

# Shotts Family Learning Centre

August 2015



*Unfortunately the summer sunshine did not make an appearance this year, however we hope that you had a lovely summer holiday, regardless of the weather.*

## Welcome

We would like to welcome all the new children who attend for their induction with their families week beginning the 29th July 2015.

This was a great opportunity to meet you and your child and to begin to plan together their learning journey whilst at the centre.

We hope that you will enjoy your time with us.

## 600hrs Early Learning & Childcare for 2yr olds

From August 2015, the criteria for free places is changing to benefit more families.

Your child could be entitled to almost 600 hours per year, free early learning and childcare, under the new criteria.

Your 2 year old may be eligible if one of the following apply.

You are in receipt of one of these benefits:

- Income support

- Income based job seekers allowance
  - Any income related element of the Employment and Support Allowance
  - Child Tax Credit, but not Working Tax Credit and your income is less than £16,010 per year
  - Maximum Child Tax Credit and maximum Working Tax Credit and your income is less than £6,240
  - Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Or they are
- Looked after
  - Under a kinship care order
  - Live with a Parent Appointed Guardian

For more information on how to apply

[www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk](http://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk) or 01236 812281

## Design Work Birth to Three Nursery

The major adaptations in the birth to three nursery are almost complete, which means that we will now be able to accommodate an extra 10fte 2 year olds per session.

As there will be approx 26 families attending each session we must ask that if you bring your child by

buggy and you are returning home that where possible you take it with you, as the reception area will be unable to store of all them and we can't have them left outdoors due to incremental weather.

Why not pop in for yourself and see the changes made.

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## CLD Home Link

Jen Dawson CLD Home Link Worker would like to extend an invitation to meet parents and carers for an informal Coffee Morning & Afternoon to discuss the different types of sessions she can offer to support Family Learning within the centre over the next academic year.

**Where:**

*Parent Room*

**When:**

*Thursday 2nd*

**Sept**

**Time:**

*10 am & 2 pm*

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## Toy Fund Donations

Each week Nancy or Lorraine will be available in the early level cloakroom area to collect any toy fund contributions at the beginning of the session on a Tuesday and Thursday.

In the Sunshine and Rainbow Room there is bank at the side of the register to record your

donation on a weekly basis.

These donations are the only source of direct cash which enable practitioners to plan small outings, to buy ingredients for baking and playdough and when necessary to purchase items for the snack.

If you prefer not to donate an amount and would rather purchase a resource item, we have included a suggested list to chose from:

*Plain flour*

*Food colouring*

*Food scent*

*Vegetable oil*

*Cinammon, ginger or currants*

## Learning & Teaching

Each week practitioners will continue add to the Blog, what and how our young infants and children have been learning at nursery.

This has proven to be a great way to keep up to date with your child's

learning.

Children's names will not be used in these post to ensure we protect anonymity. If at any time you wish your child's image not to be displayed please inform their key person.

You will notice on return that the children's group Welcome areas may have changed slightly. This was to accommodate greater choice and challenge for learning during the children's play

## Staffing 2015

Until permanent posts are filled the allocated staffing compliment in each group/area will remain the same with no changes. The centre currently has two temporary early learning practitioner posts and two new ones.

Joining the early level team this session to support the remainder of Pamela's maternity leave will be Emma Burns.

Leaving to go on maternity leave in the autumn term will be ASNa Simmone.

Congratulations is extended to Siobhan as she married Gary Millward in July and to Pamela and Tommy who be-



## End of term outing Blair Drummond Safari

The end of term outing proved to be a roaring success where the sun shone and everyone had a fabulous day.

The only comments which parents felt could be improved upon was the time the coaches had to make the return journey. This is something we will take on board if we are planning

something similar next year, however to get dates and coaches confirmed this is something we should consider this item on the agenda at the first Paretn.com meeting in the new session, dates of which will follow on the nursery Blog and via text message.

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## Groundforce Committee

The Groundforce Committee was formally dissolved following a Special General meeting called at the end of last term. We would like to extend a huge thanks to the support of this committee who were all formally in post until this time. Without their

tirelessly fundraising events until July 2014 we would have been unable to purchase the new climbing apparatus which was installed at the end of the summer holidays. I am sure that you agree that the children will have lots of

fun and challenge learning outdoors. A full risk assessment has been undertaken and will be formally adopted by all practitioners to ensure the safety of your child, however at times small incidents may occur. Can we ask that you do not let your child play in the garden or on any of the apparatus before their session commences or after it finishes. Thank you for your cooperation as the safety of all users is of paramount importance .

## Snack Bar



Fresh fruit served daily

The reintroduction of the snack bar shopping list has proven to be a

huge success, whereby the children have access to an abundance of fresh daily fruits both indoors and out.

Many thanks to your continued support in encouraging the eating of five a day.

Suggested fruit items:

- Bananas
  - Strawberries
  - Apples
  - Pears
  - Plums
  - Apricots
-

## Shotts Family Learning Centre

Shottskirk Road  
Shotts  
ML7 4ER  
Tel: 01501 826713  
Email: shots@ea.n-  
lanark.sch.uk

This session may we ask that you provide a pair of wellingtons for your child to wear when they are learning outdoors in wet or muddy weather. These should be clearly marked with their name on the inside and stored in their shoe basket. This will save confusing and encourage the children to become more independent and responsible for their learning and development.

**In Service Closure**  
**Friday 14th and**  
**Monday 17th August**



Have you changed  
any of your contact  
details?

Please inform  
Nancy or Lorraine  
of all new telephone  
numbers, addresses or  
emails.

Remember to  
check the Blog  
on a weekly  
basis as all  
information will  
now be posted  
here along with  
regular text  
messages.

# Nursery Clothing

Shotts Family Learning Centre now has a new supplier for nursery clothing. Please note this is not compulsory for your child to wear hence the reason why we have left the choice of colour open to individual families.

The new term always brings a number of children's bags which have the same character or logo. Can we ask that all bags are clearly labeled on the inside

along with a complete change of labeled clothing. These can either be taken home at the end of each session or left in the cloakroom area, however the centre is not liable for any missing items items of clothing .

Play indoors and out can often be "messy" therefore we would recommend that you do not send your child to nursery in the best clothing or shoes.

Indoor shoes are best if they are rubber soled with a velcro strap and outdoor trainers similar. This will ensure that your child can easily change from indoor to outdoor footwear without too much frustration.

Thanks for your cooperation at this very busy time of year with a whole new intake.