

MORTLACH PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY

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Newsletter No 2 - October 2020



Empowering each other to pursue our dreams and achieve our full potential

Refurbishments

Wow! October has been quite a month! The refurbished classroom is looking fantastic. We are still waiting for our new furniture but already we can see a huge difference in the classroom. The self-choosing cupboard or “toy wardrobe” as one of the children called it, will allow the children to be more independent in their learning, not only allowing them to choose what they would like to do but also learn the life skill of having to tidy up after themselves too!

The fabulous sliding door out to the play area has already made such a difference to the way in which the children choose to play. To have free access to such a fantastic outdoor area will allow the children the opportunity to extend their learning in a way that meets their needs. We will continue to use the Eco Garden and other local amenities to help give a broad range of play based learning.

Although the door to outside is open, the classroom remains warm and cosy and the lovely cushions made from the children’s old clothing look welcoming in the cosy story corner.

Thank you to Willow for doing us the honour of opening our new nursery by cutting the ribbon over the gate. I’m sure you will all agree she carried out her duties very well! If you would like to see the press release, please search newsroom.moray.gov.uk and you will find yesterday’s press release.

Picnic Benches

On the morning of the opening, we were delighted to receive two beautifully crafted picnic benches provided by Joseph Brown Vats. These benches are a great asset to our outdoor learning experiences, allowing the children to have their snack outside and also provide somewhere where the children can partake in table top activities. I’m sure we would all like to give a heartfelt vote of thanks for this very generous contribution.

Winter Plan

As part of our Covid 19 winter plan, we aim to be outside as much as possible. Being outside is proven to help slow down the spread of Coronavirus. As you are aware the weather is definitely getting colder but I have managed to secure the purchase of 15 padded waterproof suits to help keep the children warm and dry in all weathers. We would ask that you make sure the children have gloves and hats with them as an additional layer, please do not provide scarfs as these are a choking hazard, a snood would be better. We will keep a stock of extra gloves and hats for when the children’s own items get wet. We do have some spares but would be grateful for any extras you may no longer need.

Whizz Bang Pop!

We have decided to hold a small fund raiser on the 5th November, Bonfire Night. We thought as there will be no fireworks this year we will make our own WHIZZ, BANG, POPs by holding a balloon burst event. The aim is that you sell balloons, each having a number inside. On the 5th,

these will be blown up and the children will jump on them to burst them, the last balloon burst will hold the winning ticket! The prize will be a Bonfire Night Hamper. We will ask you all to try and sell 15 balloon number each. Should you manage to sell these and would like more, then this can be arranged. We will ask the children what new resources they would like for our lovely new room. Ideas may include binoculars, stop watches and/or some bird feeder. I'm sure the children will have some great ideas!

Tooth Brushing

The HAVE YOUR SAY letters that went out last term came back with a resounding YES to restarting tooth brushing. I have been in touch with our local NHS Child Smile practitioner who will come out and provide the ladies with extra training to ensure Covid 19 regulations are in place. Hopefully we will have an update on when tooth brushing can start soon.

Nursery Vision

Thank you to everyone who replied to the HAVE YOUR SAY letter about the nursery vision. We will be discussing the various options with the children soon and they will make a decision in the coming weeks, we'll keep you posted.

Covid 19 restrictions

As Covid is not showing any signs of disappearing any time soon, please can I ask, to help with social distancing, that you line up on the right hand side of the gate. I have created some bunting (using the children's feet!) with each flag being 2m apart. If we can line up on the right hand side of the gate it will help keep nursery, cabin children and school pupils to maintain social distancing, keeping everyone safe. Thank you in advance for your support implementing this rule.

HALLOWEEN

Last but not least **Halloween!!!** Please bring your child dressed for a Halloween Party on Friday. Sorry but no masks are permitted and please make sure the outfit is comfortable for the children to wear all morning. We won't be able to 'dook' for apples but there will be lots of other fun activities going on. Let's hope they have a spooktacular day!

Dates for your diary:

30th October

Halloween Party

5th November

Whizz, Bang, Pop fund raising balloon burst!

16th November

In-Service Day

18th December

Last Day of Term

Thank you for your support

Mitch Fraser

Nursery Manager

Self-belief **M**otivate **I**nspire **L**earning for Life **E**quality