebody who would like to come and talk to the children about looking after a baby. This would be very simple, such as they only drink milk, they must have their head supported, they have a special bed/bath etc. This is especially fascinating for children who have never been around babies. If you are interested, please talk to any of the Nursery Team.

### Literacy



Build up our fine motor skills

Recognising our names

Developing a love of books

Recognising letter sounds - Some children have been keen to learn about letters.

When children learn letters at school, they will learn the sounds the letters make rather than the letter name. For example a for apple, b for ball, c for cat, d for dog etc.

#### How to help at home

If you are helping your child learn about letters, call the letters by the sound they make rather than their name.

### Numeracy



Braehead School have adopted a new maths approach called "Big Maths". At Braehead Nursery, we are using an approach called "Little Big Maths", which is specifically written for Nursery. The approach focuses on numeracy through games, rhymes and activities. There is a section called 'Learn Its' where children will learn to give facts quickly. At this stage it is very basic such as "I have 1 head, I have 2 hands etc". We will send home the facts that we are working on this term for your information.

#### How to help at home

Alphabet jigsaws and snap games help children to have fun while learning letters. Encourage your child to colour in and draw play with playdough, pick small objects up with tweezers, to build up muscle strength.

Look for numbers and 2D shapes in the world around them and talk about their names. Practise counting by rolling a ball forward and back with them. Sing counting songs. Look at educational videos and play numeracy games online or on apps.

## Health and Wellbeing



I am delighted to inform you that we will be running *Grow Well Choices Early Years* in the Nursery. *Grow Well Choices Early Years* has been developed by NHS Grampian with education partners. It is about the importance of being healthy and making healthy choices. *Grow Well Choices Early Years* fully supports the delivery of Curriculum for Excellence Experiences and Outcomes.

*Grow Well Choices Early Years* consists of 6 sessions. Each session will consist of about 15 minutes of story telling followed by fun games and activities. The story is about farm animals who want to take part in the Highland Games. The general topics that will be covered include: being active, healthy eating, oral health and healthy balance including sleep.

### How you can help at home

As well as delivering *Grow Well Choices Early Years* at the Nursery, we will be sending fun activity work with your child to be completed at home. Your help with completing these activities will be much appreciated.

We are always working on building up children's independence. Encouraging your child to change their own jackets and shoes will give them practise with this important skill.

## ICT



Children are highly motivated and becoming increasingly skilled to use the computers. We have Early Years software installed on our computers, but you can help your child to access free games on the computer at home by searching for early years educational games. This will give them experience in using

## Snack

Snack fees this term are £2.50 per week or £32.50 for the term.



## Piggy Bank

We ask all children to donate 50p per week or £6.50 this term to our Nursery Piggy Bank. This money will go towards a Summer trip.

the mouse and basic keys.  
This term we will give children the opportunity to operate programmable toys such as Beebot.



## Learning Journeys

Please remember that you are free to take your child's learning journey at any time. Please keep us up to date with your child's achievements so we can help to celebrate them too.



## Stay and Play

We would like to invite you to come and play with your child at Nursery on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January from their arrival at approximately 12.30pm until 1.15pm. This is an optional event. We will have our usual activities set up for you to spend time with your child. For the last ten minutes, we will have an informal sing a long of the Scottish rhymes that we have been learning as part of our Burns Day celebrations.

We apologise to any parents/pupils who are working or do not attend a Friday session. We had to plan around our timetable with church visits/gym hall times etc.



## Library



This term we will send home a library book every week. Please try to return these each Friday.

## Personal Belongings

Please help us by labelling your child's shoes and clothes. Please make sure your child has a hat, scarf and gloves for Nursery.



Please don't hesitate if you wish to discuss anything about your child at Nursery.

Thank you  
The Nursery Team

