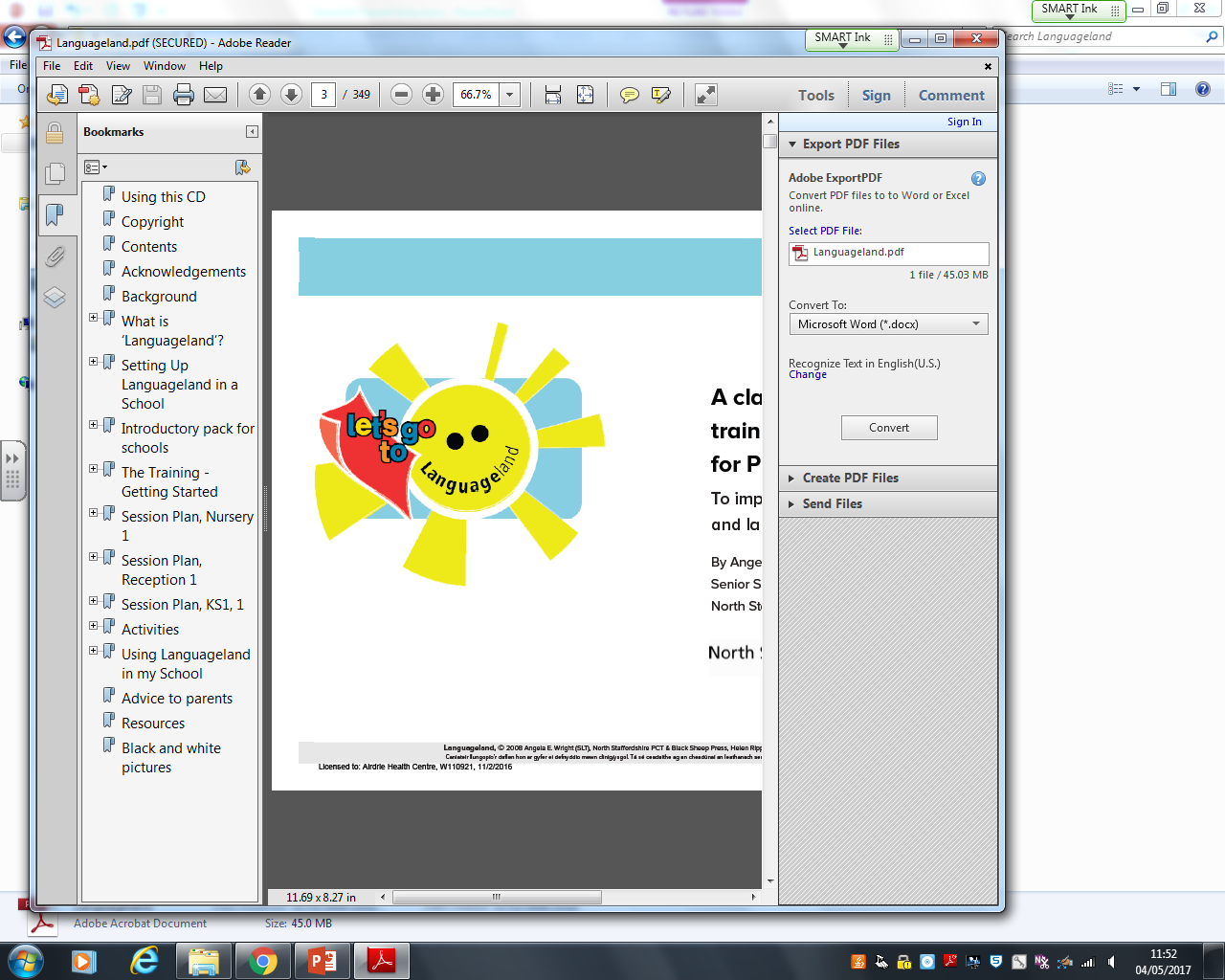
**Newmains Family Learning Centre**

**Mid Term 2020 Newsletter**

**Language Land**

Lorraine & Clare will be introducing our next block of “Language Land” at the end of February, to the children in the Sunshine Room.

