



**Cornton Nursery
Family Newsletter
March 2022**



Dear Parent/Carer

Children's Learning

Willow Room: The children have been welcoming a few new friends into the Willow Room. The staff have been observing lots of spontaneous play and learning but they are focussing very much on movement and co-ordination. They have been exploring movement playing with balls, bean bags, and sensory play.

Acorn Room: All the children are exploring their outdoor space and continuing to explore local wild life. They have been involved with the RSPB Bird watch and found a real nest that had fallen from a tree during one of their local walks in the community. They have also welcomed a few new friends starting in their room.

Oak Room: All the children have been exploring different kinds of books and listening to different stories. They have been using relevant props and puppets to re-create their stories both indoor and out. They have been focussing very much on listening to each other, following rules and being respectful to their environment. Lynne has been doing 'Learning to Listen' with all the children in the Oak Room every day and they are having such fun through these sessions. Sessions aim to demonstrate what good listening actually looks like. These are delivered through fun, playful opportunities where we have four key elements to practice.

- 1) Look at the person who is talking.
- 2) Sitting still.
- 3) Staying Quiet.
- 4) Listening to all the words.

Why don't you try these at home with your child; see if they can tell you?
Watch out for our social media accounts where we will be sharing some of these games for you to have a go. Good luck!

All rooms participated in World Book Day and some children came dressed up as their favourite character.

JD: "I dressed up as a cat in the hat"

RS: "I dressed up as a pirate cause my book was called A Pirate life for me"

OR: "I was Belle, from Beauty and the beast"

COVID

Fortunately, from last week there definitely seems to be a dip in Covid cases so fingers crossed we have only had a few cases and we seem to be heading into a safer time however we must ask you to ensure you wear a face covering when in the nursery and remember 2-meter distancing when in the building. Please also make sure you use the hand sanitiser when arriving or leaving. There is a link below that may be useful to read:

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/infections-and-poisoning/coronavirus-covid-19/test-and-protect/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-infection>

Transition

A letter will be given out soon to consult with you how you would like to be involved in your child's transition to Primary school. There will be two options so please tick your preferred choice and hand back to the nursery by 11th March please.

Staffing

Interviews were held at nursery this week for two Full time ECEs.

Congratulations to **Ashley Douglas** who secured one position. She has been with us on long term supply since November last year and will continue to work in the Willow Room. The other position is for the Oak Room and **Caroline Martin** will begin as soon as pre-employment checks go through. We also want to wish **Laura Pickles** good luck in her future career as she left this month as her contract finished. **Robyn Blair** who has been on Maternity leave is due back to work at the end of May and she will be returning to the Oak Room. Another *congratulation* to **Nicolle McCallum** who secured the part time Senior ECE post. She will work as SECE every Thursday/Friday and alternative Wednesday, in the Acorn Room and will job share with Sarah Beveridge who works at the beginning of the week. On her other days, she will be ECE in the Oak room.

Spare clothing

It is really important that you have spare clothes for your child in nursery. Every child has a red pull string bag so can you please transfer clean clothes when you arrive into the red bag as some people are picking up other poly bags and clothes are get taken home by the wrong people. We have very little stock available so we may have to call you to bring spare clothes in during the session. Can you please ensure any wet/soiled clothes are taken home and if you can check the lost property box next to the Oak room door for any missing clothes.

Outdoor Environment

Our outdoor environment is needing some TLC especially after the refurbishment was complete, during Covid when there were no staff and children in the nursery. The Outdoor Group has been meeting and have looked at consulting firstly with the children and staff. It is obviously going to be a long term project but we need to start with the large piece of ground next to the Acorn garden. Sandra in the room has already made contacts and we secured quite a few palettes from the local building sites to be made into planters. We will share any progress on our social media but it looks like the beginning of quite an exciting journey. If you have any skills you could share: joinery, building etc. or are able to spend a hour or so putting down bark on our mud kitchen or turning over the soil at the entrance area, please let a staff member know. Thanks in advance. (Tea and biscuits available ;))

Dates for your information:

Tuesday 22 March: Vision Screening - for any pre-schoolers who missed previous check

Thursday 24 March: Childsmile - Toothbrushing chat

Monday 11th -18th April: NURSERY CLOSED Nursery reopens Tuesday 19th.

Monday 4th April: Easter activities throughout the week

Kind regards

Sam, Lyndsay & the Team