Cairns Early Childhood Centre

Parent and Carer Newsletter

May 2024

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Welcome to our May newsletter; we have been enjoying some lovely sunshine and spending more time outdoors in the garden. The children have been exploring their natural environment: finding insects, making potions using leaves and mud, and developing their gross motor skills through lots of climbing, cycling, running and jumping. We've been very busy indeed!

What did we do in May?

We held our Parent/Carer progress meetings. These were well attended and we hope you enjoyed the opportunity to meet with your child's keyworker to discuss your child's progress. If you didn't get the chance to speak with your child's keyworker, please let us know if this is something you'd like and we can get something arranged.

We hosted our Outdoor Stay and Play sessions. Again these were well attended and it was great to see so many of the children enjoying being outside with their grown-ups. The Ocean room went all out with the parachute and water balloons whilst the Jungle room got competitive with a beat-the-goalie station.

Thank you to everyone who added a post-it to our improvement priorities mind-map. The key themes coming through were around outdoor play, stay and plays with more structured activities and supporting the children to build their confidence and friendships.

Parent/Carer Committee meeting

This will be held in the Family room on Wednesday 29th May at 9:15am for approx. 1 hour. Gillian Kelly will be sharing information on our work towards Rights Respecting Bronze Award, and is looking for some grown-ups to get involved in a steering group. We are also looking for your input on events for next academic session including fund raising ideas and stay and play days.

<u>Graduation Group Photo – Wednesday 29th May at 9:30am</u>

We will be taking a "Class of 2024" photo to give to our preschool children as a leaving gift. This was inspired by us finding lots of old photographs from Cairns through the years...some go as far back as the 1980s! The children will receive the photo in a frame alongside their graduation certificate on Graduation Day. If any of our preschool children don't attend a Wednesday morning and want to be in the Class of 2024 photo, please come in for 9:25am. Parents/carers will have to stay with their child and then take them home once we've taken the photo.

What's happening in June?

June is definitely our busiest month of the year at Cairns. We will host Graduation for our preschool children and our summer parties.

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This will take place on Wednesday 19th June. Here are the details of your child's group time:

9:30am - Angela's Frogs, Maegan's Zebras, Kristeen's Meerkats and Gillian O's Dolphins

10:15am – Courtney's Leopards and John's Pandas

11:00am - Caitlin's Elephants and Sharlene's Giraffes

1:30pm – Nicola/Cheryl's Tigers and Leah's Monkeys

2:15pm – Caitlyn's Hippos, Sharlene's Giraffes and Maegan's Zebras (PM session children)

Please note, we are hosting this in our 0-2 room therefore we can only accommodate 2 adults per family due to the size of the room. Please let us know if only 1 adult will be attending for your child.

During the ceremony we ask you do not take photos or film due to Child Protection – some children are not permitted to be in photos, and failing to comply with this could potentially put a child at significant risk. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. There will be opportunities at the end of the session for photos, and the ceremony will last 30 minutes.

End of term parties

The Ocean and the Jungle rooms will have their end of term party on Friday 21st June. We have hired a bouncy castle for the day, and the children will be taken in groups to Hillhead Primary School, who have kindly allowed us the use of their gym hall. The theme of the party is Cairns Fest – children are welcome to wear bright colours if they wish. We will have face painting, temporary tattoos, nail painting, party games and party music.

If your child does not attend the ECC on a Friday, they are welcome to come in from 9:30am to 11:30am. They must be collected by 11:30am.

The Farm will have their end of term party on Wednesday 26th June. This is open to all the children who attend our 0-2 room however an adult must stay with the child for the full session. We have arranged for Jiggly Wrigglers to come along for an hour. This will start at 9:30am.

Cairns Bairns

Cairns Bairns will finish up on Wednesday 12th June and return on Wednesday 3rd July. Thank you to all the parents/carers who come along on a Wednesday morning, and thank you to Christine, Jodie and Lauren Y who plan and deliver these sessions each week.

Change of model of delivery at Cairns

From August 2024, Cairns ECC will move to a term-time service only. This means we will no longer provide a service over a full-year and instead will be open Monday – Friday, term-time. We are awaiting our final allocations and will share this as soon as we can. Parents/carers of children who are impacted by this move have been notified prior to this newsletter being issued however, to confirm, this would have been any parents/carers who were looking to continue a full year place / model at Cairns ECC from August 2024 and/or any new applications for full year provision.

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Holiday message from Laura...

I will be on annual leave from Monday 27th May until Thursday 13th June to celebrate my son finishing his exams and being awarded a scholarship to go and study abroad for a year.

Taylor, Senior ELCP, will be the nominated contact for the ECC during my leave however our Leadership Team will be available should you have any queries, and I look forward to seeing everyone in a few weeks' time.

Team Cairns ©

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Key dates for 2024

We understand how useful it can be to have a note of any key dates for special events in the ECC to allow you to be able to attend.

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5th – World Environment Day

6th – Mini classroom graduation at Hillhead Primary – **transition event 2pm – 2:45pm – parents/carers to take their child**

13th – Lunch visit at Hillhead Primary – **transition event 11:30am – 12:15pm –** parents/carers to take their child

18th – Buddy's Sports Day at Hillhead Primary – **transition event 2pm – 2:45pm – parents/carers to take their child**

19th – Preschool graduation

21st – 2-3 and 3-5 end of term party – Cairns Fest!!

26th – 0-2 end of term party – Jiggly Wrigglers!!

28th – Last day of term for our term-time children – please note, the children do not finish early that day, their session time runs as normal

Get involved with the ECC

Find us on Facebook & Twitter

@CairnsECC

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☆ ☆ Cairns Bairns (0-2 children)
Every Wed 9:15am – 11:15am
Bookbug on first Wednesday of each
month (0-3)

Bookbug sessions (3-5) Weekly on Tuesday @ 2pm ☆

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We always appreciate donations of:

Baby wipes

Tissues

Kitchen roll

Socks, pants and trousers

Contact us: 01563 533177 eaCairns.ECC@eastayrshire.org.uk

We are TEAM CAIRNS

Trust, Empathy, Approachable, Mindful, Caring, Achieving, Inclusive, Respectful, Nurturing, Safe