‘The Fridge Page’ from Wyndford Nursery… Please use this App to access this

January 2020 newsletter in your first language

Welcome to our new style of newsletter which will be distributed on a monthly basis. You can stick it on the fridge for ease of reference…

**Need to know…**

We are delighted to welcome Lynn Hughes, our Lead Practitioner Attainment. She joins us with very considerable experience of improvement change and during the course of her interview, communicated a strong understanding of values- led practice. She will be a great asset to what is becoming a very strong team.

Please ensure that you bring your child to meet their Key Person each morning from a H&S perspective- ensuring that educators are aware that you child is present in the building. Thank you

* Nursery Garden Development Day Thursday 30th Jan at 1pm
* **Thurs 30 Jan ,1pm- Residents’ Discussion Forum- Please bring your ‘wicked issues’ forward in relation to the wider community in order for them to be addressed via appropriate channels- if you don’t, nothing will change.**
* NB Early warning- 7 and 12 Feb -In- service days
* Mon 10 and Tues 11- February holiday
* Sat 22nd Feb, 10am to 12noon- Community Coffee Morning, Wyndford Nursery,
* Weeks begin. 17 and 24 Feb- Opportunity for Parent/ Carer conversations with your child’s Key Persons
* Celebrating Robert Burns and Scots language Thurs 23 and Fri 24 Jan
* Celebrating Chinese New Year across Week begin. 27.1.20
* Participating in BIG GARDEN BIRD WATCH across Week begin. 3.2.20

**In conversation…**

* Happy New Year to all of families and friends- we wish you a happy and peaceful year ahead.
* ‘Gong xi fa cai’ to our Chinese families who will be welcoming ‘The Year of the Rat’ on 25 Jan.
* The nursery has been invited to share our practice in relation to making children’s thinking visible at the West Partnership Conference at Celtic Park in February 2020. The audience will be inter- authority and will include colleagues from Renfrewshire, East Renfrewshire, West Dunbartonshire and Glasgow.
* Outdoor Start- in addition to each group having the opportunity to participate in Nature Nursery for a fortnight block, we are keen to offer the opportunity for each group to participate in Outdoor Start on a weekly basis. This would mean that you would take your child directly to the Wellie Shed on arrival at nursery and sign them in on the outdoor fire register.
* Appropriate clothing- please ensure that your child comes to nursery dressed appropriately for current weather conditions. incl hats and gloves/ wellies and wellie socks. Please make use of the pre- loved clothing rail and speak with Mary Pat or Lynda if you can’t find what you are looking for on the rail as we have other supplies in storage. Can we please remind you of the gift of a permanent marker that everyone received at the start of the session- please use it to name your children’s footwear. As you can image, there are many pairs of black, TESCO gym shoes in our Welcome Area and they are all very similar in size! We would also like to remind families that we continue to develop children's skills of independence in self-help tasks. This becomes not a fair ask on children when their footwear is very difficult to get on and includes laces. We would be appreciative of families considering this closely when making choices about nursery clothing/ footwear.
* We are very keen to engage a group of parents/ carers/ wider family members who can support us to develop our environment for learning outdoors. Cheryl is the strategic lead for Nature Nursery, and is working in partnership with Lorna to develop our base camp outdoors. Please have a think about how you can help us- perhaps- You are green fingered? Handy with a hammer? Would like to get involved with our allotment? Have a creative streak and can see possibilities for up-cycling?
* We are working hard to create a small network of key thinkers towards the ‘future Wyndford’ community. We have recently met as a small group and will keep you in conversation. Please do come along to the nursery on the last Thursday of each month to share your thinking with Eleanor or Nick, who are well placed to take your community issues to the places where they need to be shared.
* Can the families of children who have a 52 week placement at nursery please give some consideration to a two week rest period for your child at some point across the year. For example, ensuring that a child is not potentially finishing nursery one day and beginning school the next day, having had no break across the year. As we all know, if our children are well rested, we see this in their readiness to learn.

**Learning through play…**

* As many of you will be aware, we have carried out an ‘experiment’ across Term 1 to consider more closely the extent to which children and adults become dependent on ‘stuff’. We are interested to know if the ‘stuff’ gets in the way of real learning for children i.e. stifles their creative thinking and story making, their awareness of others around them and how they might connect with them to learn from each other; their innovation and risk taking; the depth of their thinking. Similarly, to observe closely how the behaviours of educators change when the ‘stuff’ is removed and they are released and exposed to ‘think about thinking…’ and see themselves as the key provocation in extending children’s thinking.
* Our approach to supporting children’s development and learning reflects an integration of child- initiated play and adult intended pedagogy.
* We are interested in ensuring that our inter- actions as educators supports learning continuities- taking our own and children’s attention to what has gone before and building on this meaningfully; strengthening the children’s foundation in learning and capacity to see connections.
* We continue to explore the use of stories, as a narrative form of assessment, as this approach fits well with our child centred principles. Please remember to ask your child’s Key Persons about the stories that they are currently writing/ have been written by other colleagues, about your child’s learning. We are very keen that you are contributing to these as part of the on- going, collaborative assessment around your child.
* Please speak to your child’s Key Persons about our recent development, SEE SAW App, enabling access for child’s family of their electronic journal. This is a secure platform accessed only by nursery and the family of the individual child. We ‘tested’ this across last session with a couple of families and have been really delighted with their feedback. This is something which we feel all children and families should benefit from and was, in fact, commented upon during our recent inspection. Moving forward, there should be no reason for families not to know how their child is progressing in their development and learning. You should all have received your own personal QR code by now which will enable your secure access to your own child’s online journal. Please remember to add your comments. PLEASE SPEAK WITH CHERYL IF YOU HAVE ANY TROUBLE ACCESSING THIS.