



Cardenden Nursery Newsletter

May 2026

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Keep an eye on Seesaw for key dates this term!



A message from Mrs Stewart ...

I cannot believe we have reached the last term of the school year! It's been so lovely to return from the holidays to the sunshine and warmer weather. What a difference it makes!

We have a busy term ahead with lots of opportunities for you to engage in your child's learning at Nursery. Please take some time to read through the key information below so you are aware of things that are going on.

As always, if you have any questions about anything on here, please speak to Keyworkers or Senior staff who will be able to help you.



Transition

This term, our children who are going to school in August will be involved in transition activities. There will be times when there are changes to the children in the session as we will be swapping with P1s for this to happen, but your child's nursery experience will not be affected.

Please remember to bring a hat during the warm, sunny months. See the end of this newsletter for sunscreen reminder.



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Fundraiser Hamper



Keep your eyes out for a hamper this term! All money raised will go towards Nursery Fund. You can read below about what this is used for.

Nursery Fund

Over the coming weeks you will see a donation bucket at our entrance. Nursery is free to attend and last year we stopped sending home monthly snack envelopes as we did not want families to feel pressured into paying for their child to attend. We do still require contributions to help with costs such as minibus hire, end of year gifts for children, sensory resources and to replace toys which become broken through overuse and don't have a long life span e.g. spades!

Any contributions will help us to give your child an even better nursery experience, and we are grateful for any donations, big or small.

Welly Walk Fundraiser



We are planning a Welly Walk this term to raise funds for nursery. This will be instead of Sports Day this term as we have decided this is a much better fun event to involve the whole family!

Term 4 Events

There will be no Nursery Sports this year and instead we will be organising a Welly Walk Fundraiser which we hope you can come along to and support. We also hope to celebrate the end of term with a "Picnic in the Park" and will be inviting along families to picnic with us. More information will follow in due course.

Instead of an end of year Graduation, we will be celebrating with a stay and play, which will give you a chance to celebrate with your child in the setting. This is in line with early years guidance and focuses on child led learning and experiences. Please see end of newsletter for further information.



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Now that the weather is getting better

can we please ask that your child is coming to nursery with

factor 50 sunscreen

Any donations of factor 50 sunscreen would be greatly appreciated to help keep children protected though out the day



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Look at our Nursery Garden! We have been developing this over the last wee while and have plans to continue this into the summer and beyond. Following on from the plea for donations above, these would support us to make this even better for our children.





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Why is there no Nursery Graduation?

In Scotland, early years learning doesn't have an end point. Children develop at different rates, so instead of a formal graduation, we will focus on celebrating learning in ways that feel relaxed, inclusive and joyful for every child. This may include:

- Celebrations of learning embedded in everyday practice
- Small, inclusive experiences (e.g. picnics, shared play sessions, memory books)
- Child-led reflections (photos, floor books, learning stories)
- Family engagement that is informal and welcoming, not performative

These approaches:

- honour each child's journey
- reduce pressure and anxiety
- align with GIRFEC and UNCRC principles
- meet Care Inspectorate and Education Scotland expectations

What about Sports Day?

In nursery, physical development is about confidence, enjoyment and exploration. Large, competitive sports days can be stressful for young children, so instead we focus on inclusive, playful movement experiences where every child can join in comfortably.

Current ELC guidance is clear that young children's learning and development should be play-based, child-led and process-focused, not performance-based. Physical development at nursery stage is about exploration, confidence, coordination and enjoyment, not winning, speed or comparison.

A sports day model can unintentionally shift the focus from:

"I enjoy moving my body"

to:

"I must do this correctly, quickly or publicly"

At Cardenden, learning is child-led and play-based. We follow children's interests to provide inclusive, nurturing experiences that support wellbeing and development in ways that feel right for each child so they feel **SAFE, HAPPY, HEALTHY** and can **GROW**.