

# Shotts Family Learning Centre

## Family Learning Sessions

November 2015

A huge thank you for your participation in engaging in you child's learning over the recent months.

In completion of your child's Personal Plans we have had almost 85% consultations taken place. Areas for development are now firmly embedded in our planning for children's learning. The remaining outstanding consultations will be scheduled to take place throughout November.

The ongoing programme of Play on Pedals which was delivered prior to the October break has once again proven to be

extremely successful. The children are now fully aware of the safety aspects of ensuring their bikes are not faulty prior to use and that their helmets are firmly in place. This year we have an increase in the number of children who can now pedal a two wheeler bike.

A representation from both morning and afternoon parents/grandparents and children have recently been involved in a photo shoot for the launch of the Play on Pedals with Cycle Scotland, Shotts Family Learning Centre is certainly leading the way with their bespoke programme for children.

Unfortunately the Big Chef Little Chef sessions have been postponed as there were only two families who had signed up to the programme with Jen Dawson, CLD worker.

A resounding success has been the final Family Learning sessions of the Forest School. Why not take a closer look at the Forest School learning wall in the cloakroom area or keep up to date with the programme on the BLOG. The Forest School will now take a break until after the new year.



Engaging in your child's learning

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## Using community assets to create a purposeful early level transition

The learning community has received some very positive comments regarding the recent transition event which took place on 29th October in Calderhead High School. The event was opened by

Lorraine Fisher, Education Officer from North Lanarkshire who was equally impressed with the progress the Shotts Learning Community has made in creating a seamless transition for nursery children.



Investing in  
**Nurturing**  
lives & communities

# Birth to Three Area Admissions & 600 hrs entitlement

The Wishaw & Shotts Birth to Three Area Admissions will take place on Monday 9th November 2015 in Wishaw Family Learning Centre. The purpose of this meeting is to review all current children placed in the centre and to allocate new requests for assistance in accordance with North Lanarkshire Council's admissions policy.

The admissions panel consists of Craigneuk, Newmains, Shotts and Wishaw Family Learning Centre's heads of establishments along with the team leaders from Wishaw and Shotts Health Visitors.

Your child could be entitled to almost 600 hours per year, free early learning

and childcare.

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 tel Early Learning and Childcare on 01236 812281 or speak to Lynn or Jackie.

## Staffing

We welcome back Carly, Christine and Siobhan after their period of sick leave.

Emma will continue to support the Bumblebee Group whilst Gillian is on sick leave.

Supporting in the early level playroom will also be Jennifer and Liz, who will be responsible for Gillian's Nurturing Early Readers group.

To date we have not secured a temporary additional support needs assistant to cover Simmone's maternity leave nor has Agnes's vacant post been filled.

Jane Conner, cleaner/caretaker in the afternoon has submitted her notice to retire. Jane will finish on Friday 27th November 2015

Modern Apprentice trainee Nadene's placement has been continued until mid December.

**"Keep an eye on the BLOG for weekly staffing updates."**

## Fundraising for Christmas

Following a consultation with parents through a narrow vote we will be having a sponsored Sing a Long in the centre on Friday 20th November at 11.20 am and 3.40 pm. Sponsor sheets will be given to each family on Tuesday 17th November 2015. All donations and sponsor forms will be collected by Nancy in the cloakroom area on Monday 23rd November at 8.40 am and 1 pm. Could we ask that you mark clearly on the sheet how

much has been donated. All donations will be used to provide a special gift from Santa during the children's Christmas parties. Last year with your kind donations we were able to spend £10 per child on a gift.

The Birth to Three sing



"Sing a long"

a long will take place on Wednesday 18th November at 11.15 am and 3.15 pm. Sponsor forms along with donations should be handed directly to Nancy in the admin office on Monday 23rd

## Healthy eating and Childsmile

With your generous donations of fresh fruit, each session the children are able to eat a healthy snack.

Almost all of the children are able to eat whole pieces of fruit without having the skin removed. They independently wash their hands, choose their drink and fruit and sit sociably alongside their peers. Whilst learning outdoors the children are also able to access fruit and water which is restocked prior to each session.

There is a snack donation basket situated in the early level cloakroom should you wish to donate any of the following:

Small kid size boxes of raisins.

Bananas

Plums

Apricots

Tangerines

Apples

Pears



Almost all children are now arriving for their session with their teeth having been freshly brushed. This is a great habit for children to develop. Can we ask that you continue to mark with a dot on the signing in register if your child has completed this task prior to their session. If for any reason you have forgotten to brush their teeth with them then a member of the team will help them with this task.

## Sickness and illness in children

If you or your child has been suffering from sickness and or diarrhoea then we must ask that you refrain from the centre until at least **48hrs until after it has stopped**, by doing so this you will help stop the spread of any infection. If your child is unwell then you should keep them at home by doing so it will not affect their places all we ask is that you telephone the centre and advise a member of the admin team.

Young children often forget to wash their hands to help stop the spread of germs. In the centre we encourage the children to wash their hands by singing

and

- Before they eat food
- After using the toilet
- After cleaning their nose or coughing/sneezing
- After playing outdoors

**“Wash.wash wash your hands**

**Wash the germs away**

**If you don't, you'll get sick**

**Then you cannot play”**

## Can you help???

This year we will have over 90 children's presents to wrap for Santa. As you can imagine this is quite a task.

We will be looking for a few Santa's little helpers to give an hour of their time. This can be done during the day or if you would like to drop in after work then the centre is opened until 6.30 pm.

Tea/coffee and a few biscuits will be

on offer. Please give your name to your child's key person as soon as possible.

Last year with your generosity we provide a huge array of festive non perishable foods to the local Food Co-op. This was a huge success which helped many families less

fortunate over the Christmas period.

If this is something you would be keen to do again there will be hamper box for donations placed in the cloakroom at the first week of December.



**“vacant positions for Santa's little helpers, apply within”**

## Shotts Family Learning Centre

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Shotts  
ML7 4ER

tel: 01501 826713  
Email [shotts@ea.n-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:shotts@ea.n-lanark.sch.uk)

*Could 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 or on a bag by their coat peg. This will save confusing and encourage the children to become more independent and responsible for their learning outdoors*

*Also a change of indoor clothing should be ideally kept in their bags, as the centre does not keep any spare clothing if they need to be changed.*

## Dates for your diary

This is a very busy time of year for families with lots to think about and lots to remember.

Prior to the start of each week we will continue to post on the BLOG a day by day account of What's On in the centre for the week ahead.

*In Service closure for children  
Monday 16th November 2015*

### *Christmas Parties*

*Birth to Three Tuesday 22nd  
December 9.30 am–10.30 am  
and 1.30 pm–2.30 pm ( Santa will  
arrive at 10 am and 2 pm)*

*Early Level Tuesday 22 nd*

*December 9.30 am–11 am and  
1.30 pm–3 pm (Santa will arrive  
at 10.30 am and 2.30 pm)*

### *Christmas hamper donations*

*Week commencing 7th December*

*Sponsor Donations  
to be returned on  
Monday 23rd  
November.*

*Santas little helpers  
required week  
beginning 7th  
December.*

*Christmas and New Year holidays  
Wednesday 23rd December 2015  
to Tuesday 5th January 2016  
(inclusive)*

*Primary school registration will  
take place in January 2016, where  
you will need to take  
your child's birth  
certificate and your  
Council Tax  
statement to your  
local Primary  
School. More  
information will  
available in the New  
Year*



*“Important dates”*