

#### Hello Families,

It's hard to believe we are already heading towards the end of the year — the weeks are flying by! It has been a wonderful term so far, full of energy, creativity and community spirit. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of our children, families and staff for making Hazeldene such a happy and nurturing place to learn and grow.

In this edition of our newsletter, you'll find lots to celebrate and a few important updates. Our Sponsored Dance-A-Thon Week, beginning Monday 10th November, promises to be full of fun, movement and laughter — with all donations being shared between Hazeldene Family Centre Fundraising and BBC Children in Need.

We're also delighted to share an update on our Forest Kindergarten sessions, which continue to go from strength to strength. Robert has included a few helpful reminders to help keep everyone warm and ready for outdoor learning as we move into the winter months.

Looking ahead, we are already preparing for the festive season and can't wait to welcome families to our Christmas Sing-A-Longs in December — always a highlight of our calendar!

Finally, a reminder that Primary One Registration and Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) Applications for the 2026/27 academic session will open at the beginning of December. Further information and links to the local authority website are shared within this newsletter.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. It's a joy to see our children thriving each day, and we look forward to another busy and exciting term ahead.

Warm Regards,





## 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 2026. 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 (DOB from 01.08.2021 to 28.02.22) on 1 August in the year which they are supposed to commence their primary education, parents/carers have a 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 <u>must</u> still complete a Primary 1 catchment application where you can note your intention to defer/apply to defer.



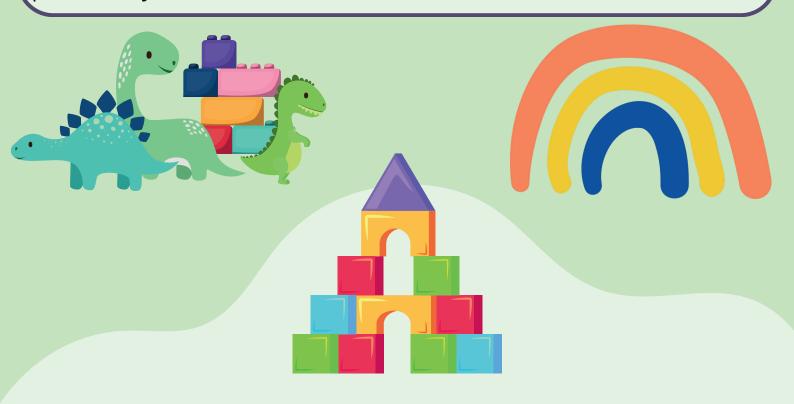
# ELC Registration for 2026/27

At the start of December you can apply for a nursery place for session 2026/27.

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 2026-27 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 2026/27 (*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 2026 of the child's pre-school year.



### 🜲 📠 Forest Kindergarten Adventures 🎉

Our Forest Kindergarten sessions have been going brilliantly, and we're delighted to share that we've now successfully completed a couple of full rotations — meaning that every child has had the opportunity to experience their very own "Woods Day!" It's been wonderful to see the children grow in confidence and independence as they explore the woodland environment. From imaginative den building and bug hunting to balancing on logs and climbing trees, children have been developing their physical skills, problem-solving abilities, and awareness of how to take positive risks safely and successfully. Staff have been so proud of the resilience, teamwork and curiosity shown by all our little explorers!

As we move into the colder months, Robert would like to share a few top tips and polite reminders to help keep everyone warm, comfortable and ready for outdoor learning:

#### Dress for the weather!

Please ensure children arrive at the Family Centre wearing warm layers — ideally thermals or base layers that can be worn under our waterproof jackets and trousers.

#### Warm feet = happy feet!

As temperatures drop, please put two pairs of socks (or thicker pile socks) on your child. If possible, we kindly ask families to send in children's own wellies on their Woods Day and take them home afterwards — our stock of spare wellies is running low!

#### **Timekeeping**

To make sure everyone can enjoy the full experience, children need to be in the nursery before 9:30am so we can head off to the woods and set up base camp together.

For our afternoon sessions, children should arrive at Base Camp by 1:00pm at the latest to allow time for lunch before the afternoon's adventures begin.

Thank you for your continued support in helping make our Forest Kindergarten a success. The joy, laughter and learning that take place in the woods are a real highlight of our week — no matter what the weather brings!





# Sponsored Dance-A-Thon



Get ready to move, groove and have some fun — our Dance-A-Thon Week is coming up!

From **Monday 10th November**, children (and staff!) will be dancing their way through the week with lots of movement, music and laughter.

Throughout the week, all children will explore different styles of dance — from action songs and nursery favourites to disco moves, ceilidh steps, and even some cheerleading fun with Active Schools JAM Dance!

Dancing is a wonderful way to support children's physical development, coordination and confidence — and most importantly, it brings lots of smiles!

We'll also be using this special week to promote health and wellbeing, encouraging everyone to keep active in a fun and creative way.

On the following page, you'll find a sponsor sheet for any families who wish to collect donations.

All funds raised will be shared between Hazeldene Family Centre Fundraising and BBC Children in Need — helping us to support both our nursery community and children across the UK.

Thank you for supporting our Dance-A-Thon — we can't wait to see everyone strut their funky stuff!



#### Sponsored Dance-A-Thon



#### Raising Money For

Hazeldene Family Centre



And

#### Children In Need 2025

Let's Get Our Dancing Shoes on and Dance, Dance, Dance for the Family Centre and for Children and Young People Who Need Our Support

| Name | Donation | Received |
|------|----------|----------|
|      |          |          |
|      |          |          |
|      |          |          |
|      |          |          |
|      |          |          |
|      |          |          |
|      |          |          |
|      |          |          |
|      |          |          |
|      |          |          |
|      |          |          |
|      |          |          |
|      |          |          |

Dance-A-thon will run from Monday 10 November to Friday 14 November 2025

Thanking You In Advance for Your Support



#### Christmas @ Hazeldene

I know you all appreciate **as much notice as possible** for your own organisation and logistics. Please see below advanced notice of our Christmas Sing A Long Concerts.

A reminder that if your child doesn't attend the Family Centre on the scheduled Sing A Long day, you can still attend the concert with them and take them home afterwards.

| Event                                    | Date                   |
|--|------------------------|
| Christmas Sing A Long Concert -          | Thursday 18th December |
| (Woodpeckers, Frogs, Butterflies, Foxes) | 1:30PM                 |
| Christmas Sing A Long Concert -          | Friday 19th December   |
| (Hedgehogs, Deer, Squirrels, )           | 1:30PM                 |

# Dates for your Diary School Term-Time Holidays Core Children not to attend

| 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    |

# Dates for your Diary

# 48-week model Family Centre Closures

#### Hazeldene Family Centre Holiday Dates 2025-26 (48 Week Model)

| In-Service                      | Monday 11th August 2025                  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| In-Service                      | Tuesday 12th August 2025                 |
| September Weekend               | Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> September 2025   |
| September Weekend               | Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> September 2025   |
| In-Service                      | Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> October 2025     |
| Last Day of Nursery - Christmas | Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> December 2025 |
|                                 | (Early closure)                          |
| Children Return                 | Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026      |
| In-Service                      | Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026    |
| Good Friday                     | Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2026        |
| Easter Monday                   | Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> April 2026        |
| May Day                         | Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2026          |
| In-Service                      | Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2026        |
| May Weekend                     | Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026         |
| May Weekend                     | Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2026         |
| Glasgow Fair                    | Monday 20th July 2026                    |