**Shotts Family Learning Centre**

**Parent.com & Groundforce**

**Minute of Meeting Thursday 4th March 2015**

**8.50 am & 1.10 pm**

Present Kirsteen Boyd, Morning Parent

Linda Bryson, Morning Parent

Suzanne Gardiner, Afternoon Parent

Chair Person Jackie Fulton, Depute Head of Centre

Jackie opened today’s meeting and thanked those for their attendance.

Apologies received from Rochelle Marshall.

**1. Early Level**

1. **Learning & Teaching**

The children will be learning the importance of recycling, reusing and reducing energy in the context of the playroom and outdoor environment. They will be using the story medium of Michael Recycle and Litterbug Doug to help them understand why they should care for their environment.

1. **Early Level Transitions**

Dates have now been finalised from Stane Primary School and Dykehead Primary School regarding children’s transition visits to their schools. Information will be provided to parents direct from the school. Parents/carers will have the responsibility of taking their child to and from their visit.

1. **Admissions 2015/16**

Letters of allocated places will be issued on the 20th March 2015 for all places for the forthcoming academic year.

1. **Jenny and the Bear**

There will be small anonymous survey conducted within the next few weeks to provide a base line for the work the centre will be carrying out with Lynn Adams, Health Improvement Senior from NHS. The focus of this work will be develop a resource to help families understand the importance of creating a smoke free environment.

1. **Big Chef Little Chef**

These sessions are being delivered in conjunction with Jen Dawson, Home Link Worker, CLD commencing on Thursday 12th March in the local Community Centre, where there is adequate space for all participants attending the course. Supporting the delivery will be Amanda Watters.

1. **Forest School Sessions**

Nicola Ledwidge, Forest School Leader will be working with a small group of parents and children over the forthcoming weeks.

**2. Birth to Three**

1. **Cultural NL**

Katy has one more week left to work with families in the birth to three provision.

1. **Book Bug Rhyme Time**

Sessions have recommenced on a Wednesday afternoon from 1 pm 1.20 pm.

1. **Family Learning Sessions**

Practitioners will be consulting with parents to plan for the new block of family learning sessions.

1. **Outdoor Clothing**

Parents were shown the high quality outdoor clothing which we have replaced for children in the birth to three provision, although expensive they are robust and of a high quality. Jackie explained that the clothing used in the early level are no longer fit for purpose as we have been using them for approx 10 years, purchase of new clothes has previously been raised.

1. **Forest School Sessions Parent & Child**

It is anticipated that the Forest School Sessions will recommence after the Easter holiday period, led by Susan Stewart, Forest School Leader.

**3. Whole Nursery**

1. **Blog**

The Blog is very much in its infancy and is hoped that it will be a useful tool for sharing info. Enrolment forms cover children’s images being used, with no parent coming forward following article in latest newsletter to refuse their child’s images.

1. **ECO Forthcoming Assessment**

Eco Scotland will be in the centre within the next few months to review our assessment for our third Green Flag.

1. **Easter**

All the children will receive an Easter Egg from the Easter Bunny on the last day of term.

1. **Outing**

A consultation will be given to families regarding a proposed end of term outing, suggestion s Almond Valley, Edinburgh Zoo or Safari Park. As all of these are quite costly it was suggested that perhaps Rochelle’s idea of a local social fundraising event could take place to help cover cost of transport. Jackie to ask admin staff to prepare a consultation leaflet, Lynn to speak further with Rochelle to explore suggestions.

Parents could also have the option of paying up the cost of the outing during Toy Fund collection days, by doing so the cost could be spread over a few months.

**5 Children and Young Person Bill 2014 600 hrs for 2 yr olds**

All eligible two years from within a workless household where either parent is in receipt of an eligible benefit will be entitled to free 600hrs of Early Learning and Childcare. Councils have until August 2015 to make the necessary provision for the implementation of this Bill. Children may be placed in any registered provider, Private Nursery, LA Family Learning Centre, Childminder orPlaygroup. An application must be sent to Early Years and Childcare.

1. **Gala Processions 2015**

It was agreed that this year there could be a Family Learning Centre walking group joining the Gala Processions. No theme has yet been agreed.

**Ground force**

**AGM to be set for the last Friday in March. Secretary to send out invitations to parent/staff committee members.**

**Date of next meeting Tuesday 21st April 2015 at 8.50 am and 1.10 pm.**