

## Staffing

We would like to welcome Cheryl Houston to the team at Larkfield Children's Centre. Cheryl is our new Senior who has taken over from Chris and will be based in the 3-5 room. Emma Henderson has been given the opportunity of a secondment as Acting Senior within another establishment for a few weeks and we wish Emma every success in her new adventure. Kim Milloy will be taking over for Emma and we also welcome her to the team. Kim is an experienced Early Years Education and Childcare Officer.

## Retirement

It is with a heavy heart that I have to tell you that Janet Gregson, our Family Support Worker, will be retiring at the end March. Janet has been with us since the centre opened in April 2011 and has supported a lot of families within the centre and in the community. She is a valuable member of our team and we will miss her dearly.



## New Application Forms

Thanks to all parents who attended the information evening at such short notice. If you have not already completed and returned a new application form to Theresa, please do so as soon as possible.

## Home Lending



Our home lending programme for the 3-5 room will commence on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February. Each child will receive either a Literacy rhyme, early Numeracy or story bag. We value your support in developing your child's learning at home through play and would love your feedback on the forms provided.

## New Playhouse

As you know, we were successful in the bid for a new playhouse generously donated by Apex Garden Buildings in Falkirk; thank you to all who put us forward for this. Unfortunately due to the vandalism, the children will not be able to play in it until it has been made safe.



## Loose Parts Play

We are looking for your help in keeping our loose parts play well stocked - the children enjoy using the natural materials to extend their imaginations and solve problems. We are looking for old jewellery, small decorative gems, corks, old picture frames, wool, lollipop sticks, old curtain hoops, wooden pegs or butter beans.

## Appropriate Clothing

Please ensure that you provide your child with clothing that is suitable for all weathers (ie waterproof and warm) as we aim for the children to be out every day, in all weather, where appropriate. We have a small selection of waterproof clothing and wellies, but not gloves and hats for the cold weather. If children have the correct clothing, it ensures that they maximise their time out in the fresh air and daylight.



## Foodbank

We are collecting for the Inverclyde Foodbank. If you have any spare non-perishable foods, please add them to the basket outside the 3-5 room.



## Car Park

Could we kindly remind all parents that the car park is only permitted for staff use. We appreciate that space is an issue and there is an entrance to the nursery from Stafford Road also. We appreciate your support with this.

## Stay and Play Sessions

Our Stay and Play sessions will start again after the February break. Look out for the Groupcall questionnaire to vote for which days and times suit you best.



## Clothing

Can we remind you to put your child's name on all their belongings please (clothing, lunch bags, hats, jumpers, etc) to ensure that these go to the correct homes as there are a number of children with the same items.

## Parent's Group

Thank you to those of you who have already signed up for our Parents Group. We are still on the lookout for more volunteers to join. The group takes place once a fortnight on a Tuesday morning and Thursday afternoon. If you would like to join, please speak to Janet or a member of staff.



## Eco

To support the children and staff being eco-friendly, we would love for all children to bring in 2 pieces of recycling per week. To support our eco aim to 'link with a school in another country', we will be taking part in 'Pack For A Purpose'. This 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' donations throughout the month of March will be used to buy school resources that will be sent to Jamaica to meet children's essential needs, and will have a big impact on their community. For further information, please speak to a member of staff or visit <https://www.packforapurpose.org/>

## February Term Break

Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	In-Service (closed to all children for staff training)
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Closed (reduced service only)
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Closed (reduced service only)
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	In-service (closed to all children for staff training)
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Re-open