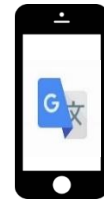




Cairns Early Childhood Centre

Parent and Carer Newsletter



April 2026

Welcome to our April newsletter. We would like to welcome all our new children, who started last week, and their families to the ECC.

I want to thank you for your understanding and prompt response in collecting your children from Hillhead Primary School on Wednesday. An evacuation was completed due to the smell of gas, and it was the vigilance of staff that ensured this was handled in a timely manner, leading to a safe evacuation and prompt, coordinated response. A minor gas leak was identified within our boiler room; this was isolated, the gas was switched off and repaired by a gas engineer.

Thank you to our colleagues and the amazing pupils in Hillhead Primary School who changed their plans for the day to accommodate our children in the dinner hall for lunch and in the gym hall until they could be collected.

Lastly, a big thank you to the staff team who always do an amazing job at supporting our children, and this was clearly evident through how well the children managed the number of transitions in such a short space of time.

What happened in April?

April was a quick month for us due to the Easter break. We hope you all enjoyed your time off and are ready for the last term of the academic session; it's going to be a busy one.

Thank you once again to everyone who came along to our Easter bonnet parade. We got a great turnout and fantastic weather! It was lovely to visit the residents at Gracelands; the staff very kindly donated colouring books for all the children. The children also got to see some of the Easter bunnies!

We were fund-raising as part of the Easter bonnet parade. Thank you to everyone who collected a sponsor sheet. If you do have any sponsor money to hand in, can we ask for this to be handed into the office by Wednesday 6th of May so we can count this up and share the total raised with you all. We'll also be picking at random, one of the sponsor sheets to win a special prize.

We held a Parent / Carer coffee morning on 29th April with our Community Practitioner, Linda, and Lynsey, Equity and Excellence Lead. Thank you to those parents/carers who came along.

for. The coach will return to collect us at 1:50pm, and we should be back in the ECC by 2:30pm.

We would like to thank you for the offers of parent / carer helpers for this trip. We have been able to staff this trip with our staff in situ as our Farm Room does not operate a service on a Wednesday, and at least 2 members of the Senior Leadership Team will also attend. We will have at least 2 fully trained first aiders on both trips.

Children will need to bring a bag with the following items packed:

- Sunhat and suncream (if they have suncream in the Centre, we will take this)
- A bottle of water
- At least 1 change of clothes (2 if you can manage)
- Any nappies/pull-ups and wipes

Please do not provide any snack items in their bags.

Please ensure children are wearing suitable footwear for walking around the park, including socks as we will have time in the soft play area.

Allocations for our Jungle Room 2026 – 2027

We have received our allocation of spaces for the new session, and we are in the process of putting placement letters together. I can confirm everyone who completed an application for a space in our Jungle Room has been allocated a space.

If you haven't yet applied, the applications will reopen on 11th May 2026 until 18th May 2026. Please note, if your child attends our Ocean Room, they do not automatically have a space in our Jungle Room – you do need to complete an application for their 3-year-old space.

Improvement plan consultation

We will shortly be looking to gather your views on what you feel our improvement priorities should be for our Improvement Plan 2026-2027. Consultation will be done in-person and via your child's Learning Journal. Please do take the time to share your views as these are so important in supporting us to provide the best provision for your child.

Have a marvellous May!

Team Cairns ☺

Key dates for 2026

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.

May 2026

4th – 10th – Deaf awareness week and screen-free week

6th – Group 1 – Waterfall - trip to Heads of Ayr (Jungle Room)

13th – Preschool Graduation photo

WB 18th – Parent/Carer progress meetings – keyworkers will have appointment times shortly

20th – Group 2 – Safari - trip to Heads of Ayr (Jungle Room)

19th – 23rd – Walk to school week – more info to follow

27th – Family sports day – more info to follow

June 2026

WB 1st – Ocean Room will start transition visits to the Jungle Room

2nd – 8th – Child safety week

WB 8th – Farm Room will start transition visits to the Ocean Room

10th – 14th – Healthy eating week

10th – Preschool Graduation

11th – Enrolment visits for the Jungle Room August starts

19th – End of term celebrations for the Ocean and Jungle Room

21st – Father's Day

24th – End of term celebrations for the Farm Room

26th – Last day of term

Holiday dates and ECC closures 2025 - 2026

Cairns ECC is a term-time service which means we are closed during all school holidays, public holidays and local holidays. We have one further in-service day this academic session where the ECC is closed for children to allow for staff training to take place.

May

Monday 4th – May bank holiday

Thursday 7th – In-service

June

We close on Friday 26th June at 3pm and children do not return until Wednesday 19th August 2026



Get involved with the ECC

**Find us on Facebook
@CairnsECC
Ask us about accessing the Safer Schools APP**

Upload to your child's Learning Journal

**We always appreciate donations of:
Baby wipes (Plastic free)
Tissues, kitchen roll
Socks, pants and trousers**

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