

MORTLACH PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY

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Mortlach Nursery Newsletter November/December 2024



Teamwork Makes the Dream Work

October Learning

Thank you to everyone for your continued support this term. A huge thank you to everyone who has sponsored the children for their Bikathon, you raised a phenomenal £999! We have bought 4 lovely new bikes and the children are very much enjoying using them

Dufftown always celebrated Remembrance so well, and it was lovely to see the children create so many lovely poppies and share them with the local businesses in the town. I am sure you will all agree the poppies looked magnificent!

The staff had a super inservice training with the Speyside ASG. We were learning how we can engage parents in outdoor learning! Watch this space!



Staffing

We are very sad at the prospect of losing Mrs Darroch at the end of November. She has been a very much valued member of Mortlach Nursery since 2020. She will be a real miss for the children, staff and the families but we wish her every happiness in her new home by the coast. There are now two temporary post available for staff at the nursery (until June 2025), one 15hr PSA post and a 20hr support worker post. Mrs McConnachie will fill the part-time early years practitioner post on a temporary basis. Hopefully we can fill the two positions quickly but I ask for your patience during December as we are on reduced staffing levels.

We continue to have Nicola, our student on a Wednesday & Thursday and we now also have Kirsty on a Friday, both lovely girls and we are very lucky to have them.

Bowling

The children have loved learning how to bowl over the past few weeks. We are planning to hold the tournament on Tuesday 26th November at 1.15pm. Come along to the bowling and watch the children have a wee practice then take part in a competition. Bring your indoor shoes and your child can then share their learning and show you how to bowl. We will then return to nursery, give out the trophies/medals and have a wee cup of tea. Everyone welcome (grandparents too!).



Reverse Advent Calendar

Mortlach nursery really enjoy supporting our local community and we want to hold a “reverse advent calendar” again this year to support the Community Larder. We would be very grateful for any donations for the larder to make Christmas a wee bit easier for those families struggling during this seasonal period. If you would like to donate, please bring your donation to nursery by Friday 13th December. Thank you in advance.

Snack Fees

The Scottish Government has asked all Local Authorities to cease asking parents for snack fees as they advise nursery education should be free to all. The Scottish Government provide 18.8p per child per day for a half piece of fruit. The governments nutritional guidance Setting the Table advises that children should also be provided with a carbohydrate each day to accompany the fruit. Moray Council has agreed to pay 30p per child per day to supply the carb. Mortlach Nursery have been charging 50p per day. This money not only paid for the carb but paid for the children to have trips, parties, cinema visits, treats and everyday consumabls such as spare pants, socks etc. The 20p shorfall amounts to around £600 a year. I will be putting out a Have Your Say to gather ideas for making up the shortfall as we do not want the children missing out. Get you thinking hats on!



Christmas Planning! (update)

This is what we have so far:-

- **4th December** - Cinema & Scribbles – we will travel on the service bus to Elgin. The children will enjoy a lovely lunch at Scribbles and return to Mortlach in time for the end of the nursery session.
- **11th December** – Christmas Lunch
- **19th December – Nursery Christmas Party** – 1pm until 2.50pm. Parents and intivted to come along and see Santa give out his gifts at 2.30pm. All Parents welcome.

Bits & Pieces

The colder weather has finally arrived! Please make sure the children have plenty layers on, the sliding door is open most of the time and the temperture in the room does drop. Can I also ask you to ensure that your child has his/her name on their nursery jumper. Can I also remind everyone that we ask you to encourage your child to bring only one transitional toy each day.

Thank you for your understanding.



Dates for the diary.

25th November – Bowling Tournament 1.15pm

4th December – Trip to Cinema and Scribbles

11th December – Christmas lunch

13th December – last day for Reverse Advent Calendar.

19th December - Xmas Party

20th December –last day of term

6th January – First Day of Term 3

Mitch, Christine, Michelle, Laura, Kristine, Nicola & Kirsty.

Mitch Fraser

Mitch Fraser

Nursery Manager

Helpful Achieving Perseverance Positivity (be) Yourself