

Colmonell Early Years Newsletter Sep '25

Welcome to our Nursery Newsletter. We hope that you have all had an enjoyable September Weekend and before we know it, it will soon be the October Break. It is lovely to see the children back in nursery and to see how well they have all settled in. As well as returning faces we also have some new children joining us and would like to welcome Cain.

As always, we will do our best to keep you updated with what is happening in the nursery through your child's Learning Journal, the Eduspot App and our EY Facebook page.

Should you wish to speak to a member of the team we are available at the start and end of nursery sessions. Messages can also be sent to us via your child's Learning Journal.

If you aren't already a member, please speak to a member of staff about joining our private Facebook page.

Ms Shedden, Mrs Gibson, Ms McNeill and Mrs Templeton

Sharing our Learning-Learning Journals

Learning Journals are used by staff as a way of recording your child's learning and play experiences. They help us to track progress and celebrate achievements. As such, it is important to your child's story that home achievements and successes are shared too. Please use the journal to share with us anything that you and your child are proud of; big or small we would love for it to be included in their journal. If you require help adding an entry to your child's journal, please speak to a member of staff and we will be happy to show you.

Personal Planning Appointments and Stay and Play Sessions

Shortly, you will receive an appointment to come and spend some time with staff to review your child's targets and to discuss how they are getting on in nursery. There will also be dates issued for stay and play sessions. These are opportunities for you to come in and spend time with your child in nursery and is a great opportunity for you to watch them at play with their friends. A timetable will be sat out in the nursery for you to choose a convenient time to come and spend some time with us in nursery.

Setting The Table Guidance

Setting the Table guidance helps parents and Early Years settings understand how to provide healthy, balanced meals for young children. It offers practical advice on choosing a variety of foods, appropriate portion sizes, and making mealtimes enjoyable and positive. The guidance encourages Early Years settings and families to involve children in food choices and preparation, helping them develop good eating habits and a positive relationship with food from an early age. Please find attached to this newsletter our EY Policy on how we will achieve this.

Nursery staff

Monday - Miss Shedden, Mrs McNeill

Tuesday - Miss Shedden, Mrs McNeill

Wednesday Miss Shedden, Mrs Gibson, Ms McNeill

Thursday - Miss Shedden, Mrs Gibson

Friday - Miss Shedden, Mrs Gibson

Wellbeing

We are working with the children to create a nursery charter. This charter is made up from the things that the children feel are important to help make the nursery a safe and happy place for them to be. We will share our charter with you once it is completed. This term we are working hard with the children to help them settle back into the routines and daily life of nursery, for example, snack and lunchtime routines. At other times, we will include our children in talking about the Wellbeing indicators - safe, healthy, active, nurtured, achieving, responsible, respected and included; and display their thoughts on our Values display.

Change of Clothes

Could you please remember to bring in a change of clothes for your child each day. This will be kept in their bag on their peg. Any wet or dirty clothes will be bagged and placed in your child's bag. If you have any clothes you do not require anymore we are always happy to receive donations of clothes.

Change of Shoes

During our recent self-evaluation of infection prevention and control procedures in our nursery we noticed how quickly our indoor rugs are becoming grubby. We think this is to do with our children using the same shoes for outdoor play and indoor play and as children often sit and play on the rugs, we want them to stay as clean as possible for their sakes. To help with this and to encourage independence we have sourced some soft clogs in your child's size for them to change into when they come in in the morning. We will also encourage children to change into outdoor shoes when going outside to play. Please encourage your child as part of their morning routine to change into their own new indoor shoes.

Listening and Talking

A focus for us this term is supporting our children's listening and talking skills.

This term we are going to introduce a talking basket.

Each week a child will be chosen to take home an empty basket. You and your child will be asked to choose 5 things to put in the basket and bring into nursery for show and tell. Your child will be supported to talk about the special things in their basket. All items will be returned after their talk.

Signing In and Morning Routines

1. Please remember to complete the sign in sheet at the start of each session, stating who will be collecting your child. This is located within the playroom. If this information changes please contact the office and let us know.
2. To include your child in this routine we will introduce a children's sign in sheet for mark making.
3. We would also like to reintroduce story choosing time, which gives you and your child an opportunity to choose the day's story.

Thinking Stories

We are going to be choosing 'focus stories' in nursery which we will read to the children multiple times. Through these stories we will plan questions and conversations which promote different thinking skills. By re-reading stories children develop comprehension, language, and communication skills. We will let you know when we are enjoying a new thinking story.

We are always looking for good ideas and suggestions for lovely stories. If you have a good recommendation, please let us know. Each week's focus story will be introduced on your child's learning Journal.

Parent Involvement

Following our recently well attended Parents' Meeting Morning to discuss our Care Inspectorate Report, we would like to continue to invite you in each month for a coffee and a chat. Our meeting on 9th September, focussed on how we could improve communication with parents through Learning Journals. We also talked about our Vision and Values which we will continue to visit each month. Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday 7th October at 9am. At this session we will share with you what we are doing to encourage your child to talk about the world around them and share their interests and feelings.

We are always open to suggestions on how we can improve our Early Years. You can do this in person by speaking to us, by writing it down and popping it in the suggestion box on the windowsill or by scanning the QR code and letting us know electronically.

Thank you