



# Cargenbridge ELC Newsletter



## 28th April 2017

**Mrs Mackenzie says:** *It has been a great start to the new term. We have started to work on our garden area within the free flow play area again and we look forward to planting flowers and watching our vegetables grow! We have started the term with a 'Jack and the Beanstalk' theme and the children have shown a great interest in growing their own beanstalks. We will be taking part in lots of planting activities over the next few weeks. We are also learning songs for our Jack and the Beanstalk show which we plan to perform at the end of term. It has been lovely to welcome new children to the Nursery too. We look forward to a busy and fun term ahead! Please remember that all our Nursery staff are always happy to talk with parents and we operate an open door policy. If you ever have any questions, concerns or comments, please speak to Mrs Mackenzie at any time.*

### Dates for your Diary:

**Monday 1st May:** Nursery is closed for the May Day holiday and we re-open on Tuesday 2nd May.

**Thursday 4th May:** This will be an election day and we will not be able to use the school building on that day. We will be going on a 'Parent and Child' trip to Mabie Farm Park 10am-2pm.

**Friday 5th May:** Pam Bird, Childsmile Officer: Visit with puppets to talk about tooth brushing

**Thursday 1st June and Friday 2nd June:** Nursery Closed due to Inset days. Nursery re-opens on Monday 5th June.

**Thursday 8th June:** This will be an election day and we will not be able to use the school building on that day. We will be going on a 'Parent and Child' trip to Dalscone Farm Fun 10am-2pm.

**Friday 9th June:** Reports for Pre-School Children (Children in their 2nd year of Nursery) will be sent out to parents.

**Thursday 15th June 5.30-6.30pm:** Open Evening and Appointments for any parents who would like to speak to their key worker or Mrs Mackenzie, our Nursery Teacher.

**Wednesday 3rd May and 10th May:** PM balance bikes sessions with Active Schools (AM dates and times tbc)



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### Dates for your Diary (continued):

**Thursday 22nd June 6-7pm:** New Starts Information Evening— Mrs Mackenzie will be running an information evening for new children in the Nursery. If you have missed the previous information evenings, we would recommend that you attend as there is a lot of useful information about how the Nursery works.

**Tuesday 6th June 1.45pm** PM Sports **Wednesday 7th June 9.30am** AM Sports —Further details tbc

**Friday 23rd June:** Cargenbridge Parents Association Summer BBQ— Details to follow. Mrs Mackenzie is a staff member on the CPA. All Nursery parents are welcome to attend. Please look out for information from the CPA regarding this in future mail drops.

**Tuesday 27th June:** PM Garden Party **Wednesday 28th June:** AM Garden Party in normal session times

**Thursday 29th June 10:15am and 1:45pm:** Performance of Jack and the Beanstalk and Nursery Graduation— All Nursery children (ante-pre and pre school children involved).

**Friday 30th June: Last day of term!**

**Term 4 Days— There has been a change of days for the activities.**

CAPER: Send your child's folder on the first day of their week at Nursery, e.g. if your child attends Monday, Thursday and Friday, please send their book on a Monday. If you forget, you can still send it in later but please ensure you let a member of staff know that it has been returned. Parents wishing to help with CAPER can help on a Wednesday but please note that staff use the CAPER books over the week.

Messy Play: Monday PM and Tuesday AM—**Please remember wellies and a waterproof coat. Extra layers on colder days are always useful too.**

PE: Thursday AM and Wednesday PM

Children are involved in outdoor play every day and we sometimes have opportunities to use the hall on other days than our listed PE days. Therefore, we would suggest that children attend Nursery in clothing suitable for taking part in physical and outdoor play activities. Strappy sandals and large dresses are not appropriate for Nursery due to the range of play that the children take part in.



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## 28th April 2017

**Sunshine/ Hot days:** We are hoping that it will soon be warm and sunny; however, we do need to be careful in these warmer days with sun protection as children play outside every day. If your child is particularly sensitive to sunburn, please speak to Mrs Mackenzie about this. As we move into this summer weather, we suggest:

\*Apply a long lasting sun cream.

