



## Head Teacher's Message

Families,

Happy New Year and welcome back! I hope you and your families had a restful and enjoyable festive break. It has been lovely to see the children return full of stories, smiles, and enthusiasm as we settle into the new term together.

I'd like to begin with a gentle reminder that Early Years applications for the 2026/27 session close at the end of January. If your child is due to start nursery next year, or you know a family who may be applying, please keep an eye on local authority updates and the upcoming deadline. Our team is always happy to help if you have any questions about the process.

You may notice some changes within our staff team over the coming weeks. As always, we are committed to ensuring consistency, warmth, and high-quality care for the children.

Can I also take this opportunity to remind all families of the importance of signing children in and out of the building each day. This is a vital part of our safety procedures and helps us ensure the wellbeing of every child in our care. Thank you for your continued cooperation with this.

Our much-loved Bookbug sessions will be continuing throughout the term, with some special events planned for families to enjoy together. These sessions are a wonderful opportunity to share stories, songs, and rhymes, and to support your child's love of books and language. Dates and times are contained in this newsletter, and we hope as many families as possible can join us.

Finally, we'd like to give you some advance notice of important dates for your diaries. Our Preschool Tie Ceremonies will take place in June and are always a very special way to celebrate our preschool children as they prepare for the exciting move on to primary school. Further details will follow closer to the time, but we wanted to give you early notice to help with planning.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support and partnership. We're very much looking forward to another happy and busy term ahead.

# Staff News



Brogan, our much-valued Business Support Assistant, has been successful in securing a new, full-time post outside of Early Learning and Childcare. Brogan has been a real support to the life of the Centre, and we are very grateful for the care, commitment and positivity she brought to her role during her time with us. She will be greatly missed by staff and families alike, but we are delighted for her as she takes this next step in her career. We wish Brogan every success and happiness in her new post and thank her sincerely for everything she has contributed to Hazeldene. 



Anna has recently left her post as a Child Development Officer to take up a different role within Early Learning and Childcare in East Renfrewshire. During her time at Hazeldene, Anna built warm, caring relationships with the children and was a valued member of our team. She will be greatly missed by children, families and staff alike. While we are sad to see her go, we are pleased that she is continuing her Early Learning and Childcare journey within the authority. We wish Anna all the very best in her new role and thank her sincerely for the contribution she made to our Centre. 



Robin has successfully secured a new post with Glasgow City Council. He will remain with us at Hazeldene until his confirmed start date with his new local authority. Robin joined Hazeldene as a Child Development Officer and oversaw the Bumblebees Group. During his time with us, he has shared a real passion for Bookbug and storytelling, creating engaging, joyful experiences that have been loved by the children. He has been a valued member of our team and will be greatly missed by children, families and staff alike. We wish Robin all the very best as he prepares for this exciting next step and thank him sincerely for the positive impact he has made during his time at Hazeldene. 

# Registers and Attendance Changes

Justin sits on East Renfrewshire Council's Culture and Climate Workstream and is working with colleagues across the authority looking at Attendance and Safeguarding. A polite reminder that as part of our efforts to further enhance our current safeguarding practices, as well as streamline our daily routines, we kindly ask **all** parents and carers to **sign their child in and out of the building**.

This ensures that we have an accurate record of attendance at all times and allow us to respond more efficiently in case of emergencies. We greatly appreciate your support with this system, and our team will be available to assist anyone who needs guidance with this process.

Should you know that your child will not be attending the Family Centre, we kindly ask that you phone or email to let us know **by 9:30am at the latest**.

Thank you for helping us to maintain a safe and well-organised environment for the children!

