

Cart Mill Family Centre Newsletter December 2018



Children's Learning

There is a Christmas feel overall with regard to the children's learning this month and why wouldn't there be! We are counting down to Christmas, baking Christmas treats, cooking outdoors and of course singing our favourite Christmas songs.



Deferred School Entry

If anyone is considering not sending their child to school in August 2019 due to their January or February birthday please speak to myself, Sharon McKenna, by **Monday 17th December**.



Primary 1 Registration

For 2019 Primary 1 catchment school applications, an **online application form** has been created. This form will allow you to submit your details via the online form prior to providing your documentary evidence to the school during a set week. This process will reduce the time it takes to complete your application. The application form will be available on the council website in due course and will be publicised once it is live.

Further information, including the Council's School Admissions Policy and a list of the documentation you will be required to provide in support of your application, is also available on the council website. The online application form will close at 4pm on Friday 11 January 2019. To view the full press release visit

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/cartmill/2018/12/04/primary-1-2019-registration/>

OXFAM - Real Gifts

Last year I was overwhelmed at the generosity of you all both in giving to our Foodbank appeal and in the gifts you gave to staff. This year I would like to ask you, if you wouldn't mind, donating to our charity, Oxfam, instead of purchasing gifts for "all staff". I am in no way saying that you cannot buy your child's key worker or "all staff" a gift if that is what you would like to do, I am merely asking that you think about it and perhaps instead of buying an "all staff" gift you make a small donation to Oxfam through Parent Pay.



The option to donate on Parent Pay is now open and will be open until Sunday 16th December. The children will then be able to choose the real gifts for people in other countries who need our help during w/b 17th December.

I hope that I have not offended anyone as it is genuinely not my intention to. You can find out more about Oxfam's Unwrapped Gifts at <https://www.oxfam.org.uk/shop/oxfam-unwrapped>

WE ARE A NUT FREE CENTRE

Children's Christmas Concert - Thursday 13th December at 11.30 & 3.30



The children have been practising their Christmas songs and are looking forward to performing them for you. We would like the children to wear something festive on the day for example; Tinsel, Santa hat or Rudolph ears if this is possible. Any children who do not attend on a Thursday and want to come along are very welcome. We would like to invite parents and family members to come along to our Family Centre Room if you would like to have a hot drink and a mince pie before the concert.

Wear your Christmas Jumper Day Friday 14th December

It's a day for wearing your best festive jumper and donating £1 which we will send off to Save the Children.



Clydebuilt Puppets - Lost Bear's Christmas - Tuesday 18th December

The puppet show is **open to all children to attend**. If your child does not normally attend our centre on a Tuesday then they may come in from 9.45 – 11.00 to see the morning performance or 1.30 – 2.45 to see the afternoon show.

Please wear your Pyjamas for the puppet show so we can all be comfy and cosy for the show.

Santa's Surprise Visit

As we offer a flexible service to parents and children we have very varied patterns of attendance and so it is impossible to choose a day when all children are present.

This year Santa has told us that he will come and surprise us on a day when he is in Clarkston and he will bring all the presents for our children. Santa has agreed to be filmed so we will be able to show the visit to the children once he has gone.



Fond Farewells

We are sad to be losing George and Angela from our team this month. George is joining Carlibar Primary School as a bus escort and Angela is moving back to East Ayrshire to take up a graduate post in early years. We wish them both the very best in their new

roles. Yasmin will take over the role of Key Worker on a full time basis for George's group on the 19th December and Lynn will take over the Key Worker role for Angela's group from the 10th December. The posts will be advertised in the New Year,

Welcome

We have a new Modern Apprentice, Bethany, whom we are delighted to have. She is based in the Toddler Room and is with us 4 days per week.

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We look forward to welcoming Caroline to our team on Monday 10th December. She is the new permanent job share partner for Gemma and she will work on Mondays and Tuesdays. She will be based initially in the Toddler Room.

Yellow Boxes

We are currently looking at ways to improve the environments indoors and outdoors and the first thing we would like to tackle are the yellow boxes. They started out when we were a much smaller centre and since we have grown the boxes have too! There are too many and what we have found when we randomly looked in some boxes is that they are not being used. The children have told us that they like to put things in their bag as they can do this independently and only a few children use their yellow box. We will over the next couple of weeks, begin to remove the boxes starting with the empty ones. We will be able to keep a few boxes in the playroom so if your child really does use it please let me know and we will keep it on the shelf.

December Dates to Remember

Friday 7th December
Thursday 13th December
Friday 14th December
Tuesday 18th December

Coffee & Craft
Christmas Concert
Christmas Jumper Day
Puppet Show



9am & 3pm
11.30am & 3.30pm
Pay £1 for Save the Children
9.45am & 1.30pm

Christmas Holidays



Our centre will partially close at 6pm on Friday 21st December for Christmas holidays in line with schools. We are open beyond this date for parents whose children have an extended contract.

We re-open fully in line with schools on Monday 7th January 2019.

*The staff of Cart Mill
Family Centre
Wish you and your family
A very Happy Christmas*



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