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Flowerbank Spring Newsletter 2019

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| Dear AllThe previous term has flown in so quickly and we are now in our final term before the summer break. Hopefully we are beginning to see the start of some better weather ahead allowing us to make better use of outdoors. Please ensure your child has a change of clothes in their bag as we continue to encourage outdoor learning activities and play for all.Please remember to inform Jean/Alan in the Office if you have changed address, phone number or emergency contacts. It is important we are able to contact you. If the door through to the playrooms is closed please see Jean/Alan who are more than happy to let you through to collect your child. |

**Walk to School Week – Monday 20th-Friday 24th May**

**Monday** – Walk to School wearing sunglasses

**Tuesday** - Walk to School wearing happy shoes

**Wednesday** – Walk to School wearing a fun hat

**Thursday** – Walk to School with crazy hair

**Friday** - Walk to School with odd socks



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| **Diary Dates****20th-24th May** – Walk to School Week**Wed 22nd May** – Yellow group Parents meetings (AM & PM)**Thursday 23rd** Red group parents meetings (AM &PM)**Friday 24th May** Blue Group parents meetings **Wednesday 29th May** – Orange group AM & Purple group PM parents meetings**Thursday 30th May** – Green group parents meetings **Wednesday 5th June** – Pre-school group outing**Wednesday 12th June** – Ante Pre-school group outing**Friday 14th June** – Family Fun Day**Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th June** – Fluoride Varnishing**Wednesday 26th June** – Pre-School Celebration**Friday 28th June** – Close for Summer Break |

 **Fun Day -** **Friday 14 June**

We will be having our annual Fun Day on Friday 14th June between 10am-2pm. You are invited to come along with your child/children to enjoy the many activities on offer. There will be various stalls, face painting and games and weather permitting we will hopefully be outside enjoying some lovely sunshine. There will also be a baking stall and much more. For health and safety reasons children need to be accompanied by an adult as there are no normal sessions running on that day. We would be delighted if you could donate some baking for the baking stall and any raffle prizes you wish to donate will be gratefully received.

**Playroom 1 trips**

This year we have arranged 2 trips instead of small individual group trips for the children in the 3-5 playroom. The first trip is for our pre-school group on the 5th June which is for all children who would be eligible to start Primary School in August 2019. The other trip is for all our ante pre group. There has been a separate letter issued for the trips and if any parents or carers require any more information please speak to the room senior Charne. We will also be looking for some parent helpers therefore if any parent/carer wishes to put their name forward please speak to your child’s keyworker. Unfortunately we will not have enough spaces for all parents and may have to select names. Can any parents who are interested please speak to the keyworker or room senior by Tuesday 28th May. We will also be looking for a few reserve parents as a precaution should someone not be available on the day.

**Car Parking**

In the interest of Health and Safety can all parents and carers please encourage your child/ren to use the pavement when entering the Centre and not walk through the car park.

Can you also please ensure that only blue badge holders use the accessible space at the front entrance of the Centre and also please park in the marked bays only to avoid any accidents or bumps. Unfortunately we have limited parking within the centre and therefore it can be busy at pick up and drop off times but again in the interest of the health and safety of everyone can I please stress the importance of taking notice of this. I do appreciate the lack of spaces however after continually noting within newsletters and our journals for parents not to use the disabled parking space this is still being used daily by parents who do not have a blue badge. Thank you in advance for your support on this matter.

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**Staffing**

Monica, Linda and Kristeen have recently been successful through interviews in gaining new posts, Monica and Linda may be moving to a different centre after the summer as Early Learning and Childcare Practitioners (ELCP) and Kristeen will continue as a support assistant while she works on gaining her HNC and will also go on to be an ELCP. I would like to congratulate them and wish them all well in their posts. We have 2 new support assistants, Angela and Andrea, who will be working alongside Monica and Linda in Playroom 1 until the end of term and join us in the new term as support assistants.

I would also like to congratulate Mairi who has been successful in gaining an SVQ co-ordinator post. This post is a seconded 3 year post and after that term Mairi will return to her substantive role at Flowerbank. We wish Mairi well in her new post.

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|  **Parents committee Meeting Update**We had a meeting recently and the parent’s committee alongside the centre are planning some initiatives. We are going to have an event on a monthly basis in the family room called “Eco Wear”. We will have a variety of clothes that people can take and there will also be a donation box if anyone wants to donate clothes (this is optional). We have a variety of really good quality clothing and this initiative will really help us on our journey to gaining our green flag and reduce waste. If you would like any more information please speak to myself or Liz (Community Practitioner) If any parents/carers are in need of any clothing and do not want to visit the family room on that day please speak to Liz. Our first “Eco Wear” day will take place in the family room on Tuesday 28th May. |

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| **Development updates****Communication**Kirsty and Louise will be attending nurture training as part of their communication champion role.**Numeracy**Margaret D is Flowerbank’s Numeracy Champion and she has been working hard to replenish the home link bags. This has been popular and can be found set up in the corridor for ages 3-5 and there are also bags are set up in the hall for the 0-3 age group for parents to take home and participate in fun learning at home with your child. If you require more information on this please speak to Margaret or your child’s keyperson.**Food for Thought**Steven and Margo have been busy delivering fun food sessions alongside Evelyn Stevens from Vibrant Communities which have gone very well. If anyone would like more information on how to take part in fun food sessions at home please see one of the staff members involved or Lindsey McCabe.**Come Snack with Me**The children in the 3-5 playroom (Playroom 1) have been taking part in a variety of learning around food as part of our Food for Thought project. Throughout the last term the children will be planning a snack and making a list of all the items needed and going to purchase them. They will then be taking part in sessions of preparing a simple snack for some children in a different group. If any parents would like more information on this please speak to Charne or Lindsey McCabe.**Growing**Our staff and children are working hard planting and taking care of their produce although we would welcome any parents who may like to come along and help us tend to the garden as this would allow us to enhance these experiences further. |

**Celebration of Learning – Wednesday 26th June 2019**

We would like to invite the parents of our children who will be starting school to our Celebration of Learning. If your child attends on this day they should come for their normal session with morning parents joining us at 10.45am and afternoon parents joining us at 2.30pm. If this is not your child’s normal session, please bring them on the times noted. **Two tickets per child will be issued in due course.**



**Weekly Donations**

Thank you for your continued support of your weekly £1 donation.

Recently we paid for Aileen from CHIME (Children Happy in Music Education) she worked with the children in Playroom 1 on a ‘Jungle’ theme supporting our literacy outcomes. The children had the opportunity to sing, play instruments, rhyme words together and tap out the beat of songs. She also came along and carried out another session for our 2-3 room children and parents and a session at Argyle House with a small group of children from Playroom 1

All photos will be on Ejournals.

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| **Photographer**  Thank you to all parents and carers who purchased the recent photographs taken by Smiley Stars. We raised £306.00 In commission as a result of this and this money will be going towards our annual family summer fun day. Thank you again.  |

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| **Summer Break**The Centre will be closed to all term time children from 1st July until Monday 19th August and We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a lovely Summer Break  |



**Margaret and the team at Flowerbank ECC**