

Love of  
Learning

Respect

Nurture

Individuality

## *St Elizabeth's Primary & Nursery School*

Head Teacher, Miss Christine MacPhee

William Drive, Hamilton, ML3 7RQ, 01698 286270



**Learn Together, Laugh Together, Be the Best You Can!**

**Nursery Newsletter, October 2020**



We offer **free, confidential and impartial advice** - we can help check your benefit entitlement, assist with the claims process, challenge decisions and represent you at Social Security appeal tribunals. For debt issues we look at your financial circumstances, contact creditors, discuss options and give budgeting advice; **Contact number: 0303 123 1008**

Our Telephone Advice Line offers a similar service specifically aimed at pregnant women and families with young children; **Contact number: 01698 453154**

**Dear Mums and Dads,**

Welcome to our latest nursery newsletter. It is hard to believe we are now at this point in the year – time is certainly flying by! Huge thanks to everyone for your constant support with our new ways of working. As a result of this and also the tireless work of our staff team, the children are very settled in nursery and are coping wonderfully with all the changes we have had to put in place...sometimes we wonder if they even notice them, they are so settled! Also, many thanks for maintaining the very important social distancing at drop off and collection times.

We know this is all very different for us while we navigate our way through various pieces of guidance we require to have in place. Our values of individuality, love of learning, nurture and respect continue to drive our work and at the heart of this is the importance to maintain solid communication with all our families in order to help support the learning of your child as best we can.

## **Bubbles**

We are required to group our children in to bubbles of no more than 8 children - within our 3-5 room we now have 7 bubbles and a further 4 bubbles within our 2-3 room. The bubbles are kept separate throughout the day, including in the lunch hall, and all staff strive to maintain a 2m distance between each other and each bubble throughout the day. Our children know which bubble they are in and this will have been communicated to yourselves via our Learning Journals platform.

The children are doing so well entering our nursery in the morning and we are very impressed with their independence skills. It's a joy to see them coming in so confidently.

## **Learning in our Nursery**

Our playrooms have been divided up in to various sections to help ensure appropriate space for each bubble. We have zoned off an area in one of our playrooms to help ensure safe toilet access. We also make use of our quadrangle, garden and outdoor area and children are outdoors at some point every day. Can you please help us by ensuring your child has a pair of wellies in nursery and as the weather is now starting to get that bit colder, a scarf, gloves and hat would also be great. All children are required to have a bag at nursery with them please with a change of clothes. Also, if anyone has any waterproof clothing that is too small for their child we would happily take it for use within our nursery.

If anyone has a gazebo that is no longer being used at home and you are looking for a new home for it, we would very warmly welcome it to our nursery! We are hoping to have a variety of gazebos in place to help provide a bit of cover for our children and staff and any that can be donated to us would be very helpful.

## **Water bottles**

It would be very helpful to us if you would please provide your child with a filled water bottle for nursery each day.

## **Hallowe'en**

Children can come to nursery wearing their fancy dress costumes on Fri 30<sup>th</sup> Oct, no masks or props should be brought though, these should stay at home. We will have a fun day in nursery enjoying stories and songs.

## **Contact Details**

Please keep us updated of contact details so that in the event of an emergency we can get hold of you. If your child is not attending nursery please advise a member of staff at the door or telephone our nursery on 01698 286270. In the event of sickness or absence, we ask that you also please call our nursery office as soon as possible.

### **Parent Pay**

We are not currently collecting snack money so the payment facility has not been set up for this year on parent pay. Any parent paying nursery fees will see these on your parent pay. If you are due to pay fees and believe you would be exempt please speak to Amanda or Gillian for information on how to apply.

### **Nursery Staffing - Early Years Depute**

Our nursery is one of a few across South Lanarkshire Council in the very fortunate position to be afforded an Early Years Depute. This means we will now no longer have a Team Leader within our nursery and this position will not be replaced moving forward. Interviews for this position took place recently, virtually of course, and I am delighted to inform you that Gillian Hart was the successful candidate. We wish Gillian well in this new post which will begin shortly.

### **Learning Journals**

As you know, we use Learning Journals within our nursery and we will continue to use this platform moving forward. In the event of the children not being able to attend nursery, activities and learning will be posted on the Learning Journals each week for them to take part in. Staff will also be available on this platform from 9.00 – 10.00am and 1.30-2.45pm each day, should you have any questions they will be available to help.

Best wishes everyone

Miss MacPhee  
Head Teacher