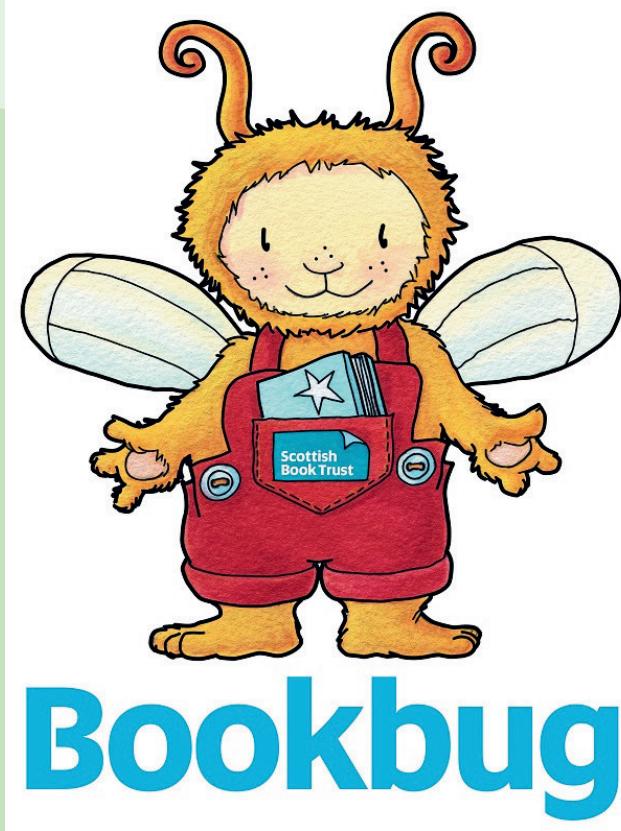


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## Bookbug Sessions 2026

Please see below the dates, times and themes for our upcoming Bookbug Sessions:

**Thursday 22nd January @ 9:30am** - Gaelic Bookbug with Miss Campbell  
Thornliebank P.S.

**Monday 2nd March @ 9:30am** - World Book Day

**Friday 20th March @ 9:30am** - Eid al Fitr

**Thursday 2nd April @ 9:30am** - Easter

In addition to these organised Bookbug Events, we will also organise **School Group Bookbugs** for our preschool families in order for you to meet other families who will be attending the same primary school as your child this August. More information to follow.

# Active Schools @ Hazeldene

We are really excited to continue our relationship with East Renfrewshire Active Schools Team. They have organised **Gymnastics** input for this term

Coaches will work with the children on the following dates in the Willow Room:

- **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January** - 10:30-11:30 / 1:45 - 2:45
- **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January** - 10:30-11:30 / 1:45 - 2:45
- **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February** - 10:30-11:30 / 1:45 - 2:45
- **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February** - 10:30-11:30 / 1:45 - 2:45
- **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> February** - 10:30-11:30 / 1:45 - 2:45
- **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February** - 10:30-11:30 / 1:45 - 2:45
- **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March** - 10:30-11:30 / 1:45 - 2:45
- **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March** - 10:30-11:30 / 1:45 - 2:45



# Reminder →

## ELC Registration for 2026/27

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.

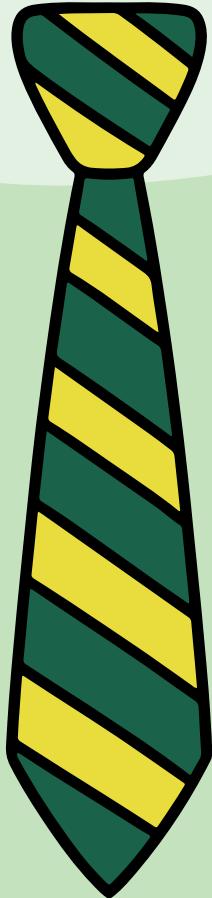


# PreSchool Tie Ceremonies

I know you all appreciate as much notice as possible for your own diaries and work commitments.

Please note that the 2026 Preschool Tie Ceremonies will take place on the following dates:

- **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 1:30 - 2:30**  
*(Butterflies; Foxes; Squirrels)*
- **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 1:30 - 2:30**  
*(Woodpeckers; Hedgehogs)*



*Hankies at the ready!!*

# Dates for your Diary

## Term 2 Core Holidays

| Event              | Date                  |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Re-open            | Wednesday 7 January   |
| Last day of school | Thursday 12 February  |
| In-service         | Friday 13 February    |
| mid term           | Monday 16 February    |
| Mid term           | Tuesday 17 February   |
| Re-open            | Wednesday 18 February |
| Last day of school | Thursday 2 April      |

## 48 week model Holidays

|                 |                                       |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 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 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2026     |