\*Send your child in long sleeved light tops. Do not send children in strappy vests or strappy dresses.

\*If you wish sun cream to be re-applied **by your child** (as local policies do not allow us to apply sun cream), please put this in their **tray**. It is essential that this is not left in their bag as other children sometimes try to share their cream or staff are unaware that it is in the bag.

\*Children attending all day provision must bring a sun cream to keep in their **tray**. The member of staff responsible for these children's lunches will supervise children applying their sun cream again before the afternoons session.

**Return of Letters:** We would be grateful if you could try to return letters and slips as timeously as possible and by the return date stated if possible. If no return date is given, please try to return letters within a week. Mrs Mackenzie checks the letters returned and identifies letters that need to be re-sent due to non return. We can only text in urgent situations as the school is charged for this service. Time spent on chasing up letters takes away from Mrs Mackenzie's preparation time for Nursery to develop planning and activities to progress the children's learning. Therefore, we would be very grateful if you could assist with this. Thank you!

**Care Plan Appointments:** If care plan appointments are missed and we need to re-book care plans, the school has to pay for any cover for these if they are during school time. Due to the need to cover care plans with another member of staff, this means that appointments at desirable times such as the arrival and finishing times of the Nursery will be allocated on a first come/first served basis. When you receive a letter indicating that you need to book an appointment, please speak to Mrs Mackenzie as soon as possible to secure a time and date that is convenient for you.

**CAPER:** To enable us to structure our CAPER programme to meet the varied attendance patterns in the Nursery, it is important that folders are sent in at the start of the week. Please send your child's folder on the first day of their week at Nursery, e.g. if your child attends Monday, Thursday and Friday, please send their book on a Monday. It will be sent home during that week, although it will probably be later in the week to enable us to practise your child's rhyme and talk about their book.



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**Lunch Money:** If your child has school lunches, please put the money for this in a separate envelope to the snack money as the money goes to different places. School lunches now cost £1.80. School lunch menus are available in Nursery.

**Snack/Activity Fund:** The suggested donation for the snack and activity fund is **50p** per session (£1 per back to back day) or **£2.50** per week. The suggested donation for Term 4 is **£25.50** if you prefer to pay it all at the same time. In addition to our daily snack, our snack and activity fund also helps to pay for a variety of activities in Nursery such as parties, birthday treats/books, special crafts, family learning events such as Christmas/Easter crafts sessions, small toys and resources, baking activities and any other special activities in the Nursery.

**Transition activities with P1/2:** Mrs Mackenzie has met with Mrs Gallacher who will be teaching P1/2 in August to plan a range of transition activities in which Nursery children and P1/2 children work together. These transition events will take place in both morning and afternoon sessions over a range of days to ensure all children have opportunities to be involved. These activities will include visiting P1/2 for a story, to take part in play activities, to take part in small group activities such as making flags and planting seeds and to take part in joint PE experiences in the hall or outside. All children moving on to Primary 1, whether at Cargenbridge or our other catchment schools, will have opportunities to take part in these activities. We involve all children as it provides structured learning opportunities to work with older children and develops confidence in children to adapt to new situations. However, if you would prefer that your child does not take part or if you have any questions about these activities, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Mackenzie. Mrs Mackenzie has also contacted all the schools that children have enrolled at to identify their transition arrangements/dates and to invite the Primary 1 teachers to visit the children at Nursery and discuss their learning with Mrs Mackenzie and the children's key workers. We have already enjoyed visits from teachers from New Abbey and Lochrutton Primary Schools. We also enjoyed a fun joint session with P1/2 this week with lots of activities related to 'Jack and the Beanstalk' and growing beans.

**Cargenbridge Transition:** In Term 4 for children moving on to Cargenbridge Primary, there will be specific days and events planned for children to visit their Class Teacher, enjoy a school lunch, visit the playground and take part in a moving up session. Further information about the specific dates and times for these events will be issued in a separate letter in due course. Information about Primary 6 buddies for the new Primary 1 children will also be issued soon by the school. For more information about the school transition procedures, please contact Mrs Mackenzie or Mrs Watson.