



Cairns Early Childhood Centre

Parent and Carer Newsletter



June 2026 – End of Term

We can't believe it is the last day of term, and time to say goodbye to some of our friends. Please note, we will close at our normal times therefore you do not need to collect your child when the school closes today but we do ask you to collect promptly to allow the staff team to finish at 3:15pm sharp.

We'd like to welcome Becki Knapp to our Clerical office. Becki will work with us on a Thursday and Friday, 8:15am – 1:15pm. We would like to wish Lorraine Crockett all the best as she moves on from working with us on a Monday.

Let's see what we've been up to this month...

Graduation

We had such a lovely Graduation Day for our children who are leaving us this year. Thank you to all the family members who came along to join us in celebrating your children's time in the ECC. A huge thank you to one of our parents for their kind donation of the Graduation balloons. These were made by Magical MemorieZzz, who you can find on Facebook.

Room changes

From August 2026, our playrooms will be staffed as follows:

The Farm – Martin: Senior ELCP

Bobbi – The Lambs

Courtney – The Chicks

Heather – The Piglets (temp)

The Ocean – Taylor: Senior ELCP

Caitlyn Mc – Otters

Samantha – Dolphins

Catherine – Seals

Emma – Fish

Kirsty - Turtles (temp)

Lauren Y will return from Maternity Leave in October on a part-time basis and take over the Turtle group. We are actively recruiting for the other half of her post.

The Jungle – Waterfall – Taylor: Senior ELCP

Lauren B – Zebras

Gillian O – Pandas

Donna – Leopards

Maegan – Crocodiles (formally the Hippos)

We have a further 2 key groups in the Waterfall, with those children not starting with us until January and April: the Giraffes and the Elephants.

Caitlin M will return from Maternity Leave in November on a permanent part-time basis. We are in the process of appointing the other half of her post.

Linzi C will remain at Cairns on a temp basis whilst recruitment of posts is underway. She will support in the Waterfall and is allocated to one of the key groups starting in January.

The Jungle – Safari – Martin: Senior ELCP

Emma B – Rhinos

Nicola / Louise W – Tigers

Gemma / Regan – Monkeys

Carrie – Meerkats

Jenna – Lions

Jenna is one of our newly appointed, permanent members of staff. She joins us with a wealth of experience, particularly in supporting children with additional support needs, from Galston ECC.

Lauren Buckell, Support Assistant, will remain with us at Cairns (temp). We are also supported immensely by Abbie, Lynsey and Lara, Support Assistants.

We will also welcome a new peripatetic Early Learning and Childcare Practitioner and 2 part-time Support Assistants. They will join us in August.

Good-bye and good luck

A farewell to Daniel, our Janitor, who is moving on to a new school. Good luck for the future and thank you for all your hard work. We will welcome our new Janitor in August.

We would also like to wish Louise N all the best as she moves to a new Centre in August. Louise was with us for a short period of time however has made the biggest impact on our children and the staff team. She will be missed by us all. Thank you for all your hard work with us Louise.

Thank you also to the wonderful Lynsey M, our Equity and Excellence Lead. Lynsey is taking up a temporary secondment within the Improvement Team in Central Early Years. We know she will be amazing at this role.

Thank you to all our supply staff who have supported us this year as well as our Childhood Practice students. It has been much appreciated.

Drop-off and Collection times – August 2026

From our return in August, we will be introducing the following:

You can continue to drop-off between 8:40am and 8:55am. We ask, as much as possible, to be on time to the ECC as we will go over the daily routine and expectations for the day, and it really helps children to be able to have the opportunity to feel prepared for their day.

If you wish for your child to attend a shorter session, you can collect them after lunch at 12:45pm Please discuss this with a member of staff so we can be sure to update our registers.

Our door will open at 2:15pm for anyone who wants to collect their child before heading to another Centre, setting or school. It would be helpful to let us know if this is likely to be suitable for you and your child.

You can collect between 2:40pm and 2:55pm. We understand there can be times where unexpected lateness can happen however we are also noticing an increase in the number of children not collected by 3pm. Whilst this is in the minority, it can be upsetting for children, therefore we kindly ask for children to be dropped-off and collected between the above times.

We appreciate there may be times where you need to collect your child for an appointment etc. which falls out with the above times. Please let us know in advance so we can arrange to have your child ready for you.

Please note, there are no changes to times for our children who attend the Farm Room (9am-11:30am / 12:30pm-3pm) or for our morning session children in the Ocean Room (8:45am-11:15am).

Thank you!

Firstly, we would like to thank all our families for the very kind and thoughtful gifts we have received. Although these are not necessary, these are very much appreciated.

We would also like to thank you for your continued support of the ECC, with all the kind donations of wipes, kitchen roll and clothes, and fund-raising, as well as your time and participation in different events we have held over the year, or the questionnaires we have sent out to help us on our improvement journey.

We would like to thank our children; in helping you grow, you have helped us grow, both as individuals and as a Team. We wouldn't be Team Cairns without you all and it has been

amazing to see each one of you make progress this year. Good luck to our children starting school in August; we know you will be amazing. For any of our children moving to new Centres, we wish you all the best of luck. It has been a pleasure looking after you all; thank you for choosing us 😊

Lastly, I'm sure you will all join me in thanking our amazing staff in the ECC: Support Assistants, Practitioners, Leadership Team, Clerical staff, Domestic staff, Catering assistants, Community Practitioners, and Hillhead Primary school staff. They continue to work hard and/or support us to make Cairns ECC the best place for our children to come to and it is very much appreciated. I wish you all a very restful summer break; spend this time doing the things you enjoy, with the people (and pets) you love.

TEAM CAIRNS 😊

Get involved with the ECC

**Find us on Facebook
@CairnsECC**

Upload to your child's Learning Journal

Ask us about accessing the Safer Schools APP

**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**