

# MORTLACH PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY

Mortlach Nursery Newsletter 6  
February 2026



## Teamwork Makes the Dream Work

**Well, January started with a bang and a week of snow days...however, the term has been really busy!**

It is lovely to see the new children settled into the nursery routines. The older children have been super role models, showing the younger children our daily routine.

The weather continues to be cold and dreich but it is January and we continue to make the most of outside play, even in the puddles and mud (thank you for your patience with the wet and muddy clothing!).

The children enjoyed a lovely Burn's Supper and have worked hard on creating tartan and Scottish flags in celebration of the Baird.

Our weekly visits to the library continue to be a success and the children have enjoyed choosing a book for their story corner.

### Staffing

I am delighted to inform you that Arlene Strathdee is joining our team on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February. Arlene is a very experienced practitioner and will take over Mrs Milne's role of supporting the children over lunch time, making sure that all the children have a positive lunch time experience.

### New Windows



So...the new windows are going to be put into nursery week commencing the 9<sup>th</sup> February and should take 2 weeks. We are going to have to make several changes to our practice during this time. We are moving into the Thistle Work Room. As the children will have no free access to outdoor,

Christine will timetable blocks of time and we will endeavour to ensure the children get lots of opportunities outside.

We will have additional staffing in place as the children will have to be accompanied to the toilets, I imagine, these will be the highlight of the day and we will spend a lot of time tripping back and forth!

Lunches will continue to be served in the classroom and the dishes will just go back to the canteen for washing. For snack, we are going to make it as easy as possible and provide snacks that need little to no preparation i.e. whole pieces of fruit, mini pastries, mini bags of cheddars etc. These, we appreciate, are not always the healthy option but for infection control, that is what we will have to provide over the period of time we are in the other room.

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> (please note change of date!) we are going to go to Elgin to the new STEM centre, spend the morning there, have lunch at the library and then home on the bus. A permissions/Have Your Say will be going out later this week.

We are proposing to use the Brown Door for access but due to the works, this may change, but we will keep you informed. Remember safety is paramount, so please make sure, especially during the decant, that your child is handed over to a member of nursery staff.

### Chinese New Year Celebrations



On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, I have arranged for us to visit Elgin Plainstones, to watch the Chinese New Year Celebration. This trip will help the children have a better understanding of the Chinese New Year and hopefully, bring the celebrations to life for them. I have been a couple of times, and it is very good!

The bus will pick us up at 10.30am from Nursery and we will leave, after the celebrations, around 1.30pm. Mrs Urquhart will provide us with a packed lunch that day. We would be delighted if you would like to meet us in Elgin that day and watch the celebrations with us, unfortunately, we cannot offer you transport. Again, a permission/Have Your Say will be coming your way soon.

### Winter Bugs and Absences

A wee reminder that if your child is ill, that you contact the nursery on 01340820065 to inform the staff team that your child will be absence. Alternately you can email Mortlach Primary, [admin.mortlachp2@moray-edunet.gov.uk](mailto:admin.mortlachp2@moray-edunet.gov.uk), and let Mrs Thain know, she will then pass on to us. Can I please ask that you do not contact staff directly as this can cause confusion. We have a duty of care, and we are duty bound to call you if your child does not attend nursery.



We are just coming up to the time for winter bugs, if your child is vomiting or has a tummy upset, the minimum period they should be off is 48hrs.

### Bits and Pieces



As the weather remains wet and cold, please ensure that your child has on plenty of layers and that they have a change of clothing in their bag.

Mitch, Christine, Laura, Emma, Arlene & Emma!

*Mitch Fraser*

**Nursery Manager**

**DATES FOR THE DIARY**

**12<sup>th</sup> February – Inservice**

**13<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> February – Mid Term Break**

**17<sup>th</sup> February – Trip to Elgin**

**23<sup>rd</sup> February – Chinese New Year trip to Elgin**

**27<sup>th</sup> March – Last Day of Term**

**13<sup>th</sup> April – Term 4 Starts**