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**St Ninian’s Nursery newsletter**

**Term 3 2017/18**

**Term 1 2014/15**

**Happy New Year**

A warm welcome to our new children. Carson, Cole, Emileigh, Kiera, Kuba, Lacey, Lochlainn and Luka have all made a super start. They are all in the Blue Group. This newsletter will provide our new parents and carers with some important information, as well as general updates.

**Nursery Staffing**

**Head Teacher** –Mrs P Fisher

**Principal Teacher, Early Years** - Mrs H Anderson

**Nursery Teacher –** Mrs C Carruthers

**Nursery Nurses** - Mrs J Fergusson, Mrs S Wright, Mrs B Burton

**Personal Learning Plans**

Each child has a PLP which is kept in the nursery for easy access. These are white ring binders that are filled with photographs and notes which document each child’s learning journey. Our children are involved in maintaining their PLPs and parents can access them at any time. Each child also has their own tray for letters, pictures etc. Please check your child’s tray regularly.

**School Blog**

We regularly add posts showing what the children have been learning in Nursery. Keep checking to see what we are up to. To access the blog just Google **St Ninian’s Chatterbox**.

**Session Times**

**Morning** 8.45-9am (flexible drop off) until 11.55am. You are able to **pick your child up from 11.40am**. If you need to collect your child before this time please arrange this in advance with Nursery staff.

**Afternoon** 12.15 until 3-3.25pm (flexible collection)

Please avoid ringing the bell before it’s time. We are busy ensuring everything is in place for the children to start. If someone needs the toilet, take them to the school office. If it is wet, the door still opens at the same time. Nursery children should not arrive via the main school door. Children from P1 – P7 are allowed into the school hall from 8.45am where they will be supervised.

**Planning and Curricular Development**

Nursery Staff use ‘Big Books’ to plan learning experiences with the children. These books evidence our learning and are always available for parents to browse through. Your children will be happy to talk about what they have been learning. This term we have been reading the Gruffalo stories and talking about monsters and what they can do. The Big Book planning approach means that the children get to follow their interests. So let’s see where this topic goes and what wonderful learning experiences we can be involved in along the way!

**Nursery Enrolment**

Our 3 year old children will soon be coming home with an enrolment form for their second year at Nursery. **This form must be completed and returned to Nursery on or before the 8th March 2018. Without this form we cannot apply for a Year 2 Nursery place for your child.**

**P1 Enrolment**

If your child is due to start school in August 2018 they will need to be enrolled at their catchment school on **Thursday 25 or Friday 26 January 2018.** You will need to provide their birth certificate and proof of address.

**Adverse Weather Conditions**

When an amber weather warning for snow has been issued the Nursery will not open until 10.00am. This is to allow staff time to get to school safely and it also allows management time to assess whether or not to close the school.

**All-Weather Suits**

We spend a large amount of our time outside so our waterproof suits are very useful. During these colder months please continue to send your children in warm clothing and jackets. We encourage the children to be as independent as possible when changing to go outside therefore we would ask that you send your child to Nursery in shoes that they can change themselves. Velcro is fantastic! Sometimes little accidents happen and it would be helpful if you could send spare clothes for your child in their Nursery bag. A member of Nursery staff will inform you if your child has needed to be changed. Please ensure you have your child’s name on all his/her belongings. A marker pen is available in the Parent Zone.

**Water Bottles**

A polite reminder to all parents that children’s water bottles should only contain water. During snack time children can have a drink of water or milk. If your child does not like to drink water then milk can be put in their bottle and Nursery staff will be happy to keep it in the fridge.

**St Ninian’s Book Bugs**

We are very grateful to parent helpers who enable us to run the Book Bug lending library. Please ensure your child returns their book bag every Tuesday.

**Notice Boards**

Information about staffing, topics and snacks can be found on our sandwich board and Parents’ Notice Board.

**Snacks**

The children are offered a wide range of healthy, interesting snacks each day. They are encouraged to serve themselves and try new tastes. Snack costs 40p per day. Children should not bring snacks from home.

**You Said, We Did!**

We really value your comments and are constantly striving to improve the service we provide. You will find a questionnaire in your child’s tray and we would really appreciate it if you could take the time to fill it in. You can also pop any suggestions or queries you have in out suggestion box which can be found in the Parent Zone.

**St Ninian’s Nursery Superstars**

What a lot of stars there are on our celebration board! The children are very proud of their achievements. The stars will be glued into PLPs when we need more room. Please continue to add them.

**Learning Conversations**

The learning conversation appointments that were cancelled before the Christmas break will be rescheduled soon. Meantime if you have any concerns about any aspect of your child’s learning then please speak to a member of Nursery staff.

**Orthoptics**

All pre-school children will have an eye test carried out in Nursery on **Wednesday 24th January**. Consent forms will be available to complete soon.

**Lochside**

As the date for moving to our new school comes closer we will be planning more activities for the two nurseries to come together. Further information will be on the notice board and the blog.

**Toys From Home**

We ask that all parents ensure their children leave their own toys at home. The Nursery has lots of toys for the children to play with and if ‘special’ toys are brought in from home and lost or damaged it can cause great distress to the children. The Nursery will not be held responsible for any such loss. Nursery staff have also noticed that some children have been trying to take Nursery toys home with them. If you notice your child has something that doesn’t belong to them, we would appreciate it if you could return it to the Nursery.

**Illness, Absence and Lateness**

If your child has been sick, they must not return to nursery until 48 hours have passed without sickness.

Please contact the school office (720 364) if your child is going to be absent or if you are running late.

**Summary of dates for your diary**:

Thursday 25 or Friday 26 January 2018 – P1 enrolment

Monday 13th February 2017 – School holiday

Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th February 2017 – Staff In-Service (school closed)

Monday 3rd April 2017 – Easter holidays

Tuesday 17th April 2017 – Return to school/Nursery

Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th April – Nursery enrolment

Wednesday 24th January – Eye checks for pre-school children (Date to be re-arranged)