



Head Teacher's Message

Families,

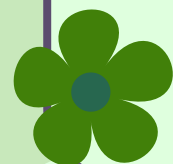
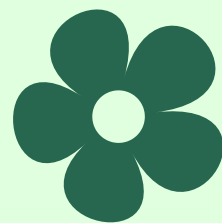
As we approach the festive season, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on some wonderful developments in our Family Centre. We are delighted to share that the recent landscaping works in the Nursery Gardens are now complete! The transformation is truly remarkable, and it has been a joy to see the children already exploring and engaging with the new features. From imaginative play areas to spaces designed for self-selection, the gardens now offer endless opportunities for outdoor learning and fun. We hope you'll take a moment to enjoy the changes the next time you're here.

Looking ahead, I'd also like to remind families with children moving on to Primary 1 next year to review the information on applying for a place. This is an exciting milestone, and ensuring your application is submitted on time is an important step in the transition process. If you have any questions or need support, please don't hesitate to reach out to us - the Lovely Linda will be enquiring about your application so best to get it completed :-)

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Wishing you and your family a joyful and restful holiday season!

Warm regards,

Justin



Hazeldene's 60 Minute Makeover - almost!

We are thrilled to announce that the recent landscaping works in the Nursery Gardens have been successfully completed! A huge thank you to Anderson Landscaping for their incredible efficiency and dedication—completing the entire project in **just two days!** Their hard work and professionalism have made a big difference, and we're so grateful for their support.

The children are already making the most of the newly enhanced space, and it's been wonderful to see their excitement as they explore the improved play and learning areas. From climbing and imaginative play to quiet moments in nature, the gardens are now a vibrant and inspiring environment for all.

Thank you for your patience during the works, and we hope you'll have the chance to see this fantastic space for yourselves soon!



Hazeldene's 60 Minute Makeover - almost!



Justin, look
there's **TWO**
sandpits now!
Aubrey

This is the best
garden ever!
Tommy

Primary One Registration

At the start of December you can apply for a P1 school catchment place for your child if you currently live within East Renfrewshire Council or will be living within the authority by the start of the new session in August 2025. All relevant information about the application process can be found here:

<https://eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/article/1334/Apply-for-primary-1>

Deferring Entry

If a child is **not** yet 5 years old on 1 August in the year which they are supposed to commence their primary education, parents/carers have an automatic right to defer their child's entry to primary 1 until the following academic year. In such cases, children will be entitled to an additional year of funded early learning and childcare.

Parents of children who reach the age of five before 1 August have no automatic right to defer their child's entry to school. It's expected that all children aged 5 before 1 August would start Primary 1 in that year. Where a child has turned 5 prior to 1 August and the parent wishes to defer entry to primary school, an exceptional application should be made. All exceptional applications are considered by a panel to decide if a further year of a nursery funding is appropriate.

In either case you **must** still complete a **Primary 1 catchment application** where you can note your intention to defer/apply to defer.



ELC Registration for 2025/26

At the start of December you can apply for a nursery place for session 2025/26.

You **must** apply using the address that you currently live at. If you're due to move house in the foreseeable future you must supply evidence of this and your placement may be allocated on a provisional basis. You may need to supply further evidence before your child begins their placement.

The deadline for submitting an online ELC application for session 2025-26 closes on **31 January 2025**. If you apply for a place **prior** to the January deadline, allocation emails will be issued towards the end of April. If you do not receive an email, please remember to check your junk mail before contacting East Renfrewshire Early Learning and Childcare.

If you currently attend Hazeldene Family Centre and intend to stay with us for your child's preschool year and you are happy with your attendance pattern then you **do not** need to submit an application. However, should you wish to try and change your child's attendance pattern for session 2025/26 (e.g. *move from AM Only to Core 9-3*) then you **should** submit an application by the January deadline. If successful, the new attendance pattern would commence in August 2025 of the child's pre-school year.





Toy Fund

You may have noticed that Linda has been emailing information to you regarding setting up ParentPay for Toy Fund donations. This is because we do not accept cash donations for security reasons. A reminder that Toy Fund donations are **completely voluntary** and all funds raised go towards experiences for **all** the children.

The Toy Fund Committee met recently to discuss recent spending and ideas moving forwards. Shona Mathie, our Parent Representative, will be putting out a short questionnaire to gather views of the parent body which will be forwarded to you in the near future.

Should any parent wish to be involved in the Toy Fund Committee you are more than welcome to attend our next meeting - currently scheduled for **12:15pm on Wednesday 15th January 2025.**



You Said, We Did...

Thank you to those of you who were able to complete our recent survey around the use of Seesaw at Hazeldene Family Centre. We know that Seesaw is well received by our families and that you appreciate seeing what your Little Ones gets up to during their time in the Family Centre.

We have listened to your feedback and, currently, we are working as a staff team to reflect and consider how we can continue to improve our use whilst remaining mindful of staff workload. Any changes or developments will, of course, be communicated to you.



Christmas Hampers Draw

At our Christmas Sing-A-Long Concerts there will be an opportunity to win a lovely Christmas Hamper! All children's names have been entered into the draw and winners will be drawn at the end of our festive sing-a-long!

We are looking for donations towards our hampers:

- Packets (*biscuits, crisps, sauces etc.*)
- Boxes (*crackers, chocolates, mince pies etc.*)
- Jars (*cranberry, jams, chutney, pickles etc.*)
- Tins (*soup, fruit, veg etc.*)
- Bottles (*juice, water, bubble bath etc.*)
- Toiletries (*soaps, shower gels etc.*)
- *Candles or any other festive treats*

If all donations could be handed in by **Friday 13th December** then the Christmas Committee will create the hampers ahead of the performances

A donation box will be available in the foyer in the run up to and during our Sing-A-Long performances for any families wishing to donate to a local homeless charity.

Looking forward to seeing you all with your Singing Voices!

Thank You

Kerry, Donna Ann & Emily


Our Christmas Committee



Christmas @ Hazeldene

I know you all appreciate **as much notice as possible** for your own organisation and logistics. Please see below our wee 'Cheat Sheet' about what's happening for our annual **'Twelve Days of Christmas'** at Hazeldene Family Centre.

| Date | Event |
|--|---|
| Decorating the Family Centre Christmas Tree | Monday 9th December |
| Christmas Stay, Play & Learn | Tuesday 10th December 2:00PM - 3:00PM |
| Christmas Discos (and maybe a Special Visitor Ho, Ho, Ho) | Wednesday 11th December |
| Christmas Jumper Day 2024 | Thursday 12th December |
| Christmas Stories | Friday 13th December |
| Bookbug @ Christmas | Monday 16th December |
| Christmas Lunch (date to be confirmed) | Tuesday 17th December |
| Christmas Stay, Play & Learn | Wednesday 18th December 9:30AM - 10:30AM |
| Christmas Sing A Long Concert - (Owls, Woodpeckers, Deer, Foxes, Hedgehogs) | Thursday 19th December 1:30PM |
| Christmas Sing A Long Concert - (Bunnies, Butterflies, Bumblebees, Frogs, Squirrels) | Friday 20th December 1:30PM |



Dates for your Diary

| Event | Date |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Teachers return | Monday 12 August |
| In-service | Monday 12 August |
| In-service | Tuesday 13 August |
| Pupils return | Wednesday 14 August |
| Last day of school | Thursday 26 September |
| September weekend | Friday 27 September |
| September weekend | Monday 30 September |
| Re-open | Tuesday 1 October |
| Last day of school | Thursday 10 October |
| In-service | Friday 11 October |
| Re-open | Monday 21 October |
| Last day of school | Friday 20 December |

