

Hi there,

It's been another really busy week with lots of sparkle being added to Cart Mill. We've loved sharing the magic of this time of year with the many visitors joining in our Winter Craft sessions. We're sure your houses are now filled with some lovely bespoke, homemade crafts.

Applying for P1

Online applications for starting P1 in August 2024 can be made now. Please click on the link for more information and to apply:

<https://www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/apply-for-p1>

Some parents may decide to defer their child starting school until August 2025. Should you wish to defer your child you are asked to complete the online application form and indicate that your child will be deferring.

Preschool Information Evening

On Tuesday 12th December we would like to invite the parents of preschool children to an informal information evening between 6pm and 7pm. At this session we'll be talking about many things including supporting your child's early literacy, our preschool Forest School programme and tips for helping your child to become more independent.

Please don't worry if you're unable to attend, we'll have information available to share after the evening.

Gifts

Each year we are overwhelmed by the generosity of parents who give gifts to staff. We are always so thankful for your gifts but really want you to know that kind words, a homemade card made by your child or a little message via email, would be so lovely to receive and would be appreciated by us every bit as much as any bought gifts.

We are very aware that Christmas can be a very expensive, stressful time particularly when everyone is facing such challenging financial times right now and would not want more pressure on families. We really hope you understand

Dummies

Dummies can be an invaluable support to parents and babies in the early months of development. However, did you know that prolonged use of a dummy can cause potential risks to the development of speech and language? For further information: [Dummies and Speech Development](#)
If your child has a dummy maybe they could give them to Santa? We'd be happy to arrange this when Santa visits Cart Mill, please just let us know.

Christmas Lunch

On Thursday 14th December children will be able to have a two course Christmas Lunch in nursery. Our menu for this special day is on the door of the nursery.

Apply for a place at Nursery for 2024/25

All children entering their ante pre-school year in 2024/25 are asked to make an application for a place at nursery. In addition, any families wishing to change their child's existing allocation or change setting for their deferred year should also submit a form.

The form and further information is available online here: [Apply for a nursery place](#)

The application process is open until 31st January 2024.

Christmas Concert

Due to high demand we only have afternoon slots available for the 3.30-4.30pm concert, please remember to sign up. As we have a limited space we ask that you only come to the concert you've signed up for.

We can assure you that this concert will be one of the highlights of the festive period, perhaps even the year!

Early Closure

On Friday 22nd Dec Cart Mill will close at 2pm, along with all ERC buildings. To allow staff to carry out the final cleaning, take down the decorations etc. we ask that children are collected by 1.30/1.45pm.

Need Someone to Talk to?

For some families this can be a very challenging time of year where practical, monetary or emotional support may be needed to get through the days ahead. Please click on the links for information which may help [food supports in East Renfrewshire](#), [Wellbeing & Mental Health](#) or [Parentline](#)

As always, we're here to chat, help, listen and support you with some of the big issues or small niggles of life.

Have a lovely weekend with your family.

Many thanks

Angela Kerr

Acting Head Teacher