This is a fun and interactive group which helps support children’s language and communication skills. If your child is chosen to take part in our next group, then they will receive a letter regarding this in the near future.



**Little Learners**

The Little Learners have been welcoming and getting to know new friends. We have also said goodbye to a few children who have made their transition to The Sunshine Room. The children are having fun exploring the layout of the playroom and are familiarising themselves with the nursery rules and routine. Recently we have had the opportunity to develop our spacial awareness as we practice our movement and balance skills on the bikes.

Our lending library is available on a Wednesday morning & afternoon for children to borrow a variety of books, story and exploration bags.



**Sunshine Room**

The children have been learning about the celebrations of Robert Burns Day and the Polish celebration of Grandparents Day. The children have been learning about why Grandparents are special to us and the children invited them in for a lovely performance of some old Scottish songs. It was a very successful day and everyone have a lovely time. We have also been looking closely at various rhymes and learning about rhyming words. The children have had the opportunity to look at lots of different tartans and learn about patterns and how to create their own. They tasted lots of various Scottish foods at snack and really enjoy them.

Can we please ask parents to wait till the end of the nursery session before entering the playroom as children are taking part in learning experiences at this time. Thank you



**Fruit/Snack donations**

Thank you so very much to everyone who has donated snack items recently. We are very grateful but have decided to remove the snack donation basket and are hoping to reinstate the free fruit from NLC.



**Community Resilience Wall**

Lorraine is currently working on a display to support our families. This area will consist of local supports and contacts for parents to access when required.

**Tumble Time**

Tumble Time has been a huge success with the children and the feedback from parents has been positive with regards to the health benefits and motivation of the children.

We have therefore secured another block of Tumble Time with Julie, every Friday morning and afternoon. This will run till Easter.

We would like to remind parents that they are no longer required to pay the £1.50 fee for this as the nursery will be paying for this now.

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**Displays**

The staff spend valuable time creating displays within the playrooms and corridors, to allow families to see what the children have been learning and also to pass on and share information.

We would kindly ask that you encourage your child not to remove any blue tack from the displays, as this ruins them.

Thank you for your support in this matter.



**Staff News**

We welcome Claire Grierson who is now our Acting Head of Centre at the moment and will be joining us until at least the summer holidays. Karen Gibb has now returned to her post of Depute Head of Centre. Lorraine Pretswell is our full time Lead Practitioner. Well done to Julie Thomson and Anne Donaldson who were recently successful in gaining a job share post of Lead Practitioner here at Newmains.

**All Playrooms**

The nursery is not insured to have children enter the playrooms without a member of staff being present. We would therefore ask that parents wait for staff to open the door to the playroom both at the beginning and end of each session. Thank you!

**Lunches**

Can we please remind all parents to supply an ice pack within their child’s lunch as their lunchbags are stored on a shelf and not in a fridge.

Thank you

**Nursery Blog**

Please remember to visit our nursery blog and twitter account as they are updated frequently with information and events.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/newmainsflc/>

**Twitter**

@Newmains FLC

Can all parents please remember that staff are governed by the SSSC and are prohibited to communicate with any parents through social media. Can parents/carers please refrain from messaging or sending friend requests to any staff. Thank you

**School**

All children should now have been registered for school and will begin transition visits in the very near future.   
Please keep an eye on information in the corridor for transition dates and you may also receive information direct from your child’s school.

**Food Bank**

We are hoping to start our own Food Bank within the nursery to support families that find themselves in need. If you find yourself at a point of crisis and feel like you require support, please speak to a member of staff in confidence and we will do what we can to support you.

**Uniform Bank/Coat Bank**

We are going to be providing an area within the Parents Room for pre loved school uniforms and coats. We are hoping this will provide a free service for families to access items they may require for their children. Please feel free to hand in any donations of these items that you no longer need and to take any items that you may require.

**Parents Counselling Service**

A Parents counselling service has become available and sessions will be at a venue in Hamilton. Please speak to a member of staff if you feel this is something you would like to access.

**VIG**

We are looking for some families to take part in our VIG initiative. This is a therapeutic approach to enhancing relationships and communication. Please see the banner outside the Little Learners playroom for more information.

