

Newsletter for February 2019

ECO Schools

It gives me great pleasure to tell you that we have been awarded our Ego Green Flag! Congratulations to our Eco Group, children, staff and parents who have worked hard to help us to achieve this award. The flag will be with us soon.



To continue to support our work on Eco and enable us to reapply for our Green Flag next year, we will be taking part in Fairtrade Fortnight (25th Feb - 10th March). Over these 2 weeks, we will be buying Fairtrade bananas for our snack and will have a variety of Fairtrade products within the playrooms to prompt discussion and allow the children to become more familiar with the Fairtrade logo. The children will also take part in various activities within each playroom and there will be a Fairtrade interest table at the front door available for parents/carers to explore.

To support our Eco aim to "link with a school in another country", we will be taking part in 'Pack for a Purpose'. The 'Pack for a Purpose' organisation aims to positively impact communities around the world by assisting travelers who want to take meaningful contributions to the destinations they visit. All of the snack fund donations received throughout the month of March will be used to buy school resources, which will then be sent to meet children's essential needs in Barbados; this will have a huge positive impact on their community. For further information, please speak to a member of staff or visit <https://www.packforapurpose.org/>

Outdoors

The children have been having a lot of fun outdoors, especially with the recent snow, making snowmen and sledging. Can you please ensure they are dressed appropriately for the weather with their hats, scarves and gloves, and appropriate footwear.



Clothing

There have been a number of 'mix-up's' with children's jumpers, coats and welly boots due to children having the same ones. To avoid this happening, can you please put your child's name on all their items of clothing, boots, etc.

Cold weather conditions

Our policy for snow/icy conditions is to clear a path for you to walk up to nursery. Jean clears a path and puts salt down to help reduce slipping. Please ensure you and your children use the cleared pathway.

Fundraising

Throughout the next few months we will be fundraising for the nursery funds. Details will follow shortly. Remember to check your child's mail-drop pocket in the cloakroom, and read your letters & emails to keep updated with all the information.



Car park

Please respect that the car park is for staff and visitors only.

Battery recycling

We now have a recycle bin outside the 3-5 playroom to recycle your household batteries. Please feel free to use this.



Snack fund

Our snack fund is running low with us taking in approximately £22 per week for the whole nursery. This does not cover the cost of the variety of snacks, outings, birthday books and resources: on average, the weekly snack shopping alone can cost approximately £40. We need your support in donating £2 snack money each week to build the funds up to enable us to continue to provide children with a healthy snack each day.

Lending Library

We're looking for parent/carer volunteers to help with the Lending Library in all playrooms. If you have some spare time and would like to help, please speak to a member of staff in your child's room.



Stay & Play Days

We will be starting our 'stay & play' days, which are informal sessions to allow you the opportunity to see what sort of experiences your child participates in at nursery. It will also give you the chance to take part in play experiences, some of which can be quite messy so be prepared! No pressure, you can stay for all of the session or just for a short while. If you would like to attend, please speak to a member of staff or add your name to the sheet outside the playrooms.

My Inverclyde

Inverclyde Council's website has a new noticeboard facility where residents can find out about local services based on their home address. The page takes relevant information from a variety of sources, including the Council, NHS Scotland and public transport, pulling it all together in one place. You can find out a range of services from council bin collections, catchment schools, to the time of the next bus, based on your postcode. From the council website, <https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/> click on the 'My Inverclyde' icon for all the information.



Greenock Morton Community Trust

Paddy has returned to run the Physical Literacy Programme with the children in the 3-5 room on a Tuesday and Thursday. The children are thoroughly enjoying this experience.

Pregnancy and Baby Payments

A new grant has been launched by Social Security Scotland to help families with the cost of having children. In order to qualify for a Pregnancy and Baby Payment, you or your partner must be in receipt of one of a list of benefits. Visit <https://www.mygov.scot/pregnancy-and-baby-payment/> for more information.

February Dates for your Diary

Mon 11th Mid-term holiday (reduced service)
Tue 12th Mid-term holiday (reduced service)
Wed 13th In-Service day (nursery closed)
Wed 20th Crazy Hair day (see leaflet issued previously)
Wed 27th Stay & Play



7th March World Book Day
15th March Red Nose Day
1st April—12th April Spring Break
19th—22nd April Easter holiday