

February 2019 Newsletter

Welcome, Witami, Plăcere, Naaste, Gaidits, ترحيب, καλωσόρισμα, Fàilte

...to our nursery community newsletter and also to all our new families. We hope you all had a safe mid-term holiday for those of you who were off. Our newsletters are packed full of important information for each term. They also have a quick *Calendar of Events* at the back, to put on your fridge or notice board. If you do not have access to a computer/printer, you can read/pick up a paper copy from the foyer. Please take a moment to grab a cuppa and catch up with all the latest developments happening within our nursery community.

From August 2019, Cornton Nursery will be involved in the delivery of an expanded Early Learning & Childcare service to all 3 & 4year olds and some 2yr olds. This will mean that each child will be entitled to 25hrs free nursery provision per week, amounting to 1140hrs per year.

We are so proud that the nursery are featured in the Care Inspectorate publication 'Food Matters: Nurturing happy, healthy children'. This publication highlights examples of good practice from across the Early Learning and Childcare sector.

The launch, filmed by the BBC, will be held on

Monday 11th March within Cornton Nursery!

We would love to see as many of you as possible on this exciting day.

Lyndsay Gass



Staffing:

As you know, Kate O'Neill (Head of Nursery) has been working between Cornton and the Education Centre, at Wolfcraig, over the last six months. This will continue with Kate working a Monday within Cornton.

We are so sad that our Helen Arthur has now retired. She will be sorely missed by all our children, families and wider community. Thanks to all who came along to her farewell celebrations. We are delighted that she will be a familiar face at the nursery as she pops in to collect her own grandchildren.

Lyndsay Gass has been successful in securing the Permanent Principle Early Childhood Educator (previously called Depute Head).

Laura McCallum will be Acting Principle ECE until August 2019.

Lynne McKay and Susan Smith will both be full time Senior ECE in the Oak and Acorn rooms.

Steph Cochran joined the team in January and is settling in well as a keyworker within the Acorn Room.

We are in the process of recruiting a new Senior ECE for the 1140 hr expansion and an ECE to backfill promoted posts.

'Learning Together' Programme

We are delighted to be able to offer parents / carers and their children an opportunity to come along to our 'Learning Together' Programme.

Each session is based on a child development topic, which contains:

- > talk time, to share key ideas with parents and carers
- > ways to put ORIM into action (Opportunities, Recognition, Interaction, Modelling)
- > songs and rhymes
- > books and stories
- > creative play activities (during the session and/or ideas to try at home).

Please return your tear off slip with preferred session. Any questions please ask Susan or Laura.



Meanwhile, if you have a skill or talent you would be happy to share with children, please say. Nursery continue to aspire to have parent volunteers for our Policy Group, Lending Library, Garden, Storytelling, Fundraising & Parent Group. We very much value any spare time you have, so please speak to Susan if interested.

Communicate with us:



Facebook: Look for Cornton Nursery & send a friend request. We post up to date information regularly.



<https://twitter.com/corntonnursery>

We post up to date information regularly.

Class dojo: Please register using the individual code you were given to ensure up to date information.

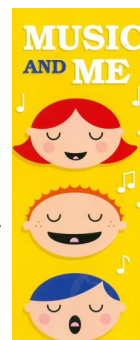
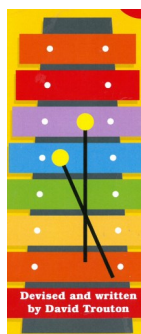
Cornton Nursery website:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/st/corntonnursery/>

Music and Me

We are delighted to welcome back David Trouton back to Cornton Nursery. David has been delivering 'Music and Me' sessions to all children within the Acorn and Oak rooms.

The aim of 'music and me' is to develop and enhance a range of children's abilities: self confidence, self expression, concentration, group work, active listening, pre-reading skills and emotional literacy through participation in creative music making.



Transitions:

Home to Nursery: Staff share that they feel home visits remain the most valued part of our nursery settling- in process. Children engage in play with staff in the security of their own homes and watch their family engage in conversation. Afterwards, when children first visit nursery they see familiar faces and adapt more readily. Please share your home visit experiences with us on our 'Just a Thought' Sheets in the foyer, these help us to continue to get it right for you and yours.

Acorn to Oak Room: Children can enter the Oak room when developmentally ready to play and learn within the Curriculum for Excellence. Children in the Acorn room play and learn within the Pre Birth to Three curriculum, but may stay for shorter or longer periods of time depending on which curriculum better supports their individual needs.

Nursery to School Transition: Regardless of what primary school you have enrolled in, our nursery to school transition programme has been designed to fill your child with curiosity, anticipation and excitement. This will begin just **after the Easter Holiday**. We will visit Cornton Primary each week as the famous sneaky mice! We will welcome children from other settings who have enrolled into Cornton Primary, to join our play experiences within nursery. Similarly, children who will not attend Cornton Primary will be fully included in this programme, with additional planned opportunities to engage with their new school community. Transition information and a newsletter will be given out at a meeting in Cornton Primary School for all parent/carers of children starting school in August 2019. This date of this meeting will be communicated with you within the next few weeks. Let the adventure begin...

Snack: Thank you to all who contribute to children's snack through donations in either Percy our Piggy Bank in the foyer, Parent pay or by purchasing items requested through Facebook or the basket in the foyer. This allows us to offer children two snacks per day, whilst being able to use our budget for nursery equipment and resources.



Purchases:

Thanks to all our friends and family for supporting the Bingo fund-raising evening last term. We have used the money raised to purchase a range of physical equipment that will enhance our PEPAS (Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport) programmes.

Stirling Parent & Family Support Team:

The parent and family support team help to make a positive difference to families in Stirling. Any parent/carer supporting children/young people ages 0-18 can access support, please contact nursery for more info.

Susan is the nursery community link worker and can offer support through a variety of ways. Please speak to Susan about the following:

Play@home: We can offer family play sessions, in the comfort of your own home, using the NHS Play@home resources.

Peep—Learning Together: These groups are for parents/carers and their children together, and aim to support families with their children's early learning in an enjoyable way,

Toddlers: Cornton are lucky enough to have 2 local toddler groups. These are Stirling Rugby Club & Noah's Arc.

Community Garden: Open each Monday & Wednesday at Cornton Nursery from 10am-12pm. All toddler groups and child-minders in the area are very welcome. (or parents whose children do not attend nursery these days)



Fantastic Funding News

We are delighted to let you all know that we have been successful in obtaining funding for our Digital Learning initiatives; Rocket Fund have donated **£250.00** which will be used to purchase a range of robot devices. Staff have received training on Computational thinking and coding.



Fridge Reminder:

Parent Chats: 6wks after children settle

6 weeks after your child's start date.

February:

Wed 27th: Childsmile: Fluoride Varnish (Oak Room)

March:

Fri 1st: Deadline for return of 2019/20 Session Request Form

Thurs 7th: World Book Day. Bring in your favourite story to share with your friends!

Mon 11th: Care Inspectorate 'Food Matters' Launch (more info to follow)

Fri 15th: Red Nose Day

Wed 20th: Friends and Family Meeting (11am / 1pm)

Thurs 21st: Pre School Vision Screening

Fri 29th: Stay and Play (Join your child within their session)

April:

W/B 1st April: Nursery closed for term time Holiday Club—Book now! (see Linda in the main office)

W/B 8th April: Nursery closed for all

Fri 19th—Mon 22nd April: Nursery closed for Public Holiday