

# Cart Mill Family Centre Newsletter November 2019



## Children's Learning

We are focussing on the children's interests in both rooms in relation to the weather changes, leaves falling, dark mornings, Halloween, Bonfire Night and nocturnal animals.

We are developing our science area and we have put a new focus in the curiosity cube and on the interest table in the welcome area – please stop and have a look!

## Stay and Play – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November



We have a week of experiences that we would love you to join us for. The link to view the timetable for the week is [Please try to come along at some point during the week to join your child in the playroom and find out about what they are learning.](#)



## Important Dates

- Big Fit Winter Walk
- Parental Consultations
- Parent Workshop
- Christmas Coffee & Crafts
- Christmas Concerts
- Christmas Jumper Day
- 

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 9am  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November from 5pm to 8pm  
Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 9am & 3pm  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December AM & PM  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December

## Big Fit Winter Family & Friends Walk



We are busy getting our plans finalised for the Big Fit Winter Family & Friends Walk on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November**. We will meet here at 8.45 so that everyone can sign in and be ready to walk at 9am. We will be walking to Busby Glen Park and then on into the park to the wooded walkway. It's the route we take to our Forest School site. We will walk so far along that route and then turn around and walk back to the play park where there will be tea, coffee, water and something sweet waiting for us. We aim to be back at Cart Mill by 11.00. Please come along if you can and family, friends and dogs are most welcome.

We are a nut free centre

Don't forget  
parents'  
evening!

## Parental Consultations

You are invited to our parental consultation evening on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November whereby you will be able to meet your child's key worker and discuss their learning and developmental progress. The key workers have the appointment sheets so please let them know what time suits you best. The appointments are from 5pm to 8pm. If you don't manage to see your child's key worker for an appointment then please e-mail us at [schoolmail@cartmill.e-renfrew.sch.uk](mailto:schoolmail@cartmill.e-renfrew.sch.uk) with your preferred time and we will arrange it for you.

## Parent Workshop – Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November

Thanks to the parents who responded to the survey. The survey had 27 responses and **Early Phonics** was the most popular focus. We look forward to seeing as many of you at 7pm on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November.



## World of Work

We are keen to expose our children to the many careers there are in the world and to develop their understanding of work roles. We know that you, our parents and families, have a wide variety of jobs and we would like you to come and talk to our children about your job. Please get in touch at [schoolmail@cartmill.e-renfrew.sch.uk](mailto:schoolmail@cartmill.e-renfrew.sch.uk)

## The Home Room



We are continually improving the learning environments in our centre so that they best match the learners and their interests. In the Home Room, children are enjoying role play in the home corner and we would like to develop the home corner to look cosier and like a home. If anyone has a winged armchair, standard lamp or any furniture that that we could use please let Stephanie MacPherson or Angela Ross know.



## Junk Modelling – A miniature world

We currently have a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) Project which needs small pieces of junk to create a miniature world. We need lots of small boxes (raisin box size) and kitchen roll tubes for the children to use. Please help!



We are a nut free centre



## Celebration of Festivals & Languages

I would love for parents and carers to suggest festivals that are important to you and your family that we can share and celebrate with all of our children. Recently we celebrated Diwali when the suggestion came from a parent. Please e-mail us at [schoolmail@cartmill.renfrew.sch.uk](mailto:schoolmail@cartmill.renfrew.sch.uk) with your suggestions. We would also like

parents who can speak other languages to come in and

## read stories to our children if you feel you can.

## Infant Massage Sessions

We are pleased to be starting an Infant Massage Class within the centre in the new year. The sessions will be led by our soon to be qualified Infant Massage Instructor Sharon Dobbie who is currently nearing the end of her training.

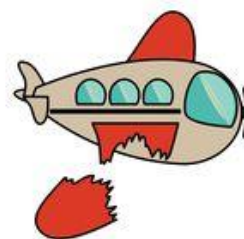


## Snack Fund

We ask parents/carers to donate to our snack fund weekly so that we can provide our children with healthy snacks, baking experiences, outings and other treats throughout the year. We ask for £3 per week which is a voluntary donation and can be made on ParentPay. Thank you for your kind donations.

## Toys Broken or Destroyed

We are having increased instances of finding toys and expensive resources broken or destroyed by children. We have spoken to all children and asked them to respect and look after their nursery toys.



© Can Stock Photo

## Change of Clothes



© Can Stock Photo - csp5874410

Please ensure that your child comes to nursery each day with a bag that contains a full change of clothes. In the wet, winter weather there is a greater chance of children getting wet during outdoor play so two full changes and extra socks will come in handy.



## Head Lice

This is the time of year when we start to have instances of head lice. It is a good idea to check your child's head regularly and if you spot head lice then immediate treatment is required. The following link has good information <https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/skin-hair-and-nails/head-lice-and-nits>

We are a nut free centre

## Christmas is for Giving



Two years ago I was overwhelmed at the generosity of parents both in giving to our Foodbank appeal and in the gifts they gave to staff. There were also piles of gifts that they had very kindly given to “all staff” and this was what I asked parents to think about. I asked them, if they wouldn’t mind, donating to our charity, Oxfam, instead of purchasing gifts for “all staff”. They did and we raised lots of money for Oxfam and the children chose the gifts to help children and families in some of the poorest parts of the world.

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 this year you make a small donation to Oxfam through Parent Pay.

I would like our children to learn about children in other countries that don’t have what we have and some don’t even have clean water to drink. Through the real gift giving they will be able to use the donations you make to buy safe water for a family of 4, education for one child, a super goat or wonder worms – the children will choose the gifts and they will learn about why that gift is needed in parts of our world and who they are helping. I hope that I have not offended anyone as it is genuinely not my intention to. You can find out more about Oxfam’s Unwrappd Gifts at <https://www.oxfam.org.uk/shop/oxfam-unwrapped>

We will also be collecting donations for the East Renfrewshire Food Bank as there are many people in our local area who may not have enough money to buy food this Christmas and will benefit from our donations. We will start collecting food items from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November. Christmas is for giving!

Best wishes,  
Sharon McKenna  
Head Teacher



Please follow us on twitter @cartmillcentre

Keep up to date with the learning within our centre by regularly checking out our learning blog

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/cartmill/>

Thank you!

We are a nut free centre