

Galston Early Childhood Centre



November 2025!

What a busy month it has been in both the Rainbow and Sunshine rooms. All of the children are settling into the routines of the day. The woodland visits have restarted, giving children the opportunity to access a wealth of outdoor experiences. During November, parents in the Sunshine room will have the opportunity to review their child's Care Plan and progress with their child's keyworker.

Lending Library



The lending library has started in both the Rainbow and Sunshine rooms. Children will have a story read to them by their keyworker, then select a book to take home with them in their library bag. When you are ready to return the book, simply put it into your child's group drawer in the cloakroom.

Eco Schools

The eco-team are looking for parents/carers who either have an interest in reducing waste, developing the natural environment or reducing energy to be part of our steering group with children and staff to continue to make a positive impact within the Centre. If you are interested in joining the group, please speak to either Hazel, Rebecca, Jacqueline or Elaine. We look forward to you joining us to support us to make our Centre as Eco-friendly as possible.

Eco-Wardrobe

Thank you to everyone who donated pre-loved Halloween costumes for our eco-rail in the cloakroom room. It certainly proved to be very popular!

Pre-loved Festive Clothing

We all know how quickly children can grow! So, if you have a festive jumper which no longer fits your child, we would love to receive it! We plan to have a rail of Pre-loved Christmas jumpers in a range of different sizes available to select from. Bring a jumper, take a jumper reduces waste and cost for everyone!





Over the next few weeks in November, you will have the opportunity to meet with your child's keyworker to review their care plan and discuss progress.

Appointment booking sheets will be available on the register at sign out time.

The parent committee arranged a Spooky Halloween Raffle in the week leading up to Halloween. Thank you to everyone who bought a raffle ticket. Any money raised will be used to purchase Christmas gifts.





A huge shout out to TESCO at Galston for their kind donation of pumpkins and apples for our Halloween fun! All the children had the opportunity to experience this spooky tradition and enjoy munching on their apple as a reward!





A huge thank you also goes to Eagle Taxis Company for their amazing donation of £300 which has been used to purchase weather proof suits for the courtyard.



Wreath Making Class

Hazel and Rebecca, our Outdoor leads, will be holding a wreath making class on Wednesday 25th November between 3.15pm and 6pm. Tickets cost £20 each and includes your personal handmade wreath and delicious refreshments. This is an adult only event, and tickets are limited to 20. If you would like to attend the class, please speak to Rebecca or Hazel to reserve your place.

Footwear and Clothing Grant

£75 is available per child age 3 and 4 years whose circumstances meet the criteria for footwear and clothing grants.

Applications will open at 9am on Monday 2 November for the early years footwear and clothing grant for academic year 2026/27 for parents/guardians of children due to access a place from January 2027 (any parents/guardians who missed the August deadline can also apply – please note this is only paid once per academic year, any parent applying who have already received the grant this academic year will be declined).

Applications will remain open until 4pm on Friday 20 November. Anyone missing the deadline will not be able to apply until the applications re-open in February 2027.

Payment of the grant will be on the week of 14 December 2026. Click on the link to apply: [Early years clothing grant · East Ayrshire Council (east-ayrshire.gov.uk)]

**Children starting their place in April 2027 will be invited to apply for the grant in February 2027 (prior to their child's start date).*

Rhyme of the Month – Row Row your Boat



Using Makaton to support communication

We can support communication with all children through using Makaton. Makaton improves communication by combining speech with simple, natural signs and visual symbols to provide multiple clues to help others to understand and be understood. You can click on the link below to listen to the rhyme and try to learn the Makaton signs

signing hands row row your boat - Search

November Top Tip





If you have concerns about your child's speech, language or communication, you can contact the speech and language helpline on Mondays between 9:30 – 11:30am or Thursday afternoons between 2pm – 4pm.

Dates for the diary:

November	
Week Beginning 2nd	Parents Meetings
Wednesday 4th	Photographer
Week Beginning 9th	Parents Meetings
Wednesday 25th	Wreath Making Class
December	
Friday 18th	Last day of term
Thursday 24th	ECC closes at 1pm

A separate list of different Christmas experiences will be shared with everyone soon.





Nappies and Wipes

It is the parent/carers responsibility whose children are wearing nappies to ensure that several nappies and a packet of wipes are put into your child's bag. For children who are wearing pants, we kindly request that plenty of spare pants and trousers are put into your child's bag to get changed into in the event of a toileting accident or messy play.

We are always grateful for donations of wipes which can be used for all children.

Labelling Clothes



At the end of each day, parents/carers and staff spend time hunting for jumpers. We try hard to return items of clothing to the correct child, however many of the items do not have the child's name written into it. We ask that all clothing is labelled with your child's name on the label and we will try to ensure it is returned to you.

Learning Journals

All parents/carers should have access to their child's learning journal. Information on the journal will document your child's learning within the Centre through observations which support next step targets. General information, in the form of stories will also be included on the journals to share events, reminders and the newsletter. If you require

any support in accessing your child's learning journal please let your child's keyworker know. All observations will be published weekly on Friday at 6pm.

Contact us!



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