



# Nursery Newsletter

September – December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are almost at the October holiday and can't quite believe so many weeks have passed already. Auchinloch Nursery Class have been very busy. We have welcomed lots of new children and everyone has adapted so well to our new routines.

We have an exciting winter term ahead of us and lots of information to share with you. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to ask a member of staff. We are very happy to help.

Many thanks,

*The Nursery Team*

## Outdoor/Messy Play

Our children are outside playing for large parts of the day and whilst each child has a waterproof suit to protect clothing, sometimes the water works its way underneath. As the weather becomes colder, we also ask that children wear warm outdoor clothes to nursery including hats and gloves. If you have spare welly boots, these could be left in nursery too.

When we are in the nursery playroom, we cook, paint and play with other "messy" resources. Please assume that your child won't come home pristine, so a change of clothes kept in their bag for these incidents and for toilet accidents is helpful.

## Nursery Fund

Every month we kindly ask parents to donate to our nursery fund. This fund is used each week to buy healthy snacks, food for cooking, baking and gardening supplies. We also use this to buy a token gift for children's birthdays and Christmas and resources for any other special events and days throughout the nursery year. Our suggested donation is £7 and will be collected at the beginning of each month. A money box will be placed at the gate at drop off and pick up time on the first few days of each month. We will put it out after the October week for anyone who would like to donate before November.

## My Learning Journey

We have discontinued the use of the Online Learning Journal website and instead are trialling a new version through Microsoft Sway. The nursery staff are currently populating each child's 'Learning Journey' with photographs and information for the past few weeks. When this is ready, you will be sent a personalised link to access the Learning Journey. It can only be viewed by those with the link so if you intend on sharing it with family members please be mindful that they will be able to continually view up to date information. Sway acts in a similar way to a blog and automatically updates. Rather than informing you every time something new has been added, we ask that you either check in when ever suits you or wait until the first week of each month when new steps on the journey will have been added.

We share lots of photographs and videos on our school Twitter page. Please follow us, @AuchinlochPrim1. If you don't use Twitter you can view our feed through the school webpage. [www.auchinloch.n-lanark.sch.uk](http://www.auchinloch.n-lanark.sch.uk)

Thank you to our families who have emailed or sent in a family photo. The children have enjoyed talking about their families and these are proudly on display in our playroom. For any children who have recently started nursery or are about to, we would appreciate it if you could email a family photograph to Ms McCrossan at [gw09mccrossanmegan@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw09mccrossanmegan@glow.sch.uk). Thank you



We are planning a Halloween fun day on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October. Children can come to nursery in fancy dress or Halloween themed clothes if they choose. There will be lots of Halloween themed activities in the morning and a Halloween party in the afternoon. We are sure our children will enjoy a spooky day at nursery!

## Play on Pedals

Our children have been participating in Play on Pedals this term. They have been learning about the different parts of a bike, how to wear their helmet correctly and ride bikes safely. We use balance bikes in the nursery as a first step towards pedal cycling. Please ask your child about this at home and encourage them to play on their bike if they have one.

## Christmas

We can't celebrate Christmas in our usual Auchinloch style as we are unable to invite parents and families in to be our audience, but we won't let Coronavirus stop us. We have adapted and have a plan so watch this space! More information will come out nearer the time. The nursery Christmas party and lunch will go ahead as normal with dates to be confirmed. 🎄

## Health and Wellbeing

Every month we have a different health and wellbeing focus. We are working through the SHANARRI wheel. September was Safe, October is Healthy and in November we will move onto Achieving. These are introduced through the adventures of Sid and Shanarri. You can watch the stories at home on <http://www.sidandshanarri.co.uk/index.html>

We also use the SHANARRI wheel to set health and wellbeing targets for your children. Your child's Keyworker will meet with you every few months to discuss these targets under the headings safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included. If there are any new and significant events in your child's life, please let us know as these will help us form the targets. If there are things, under these headings, your child is working towards at home we can support this in nursery too.



## Wooden Playhouse

Our children love outdoor play and particularly enjoy playing in our wooden playhouse in the nursery garden. Unfortunately, wood worms have moved in and eaten away at the floor, so we can no longer use it. It will soon be dismantled and removed. We would love to replace it right away but will need to do a bit of fundraising first. Early in the new year the children will participate in a sponsored event to raise money. Hopefully, we'll raise enough to replace it in the spring.