

Welcome back to Nursery! We are delighted to welcome new children to our Nursery too! We are participating in the RSPB schools' bird watch and we will be learning lots about birds and investigating how many birds visit our Nursery garden over the next few weeks. It will be a great opportunity for the children to develop their number skills too in a real life context! We are also looking forward to a visit from the fire department and working with DuPont later in the term to find out about different jobs in our local community! Thank you for your ongoing support and if you have any good ideas for activities related to these themes, please speak to any member of staff. Please remember that we are always happy to talk if you have any comments, questions, or concerns.

Mrs Catherine Mackenzie
(Primary Teacher: Nursery Class)



Snack and Activity Fund

Snack is 50p per session (£1 for the day if attending back to back sessions) or £2.50 per week.

Please leave this suggested donation in an envelope in the basket just inside the Nursery classroom. Snack can be paid termly if you prefer. The termly cost for snack for Term 3 is £29.50. Thank you.

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, baking activities and any other special activities in the Nursery. We provide a range of healthy snacks with milk or water. Fruit or vegetables are always available and we encourage children to try new foods. Children love being snack

helpers too! Snacks for the week are displayed next to the interior Nursery door with a list of allergens.



Nursery Staff in Term 3:

Mrs Mackenzie: Primary Teacher (Nursery Class)
Mrs Porter: Nursery Nurse (NN) Practitioner
Miss Milroy: NN Practitioner (AM)
Mrs Townsend: Temporary NN Practitioner (PM)
Mrs Mitra: Learning Assistant (AM)
Miss Wedge: Supply Early Years Support Assistant

Staffing Updates

Our afternoon session has increased in size in January and as a result, we have appointed a temporary Nursery Nurse Practitioner (PM).

Mrs Townsend has been appointed to this post until June 2017 on a secondment basis. At the end of this period, she will then return to her permanent post as Early Years Support Assistant (EYSA). Miss Wedge is carrying out the EYSA role on a supply basis as Mrs Townsend started her new post on 5th January. Mrs Mitra has joined our team as a Learning Assistant. We are delighted to welcome these new staff members to our Nursery.

Early Years Support Worker Advertisement

We have advertised for a temporary Early Years Support Assistant and interviews will be held for this soon.

Days for Activities in Nursery

As children attend a wide range of session patterns over the week, with some children only attending at the start of the week or end of the week due to full day attendance and split placements with other providers, we will move the days for PE, Messy Play, etc. from term to term to try to ensure that all children get the opportunity to participate in the breadth of activities over the school year.

PE and Messy Play will start w.c. **Monday 23rd January** to enable returning and new children to settle into Nursery routines on a phased basis.

Term 3 Days:

Main PE: (starting w.c. 23rd January 2017)

Monday AM

Wednesday PM

We may sometimes go to the hall for PE or other group activities on Fridays (AM and PM).

Children usually go to the hall in small groups of 10 to 14 children.

Messy Play Days: (starting w.c. 23rd January 2017)

Monday PM

Thursday AM

CAPER: (starting Wed 18th January 2017)