**Mindfulness**

All staff have almost completed the ‘Do-BeMindful Foundation Programme’ . Once all staff have completed the 5 required modules we will begin to deliver this to the children within the nursery. This initiative develops awareness, self- regulation and resilience in staff, parents and children and encourages a calm, kind and compassionate culture within our centre.

**Forest Kindergarten**

Forest sessions are now going to be held by your child’s keyworker and children will visit the Forest within their keyworker groups. Please look out for information in the future in regards to this.



**Yoga Kids**

Lorraine and Julie Thomson have recently attended Yoga Kids training and will be delivering this to the children very soon.

**STV Appeal & Cash for Kids**

We would like to thank STV & Cash for Kids, for donating a generous sum of money to us before Christmas to help pay for the children’s Christmas treats and gifts.

**Parent Champions**

We are looking to restart our Parents Champions Group within the Centre. This would enable us to consult with parents and for parents to share their ideas and offer their support to the nursery in any way they can. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 26th February at 9.30am and 1.15pm. We really hope to see lots of you there.

**Baby Sensory**

We are introducing a Baby Sensory class for parents & their babies from birth to 13 months. Classes start on Tuesday 25th February from 9-30 - 10.30am in the nursery and are free. These classes are very informal and will be run by one of our parents, Sarah. These will help your baby to build connections in their brain, develop their self awareness and support physical skills.

**Play on Pedals**

We will be starting a new block of this very soon in The Sunshine Room. Play on Pedals teaches children about the parts of a bicycle, how to fit a helmet correctly and the basics of looking after their bikes. Through a series of fun and imaginative activities, they will be helped to develop their balance and control skills, often using a pedal-less balance bike. Play on Pedals has strong links to the curriculum for excellence and many children have learned to cycle a 2 wheeler by the end of this programme with the learning continuing at home.

**Solihull Approach**

The Solihull Approach Parenting Group (also known as Understanding Your Child's Behaviour) is a universal parenting intervention for any parent with a child between the ages of 0 and 18. Parents attend 10 weekly sessions. Dates for our next session will be sent out soon.

Jen Dawson (Our Community Learning and Development worker), who delivers this with another staff member also runs frequent courses within the centre. If you wish to take part in any of these, please speak to your child’s Keyworker.

**Learning Journals**

All children have an online learning journal where their learning, pictures and progress are logged and linked to the curriculum. Parents are able to access this from home and can comment on their children’s learning. Please ensure a member of management has your email so that you can be linked to your child’s account.



**Loose Parts Play**

We practice ‘Loose   
Parts Play’ here at Newmains. Loose partsplay is a type of play that supports invention, creativity, problem solving and offers a sense of wonder to children. They are materials that can be moved, carried, combined, redesigned, lined up, and taken apart and put back together in multiple ways. This alleviates any pressure that a child may feel from other toys and offers them complete freedom to play however they choose. You may see these loose items around the nursery such as suitcases, wooden logs, tyres, crates, pegs, buttons. We are always very grateful of any loose parts donations.

***Dates for Your Diary***

Wednesday 19th February:- Red and Green Group Parents Forest meeting – 11.15am/1.15pm.

Wednesday 26th February: – Parent Champions Meeting – 9.30am/1.15pm.

Red and Green groups Forest visits begin.

Thursday 27th February: - St Brigid’s buddies visiting.

Language Land sessions begin.

Thursday 5th March – World Book Day!

St Brigid’s Buddies visiting.

‘I Can’ group starts – 9.30am/1.15pm.

Thursday 12th March:- St Brigid’s buddies visiting.

Children to visit Newmains P.S.

Wednesday 26th February:- Parent Champion Meetings

9.30am & 1.15pm

Thursday 2nd April:- Children to visit Newmains P.S.

Friday 3rd April:- Easter Holidays begin.

Monday 20th April:- Children return after Easter holidays.

Tuesday 21st April:- Blue and Yellow Group Parents Forest meeting – 11am/1.15pm.

Wednesday 29th April:- Blue and Yellow Group Forest visits begin.

Friday 19th June 2020:- Nursery Graduation!

Tuesday 23rd June 2020:- Fun Day!