Hillview Nursery Newsletter

February 2016

**Nursery News**

If your child is a pre-school child, you should have now enrolled for your catchment primary. If you are putting in a placing request or you would like to consider your child for a deferment year (Jan/Feb birthday) you will still need to enrol at your catchment school. A transition information area has been set up, in the upper hallway of the stairs, we hope to display any relevant information and share the children’s journey to Primary 1.

**Staffing**

The current staffing arrangements are:

Jordan, Debbie and Kimberley are in the Sunflower room and Jean, Pauline and Mandy will be working in the Lily room. As most of you are aware Amanda is expecting her 2nd child. Unfortunately, Amanda has no immunity to chicken pox and will be working elsewhere within the council until her maternity leave starts. Ann is currently off and Mandy will be covering her group till she returns. Sandra is currently doing a phased return to work and will be back in the Lily room on a Thursday and Friday.

**In-service** = I am sure you would love to know what we are doing on the in-service days. On the Monday, we are attending the first Early Learning and Childcare conference to be held in Stirling. All staff will be attending 2 workshops in the morning on a variety of topics from Numeracy to outdoor learning and in the afternoon we will be attending seminars to hear latest news in child development. On Tuesday, Hillview is hosting a numeracy event for all the Educators in the Stirling Learning community and Stephanie the Speech and Language Therapist will be speaking to us on Language development in the afternoon.

**Exciting events**

Football taster sessions will be running here every Monday from the 18th of April for 6 weeks, these will be in the morning and in the afternoon. As well as developing football skills the aim of the sessions will be to make the children more aware of the links between physical activity and nutrition. The sessions will comprise of both football and classroom based healthy eating activities such as Make and Taste, there will also be the option to include parents in some of the activities. As well as the taster sessions we will have the opportunity to come to a festival fun day at Forthbank stadium. The fun day will be held on a Saturday when Stirling Albion are playing at home and they will have the chance to participate in fun activities based around the theme of healthy eating as well as tickets for them and 1 accompanying adult to go into the stadium and watch the match.

**Music and Me** will also be running in the nursery every Friday afternoon from February the 5th, Dave Trouton will be leading the sessions and our very own Mandy will be supporting this and taking the initiative forward after the 8 weeks. Sessions will be running in both the Lily and Sunflower rooms.

**World Book day** is on the 3rd of March, this year we are celebrating and all children are invited to bring their favourite book to nursery (Please remember to put their name inside the book). Sunflower children = We will also have **Scots for Tots** workshop where the story of the Gruffalo will be told in Scots during a workshop session. (All children who do not attend nursery on a Thursday are invited to come along and join the workshop at either 10.45 or 2.30, all must be accompanied by an adult). Lily room = The children in lily room will be having a fun packed session, with Alan, Jean and Pauline all reading their favourite stories to the children.

Lily room =The changing room in the Lily room will be getting refurbished on the 2 in-service days the nursery is closed. A coat of paint, a new changing bed/unit and storage unit will finish of the completion of this area. The Left hand side of the playroom will also be getting painted and during Easter the other half of the playroom and the children’s toilets will get painted.

**Elementary Food Hygiene** We are in the position to offer to anyone that is interested the opportunity to complete this one day elementary food hygiene course. This is being held at Forth Valley college campus on a variety of dates and a recognised certificate will be awarded on completion of this one day course. Please let Lynsey or Alan know if you are interested.

**Emergency First Aid** an evening session will be held here on the 8th of March at 6pm, this will be run by qualified St Andrews first aiders and will be a 2 hour event demonstrating emergency first aid for babies, children and adults. This is a great opportunity for anyone, so spread the word and let us know if you are planning to come along, so we can plan for numbers.

**Family Support**

**The toddler** group is also running again this term and you will find Jean in the YT club on a Tuesday 10 till11 for the month of March. Please feel free to come along with your child and see what’s going on.

**Groups** there are many different groups running this term, THRIVE, a male outdoor cooking group and a cooking group to be held here in the community centre. Please speak with any member of staff to find out more about any of these groups

**Parents group date** The last parents group was held on Tuesday the 19th of January at 4pm, 3 parents turned up and it would be good to see more families during these meetings but understand it is hard with work and family commitments. The next parents group is planned for the 29th of Feb at 9.15 with Bacon and sausage rolls on offer. Please let me know if you plan to attend or if you have any other suggestions on when or how these meeting could be more successful.

**Lastly** please remember we are open during the 1st week of the school holidays, 4th-8th of April and we are also now registered to take primary school aged children. If this is something you would like to consider, please speak with Alan or Lynsey.

**Dates for your diary**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **February**  | **The nursery will be closed to all children on the 8th and 9th of February due to staff training.** **The nursery will close to all term time children on the 10th,11th and 12th of February 2016****18th = Lift Workshops - 9am=Lily room. 1pm=Sunflower room****26th of February = Vision screening for all pre-school** **29th Parents group breakfast** |
| **March**  | **3rd = World book day****8th = Emergency First aid 6pm****25th = Good Friday Nursery closed to all****28th = Easter Monday Nursery closed to all** |
| **April** | **4th to the 8th open to extended year families only****11th to the 15th Closed to all** |

From

Lynsey and all the team here at Hillview Nursery

………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

Your comments help to inform future plans for the nursery please feel free to add any comments below and post in the box in the entrance hall:

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------