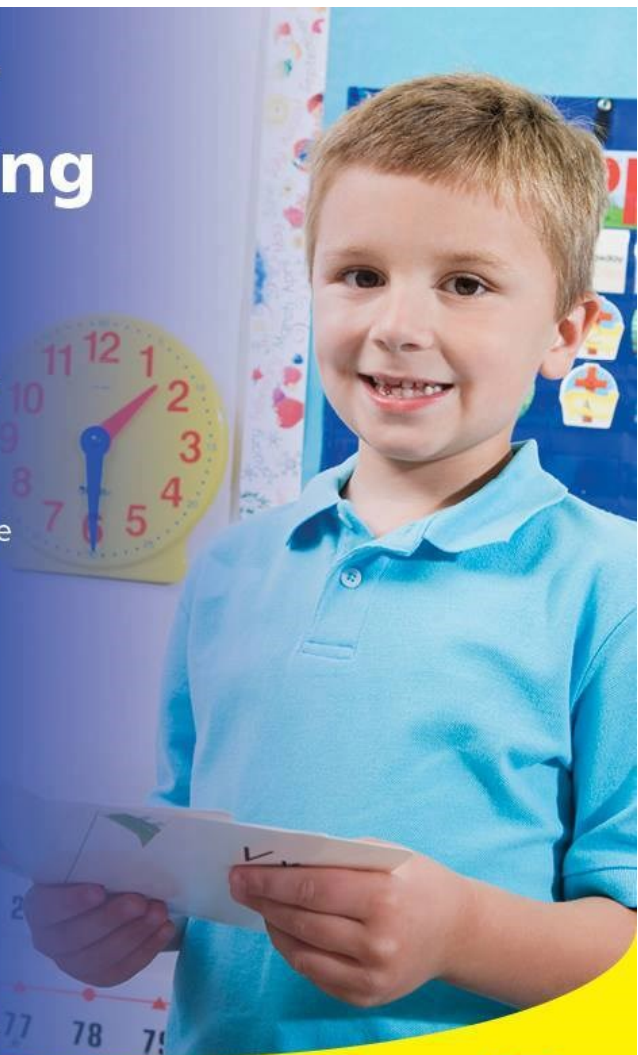
Wednesday AM and PM

Enrolment for children starting Primary 1

Tuesday 10 January and Wednesday 11 January 2017

If your child will be five years old by the last day of February 2018 then we need you to enrol your child at their catchment primary school on Tuesday 10 January and Wednesday 11 January 2017, between 9am and 3.30pm on either day. Please take your child's birth certificate and a utility bill with you when you go to enrol them at the school.

Further information regarding the enrolment process can be obtained from your catchment primary school.



Dumfries & Galloway
COUNCIL

Parent Helpers

Wednesday CAPER (starting Wed 18th Jan)

We would be grateful if you could help with CAPER on Wednesdays. Please sign up on the clipboard if you are free to help once or twice a term. We cannot guarantee that your child will get a new book every week if we do not have a parent helper that week due to the other requirements of the Nursery session.

Parent Helper Activities (starting w.c. 23rd Jan)

To enable more parents to take part, we will be putting up a monthly calendar with free boxes for parents or grandparents to sign up to pop along to help with an activity during the session. If you would like to help, please sign up on the clipboard.

Deferred Entry to School

Most children start school when they're between 4 years 6 months and 5 years old but it's possible to start children later depending on the circumstances. This is called deferred entry.

Application forms have now arrived in Nursery for deferred entry to school and need to be returned this

week. If you think deferred entry would be helpful for your child and you have not yet completed the application form, please speak to Mrs Mackenzie as soon as possible.



Dates for your Diary



Visit from Smoking Matters to Nursery: Tuesday 17th January

Eye Tests in Nursery: Wednesday 18th January

Visit from Fire Service to Nursery: Thursday 26th January in AM/PM sessions

February holiday/staff training (Nursery closed): Monday 13th to Wednesday 15th February

Nursery re-opens: Thursday 16th February

Last day of Term 3: Friday 31st March

Spring Holiday: Monday 3rd April to Monday 17th April

First day of Term 4: Tuesday 18th April

Back to Back Sessions

If you are in work or training, you are eligible to apply for back to back sessions. These enable your child to attend from 8.45-3.05 or 9.05-3.25 and your child stays at Nursery for lunch. If your child is attending back to back sessions, you will need to pay for a school lunch which is served in the Nursery or you can provide a packed lunch. We have some spaces left for back to back sessions but these are limited. If you are interested in your child attending back to back sessions, please speak to Mrs Mackenzie.



Show and Tell: Achievements

This term for show and tell, the staff felt that it would be great to find out more about children's achievements outwith school. We have left some blank certificates above the signing in book. Please fill in the certificate with your child's achievement and we will date and sign the certificate when we have chatted about it to your child and shared it with the group. It will then be laminated for you to keep.

Significant achievements will be different for each child but may include sleeping in their own bed, staying dry during the day or night, eating new foods, learning to ride their bike or achieving a developmental milestone such as catching a ball or reading their name.



Feedback Slip- January 2017

We are currently evaluating our practice using 'How Good is our Early Learning and Childcare?' documentation. We have been focusing on how we ensure children make good progress in their learning. Please put this slip in the 'feedback' box next to the money basket. Thank you.

1. What do you feel the Nursery does well in promoting progress in Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing?
2. How could we make improvements to ensure children make very good progress in Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing?
3. How could we involve children and parents more in setting relevant next steps in learning?