

Cart Mill Family Centre Newsletter August 2020

Welcome



We would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new children and their families and we are so happy to have our returning children and their families back for the start of our new session. We are amazed by the confidence shown by the children who have managed to say goodbye to their parent or carer at the front door. We thank you for preparing your children so well for this unusual but necessary routine.

3-5 Room Playrooms & Key Workers

We have arranged the large open plan playroom so that they are now separate rooms and this allows us to keep the children in groups with consistent adults. There are 3 indoor playrooms, the studio, the discovery room, the home room and the garden outdoors. The children and staff will spend a week in each room so that the children can receive a variety of learning experiences. The children have free access to the garden from all 3 playrooms all day so they can choose when they go outdoors and we always encourage them to go and explore.

The keyworker teams in each room at the moment are:

Toddler Room -	Sami, Cheryl, Gail, Iona and Helen
Home Room -	Sharon, Jo, Caroline, Eilidh and Carly
Discovery Room -	Sarah Jane, Linzi and Fiona MacRae
The Studio -	Jennifer and Emma
Garden -	Fiona Hannah, Lauren and Maria



The benefit of this way of working is that the children will be familiar with a team of keyworkers as well as their own one which in turn supports them to feel safe and secure. We have found the children to be very happy this week which tells us what we have planned so far is working.



Acting Depute Head of Centre - Val MacLean

We are delighted that Val was successful at interview for the acting depute post. She has taken up the post immediately and is keen to get to get to work not least of all getting to know all of the parents and carers.

WE ARE A NUT FREE CENTRE



Children who are Unwell

We always ask parents and carers to keep children at home if they are unwell and for 48 hours if they have sickness or diarrhoea. We will all have to be extra vigilant and respond quickly if we see that a child is unwell when they are with us or with you at home and be extra vigilant to the symptoms of COVID:

- New continuous cough
- Fever/high temperature
- Loss of or change in sense of taste or smell

Just to be clear, in the event that a child displays any of the above symptoms, they should not be attending and we would expect the family to follow the appropriate Test and Protect guidance. Where a child displays symptoms in nursery, their parent/carer will be contacted immediately and asked to come and collect their child. On being collected, you will be advised to follow the Test and Protect guidance and self-isolate. Our centre has a room identified within our risk assessment where children can isolate while waiting to be collected with appropriate measures in place.

Children's Learning - "New Beginnings"

The current plan for learning is focused around the new beginnings that we are all experiencing – a new term, new children, new friendships and a new nursery for many. It is a natural time of change. We will be learning new routines, fostering new relationships, developing confidence and increasing children's independence. This will underpin the planned learning across the curriculum with a particular focus on literacy and numeracy.



Holidays & In-Service Dates 2020 – 2021

Our centre is open 48 weeks of the year and most of our children have a 48 week contract. The following dates are for your information:

September

Holiday/Centre Closed - Friday 25 September 2020
Holiday/Centre Closed - Monday 28 September 2020

October

Centre Closed - In-service Day Monday 19 October

December

Closure for Christmas Thursday 24 December at 1.00pm

January

Re-open Tuesday 5th January 2021 at 8am

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February

Centre Closed - In-service 5 February 2021

April

Holiday/Centre Closed - Good Friday 2 April 2021

Holiday/ Centre closed - Easter Monday 5 April 2021

May

Holiday/Centre Closed - Monday 3 May 2021

Holiday/Centre Closed - Friday 28 May 2021

Holiday/Centre Closed - Monday 31 May 2021

July

Holiday/Centre Closed - Monday 19 July 2021

Last day of the Academic Year -18 August Friday 2021.

All children who are on the 1140 hour funded provision from a nursery class centre setting

The holidays for your child are school holidays and there is link below to the school holiday calendar for this year.

<https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/article/1203/School-holidays>



Nut Free

We are a nut free centre and ask that all parents and carers are aware of this and do not send anything in lunch boxes that contain nuts. We have several children who have a nut allergy and we want to keep them safe from harm.

Safe in the Sun

We are continuing to experience some hot weather and thank you to the many parents who have brought in sun cream labelled for their child. We would ask that you apply the first coat of sun cream to your child before you bring them in the morning or afternoon. We can then apply further coats if and when required depending on the heat of the sun and the length of time spent outdoors. We would ask that your child always has a sun hat and at least a short sleeved T-shirt to protect their shoulders from the sun. This will ensure that children can continue to enjoy their outdoor experiences



Snack Fund



We operate a snack fund which helps cover the cost of the fruit and snacks that we give the children twice a day. We ask for a voluntary donation of £2 per week which is payable through Parent Pay. We thank you in advance for your support.

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Change of Clothes

Please ensure that your child always has a change of clothes on their peg that includes pants, socks, t-shirt, shorts, leggings or joggers. Many thanks!

We will pop a note in your child's bag if they have been changed or had a minor bump. We will always call you if your child has had a bump to the head.

Important Dates

Holiday Weekend We are closed on 25th & 28th September.



Website & Twitter

We will soon be posting on the learning blog daily following our permission checks and it would be great to get you looking and commenting on the learning and information we post. Please don't be scared to add a comment as we want to know what you think about our posts.

We have a twitter site and we would love all parents and carers to follow us. You can follow us from the website or by searching for "@cartmillcentre". Please become a follower!

Children's Achievements

We would like to include your child's achievements and experiences from out with our centre in their learning journey. They are an important part of your child's learning story. Please e-mail us at schoolmail@cartmill.e-renfrew.sch.uk with a photo and a short story about an experience or achievement that you and your child would like to share.

Best wishes,
Sharon McKenna
Head Teacher

