



# Galston Early Childhood Centre: Newsletter: January 24



Happy New Year!



Welcome back following the Christmas break! Throughout December, the children had lots of festive fun during our Festive Stay and Play event, Christmas scavenger hunt and meeting a very special visitor. Please look through your child's learning journal to see all the fun and learning that has taken place. Thank you to everyone who came to the festive play event and took part in the fun!



## Visits to Galston Library

We will be starting our weekly visits to Galston Library this month on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:15pm. Each group will visit the library for 3 sessions during the spring term. During the visit Children will have the opportunity to have a story read within the Library environment. We will be exploring the "Every child a library member" to promote a lifelong joy of listening to and reading stories. Parents/carers will receive a letter to register their child for the library.

These visits rely on parent helpers to support the visit. Keyworkers will ask parents for help for their group for the following months:

- Jan 24: WED - Blue THURS - Orange
- Feb 24 WED - Purple THURS - Green
- March 24 WED - Yellow THURS - New Starts/Rainbow

If you would like for your child to attend but they do not usually attend during an afternoon, you are welcome to join the group in the library and remain with your child for the story.

## Parent Committee

The parent committee have worked really hard during the year to raise funds for the Centre through holding raffles, helping at stay and play events and arranging a stall at Galston Gala day. The money raised is used for trips and additional resources with the Centre. Our next meeting will be held on **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 1:30pm**. If you would like to attend the meeting and join the parent committee please email Dawn Waide on the following:

[Dawn.waide@eastayrshire.org.uk](mailto:Dawn.waide@eastayrshire.org.uk)

## Lending Library



The children will have a weekly opportunity to visit the School library each Monday. During this time the children will be able to choose a book from the ECC library trolley to take home to enjoy with their family.

Children will keep their chosen book in their tray during the day ready to take home at the end of the day. We are currently sourcing bags for the books to be carried in when taking them home.

So that each group will have the opportunity to visit the library, there will unfortunately be a gap of 3 weeks between a groups session. To support continued access to the lending library, we are offering a Book Drop service. Children will be able to return their book to the box and select another book with a family member to take home.

The lending library trolley will be in the snack area at the end of each day. All we ask is that you indicate on the sheet that the book has been returned and note down the title of the book you are taking away with you.

## Pre-loved Items!

To develop the resources within the home corner playroom and mud kitchen outside we have created a wish list. If are considering replacing items we would be very grateful to rehome pre-loved items!

### Wish List

- Kitchen utensils for indoor/outdoor kitchens
- Pots and pans
- Spice Rack and Jars
- Scales
- Cutlery
- Mugs
- Placemats
- Spare Socks (including odd socks)
- Gloves

## Dates for the Diary

**Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Feb:** ECC closed to term time children

**Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Feb:** ECC closed to term time children

**Tues 13<sup>th</sup> Feb:** Staff In-Service Day. ECC closed for all children.

**Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> March:** World Book Day. Information to follow

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March:** Good Friday- ECC closed

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April:** Easter Monday - ECC closed

**Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> - Fri 12<sup>th</sup> April** (inclusive): ECC closed to term time children

## January top tip

Make reading part of your day.  
Read books appropriate to your child's age  
and stage.  
Talk about the books you read.



This will help with spelling when they go to school and build their general knowledge and language skills.

Check out our social media:



@weepeoplechat

@AyrshireSLT



Helpline & Virtual Drop In

Helpline: Phone-07980919654  
Mon.9:30am- 11:30am  
Thur- 2pm-4pm

Virtual- Phone/Text- 07812519298 to



NHS  
Ayrshire  
& Arran

## Book bug Sessions



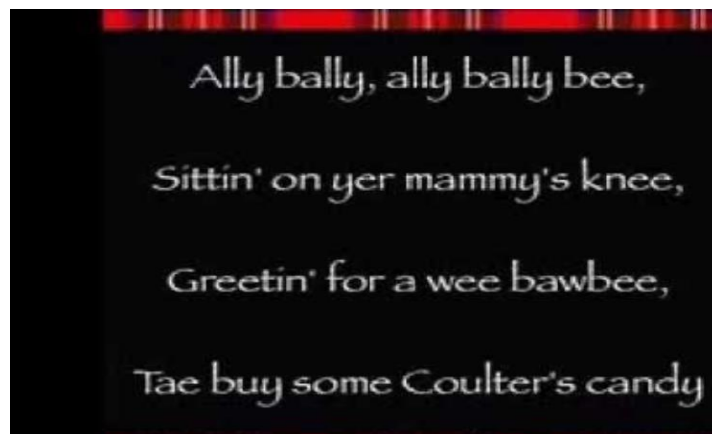
Children within the Centre will start regular Book bug sessions from January. Sharing songs, rhymes and stories together to support children's language, learning and social skills.

## Communication Support

Please discuss any concerns you may have of your child's speech and language development. Our communication champions are specifically trained staff who will be able to share strategies with you and support within the Centre. You can also contact the Helpline & Virtual drop on Monday's between 9:30am-11:30am and Thursday afternoon's between 2pm - 4pm

## Rhyme of the Month

We are learning some Scottish Songs this month. We would like the children to learn Ally Bally, Ally Bally bee. Click on the link below to hear the song. Check your child's learning journal to see the song each group is learning.



[www.bing.com/videos/riverview/relatedvideo?q=ali+bali+bee+lyrics&mid=32859CF53500C4EC00E432859CF53500C4EC00E4&FORM=VIRE](http://www.bing.com/videos/riverview/relatedvideo?q=ali+bali+bee+lyrics&mid=32859CF53500C4EC00E432859CF53500C4EC00E4&FORM=VIRE)

### Grandparents Day

In the Butterfly room, we plan to invite grandparents/carers into the Centre on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January. Information will be shared through the learning journals regarding timings. All the children are learning the song "you cannae shove your granny off the bus". Please click on the link below for the song so you can practice at home together.



<https://youtu.be/yTsz8IjzQxE>

### Learning Journals

Children's learning is documented on the Learning Journals through observations and setting of targets. We encourage all parents/carers to "like" an observation or provide feedback. Stories will also be included on your child's learning journal which document general events and experiences within the ECC, including Rhyme of the Month, Makaton Signs and Harvest songs/poems. If you are experiencing any difficulties in accessing your child's journal, please speak to your child's keyworker



**Phone:** You can contact the Office on: 01563 820360

**Email:** Head of Centre: [dawn.waide@eastayrshire.org.uk](mailto:dawn.waide@eastayrshire.org.uk)

Depute Manager: [elaine.bowden@eastayrshire.org.uk](mailto:elaine.bowden@eastayrshire.org.uk)

You can also contact your child's keyworker directly through the Learning Journals.