

Useful Information for Nursery Parents

Snack

Nursery staff provide a healthy snack for the children each day. This snack is displayed just inside the door. We would appreciate if parents could put in 30p per day or £1.50 per week for snack. Any money that is left over is used to buy resources for the Nursery or treats for the children. Please remember to let us know if your child has any food allergies or dietary requirements.

Cloakroom

Children do not need a school bag for Nursery. All clothes and spare shoes should be stored in the shoe bag provided. Children that attend other childcare outwith Nursery can store any bags they need in their key worker's room. **Please label all items of your child's clothing including shoes.**

Outdoor Play

We try to go outside to play in most weather conditions and we have recently bought a large quantity of outdoor suits which can be worn over children's coats for very cold or wet weather. However, please ensure your child has the following items at Nursery on a daily basis:

- *wellies or waterproof shoes for outdoor play (sandals do not provide enough foot protection)
- *a warm, waterproof coat
- *hat, scarf and gloves for cold weather (stored in your child's shoe bag)
- *extra socks in your child's shoe bag for wet days

Thematic Learning Through Play

All our planning is contained in the floor books and on display on the notice boards just inside the Nursery door. Please take time to have a look at this and add any comments or ideas using the post it notes. Thank you!

Planning:

Planning in Nursery is child involved. Children participate in planning activities/discussions in group time. Their ideas lead to P.L.O.Ds (Possible Lines of Development) and these are then linked in with learning outcomes within 3-18 Curriculum For Excellence. The planning is then recorded in our "Talking Floor Books" which are on display inside the Nursery door. We have one book for the morning (Red, Yellow and Blue) and one for the afternoon children (Purple, Orange and Green.) A summary of planning is also displayed outside the Nursery door. We would also like to invite parents to contribute their ideas too. Sticky notes and pens are available on the table to add your suggestions to the books. If any parents would like to know more about the planning process, please ask a member of staff and we will be happy to provide more detail.

PLPs (Special Books)

Please note your child's folder is available for you to look at. You can also sign your child's special book out for an evening too. It's great to see so many parents are already doing this. Also, it's lovely to see that some parents are using this as an opportunity to update the folder with interesting things the children have been doing outside Nursery at home and on holiday etc. (If you would like to add comments about important milestones in your child's development or interesting news, please do so on the "Parents' Comments" page. Thank you)

The PLPs, which mark the start of your child's journey through the Early Level of Curriculum For Excellence, include photos of your child, which capture them developing various cross curricular skills, through play, relating to the Early Years stage of 3-18 Curriculum For Excellence. The folders also contain observational notes which allow us to identify the skills your child is developing and to suggest appropriate next steps. We carry out two different types of observations: narrative; and focused. When we carry out a narrative observation we observe your child and write a short summary of the learning and skills development that has taken place. This is cross referenced to the skills sheets at the front of the PLP. These observations provide a short overview of a special achievement, progress in a skill or a new experience. We carry out short "narrative" observations once a month and these often show a photograph of your child at work. The focused observations are recorded on "sticky notes" which we insert on the skills sheets. The focused observations help staff to record information on school tracking sheets for: Numeracy; Listening and Talking; Reading; Writing and Health and Wellbeing. The tracking sheets will provide a record of your child's journey through the Curriculum For Excellence and will be an important part of the transition process when your child begins school. On a regular basis, staff create next steps for children and these are recorded on a "Next Steps" sheet at the front of the PLP. Please note the Early Level begins in Nursery and continues into Primary One.

C.A.P.E.R

We continue our book lending scheme on Wednesdays. Your child has been supplied with a book bag and letter explaining how the scheme works. We would, however, appreciate parent volunteers to help administer the exchanging of books on Wednesdays throughout the year. This would involve chatting to the children about the book they are returning, helping them to select another and completing entries in the diaries. We already have a number of volunteers but it would be great if some of the parents of our new children would also like to help out. If you would be available to help, we would be most grateful if you would fill in the slip at the bottom of this letter and return to Nursery.

Tuesday Parent Activity Days

On Tuesdays, we appreciate having parent volunteers to help with an activity in Nursery once or twice a term, e.g. an art activity or playing number games with the children. This is a great opportunity to see what happens in the Nursery. If you would be available to help, we would be most grateful if you would fill in the slip at the bottom of this letter and return to Nursery.