



# Blackridge Nursery ELC Newsletter

## November/December - Session 2020-2021)



*Dear Parents/Carers, Please take a few minutes to read our Newsletter familiarise yourself with some of the current Nursery information activities and some of the activities we have planned for the nursery children throughout the next few weeks. We continue to welcome all our new children & their parents/carers to Blackridge Nursery and hope all the children have a fun filled and enjoyable term. Yours sincerely ELC Team*

### Welcome to all new children and their families to our Nursery setting

#### What we are learning in the nursery



The clocks have changed and the windy wet weather has arrived along with the darker mornings and nights. The children have been learning all about the changes that came along with the Autumn season, by exploring the different colours of leaves on and falling from the trees, the need for warmer clothing and the lack of sunshine when they get up in the morning and when they leave Nursery from the PM session.

Halloween Week was full of dressing up, looking for apples, singing the Halloween songs, and reading lots of stories about Mog and Meg and Funny Bones. ☆

In preparation for bonfire night the children continued to develop their awareness and the importance of fire safety. We have been exploring the dangers of playing with matches through the story Frances Firefly and watching Miss Renwick lighting sparkles using matches and a safety lighter, from a safe zone on the other side of the nursery garden fence. ☆

Some of the children have compared volcanos to fireworks and using their ideas to make pictures and construct models.

As Remembrance Sunday approached the children explored the meaning of caring for people in the community and the wider world and becoming a responsible citizen.

We continue to add items and information to the children's 'Consultative Planning Floorbooks'.

We promote the children's ideas and interests through the use of children's consultative planning books to provide quality play experiences.

Looking ahead: - We are sure Santa will be high on the children's agenda! It is hoped we will be able to involve the children in a small Christmas enterprise, such as a photo Calendar and possibly a small Christmas themed item for parent/carer to purchase.

### Our ELC Team

HT - Mrs A Downie

Acting PT - Mrs. C Matos Van Den Heever

EYO - Mrs. K Chalmers - Mon-Fri  
Nursery Practitioners

Mrs. K Nimmo - Mon-Tues

Miss. C Renwick - Wed-Thurs

Mrs. S Clark - Mon-Fri

Miss. J Johnstone - Mon-Fri

Miss S MacDonald - Mon-Fri

### Nursery PSW

Miss. R Gaskin - Mon-Thurs

### PSW

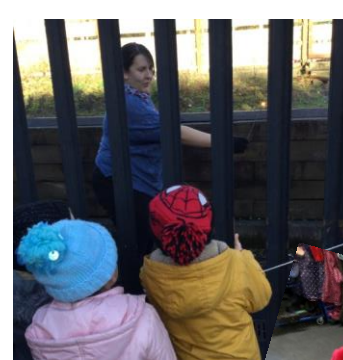
9:15am-11:15am

Mrs H. Thomson - Mon - Tues

Mrs C. Doolan Wed - Thurs

### Forest Walks/Local Park visits

We will aim to continue utilising the local environments on Mon mornings and Thurs afternoons, weather permitted and in keeping with Nursery activity plans.



## Dates for your Diary

### Nov 'Happiness Day'

Tues 24<sup>th</sup> for AM and 2 Full Day children &  
Wed 25<sup>th</sup> for PM and 2 Full Day children  
All donations go the Nursery toy fund  
and can be made through iPayimpact

### Children in Need

Children wishing to participate in wearing pajamas in support of the Children in Need charity are welcome to do so on either Tues 10<sup>th</sup> or Wed 11<sup>th</sup> Nov. Due to Covid restrictions donations cannot be accepted into the school but can be made to the charity online [www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk](http://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk)

### Christmas Holidays

Last day of term - Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 2020  
ELC return -Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021

### Christmas Lunch £1.10

Tues 8<sup>th</sup> Dec - AM & 2 Full Day children  
Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Dec - PM & 2 Full Day children

### Christmas Party £1.00

Tues 15<sup>th</sup> Dec AM & 2 Full Day children  
Wed 16<sup>th</sup> Dec & 2 Full Day children

All payments for both of the above can be made through iPayimpact, further details of when this option is accessible will be given out as soon as we are advised by the office staff

### Christmas Jumper Day

Although the official Christmas Jumper Day is Fri 12 Dec, Nursery children are invited to participate in wearing anything Christmas related throughout the week beginning Mon 7<sup>th</sup> Dec-Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> Dec. Donations can be made via Save the Children or by contacting the charity [christmasjumper@savethechildren.org.uk](mailto:christmasjumper@savethechildren.org.uk)  
[0808 281 1031](tel:08082811031)

### \*\*\*\*\*IMPORTANT!\*\*\*\*\*

Due to some children having food allergies we must ask that NO NUTS, or ANYTHING CONTAINING EGG are brought into the Nursery or stored in the bags or jackets. This may cause serious harm to the children concerned, therefore your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Staff closely supervise and monitor food distribution and consumption during snack and pack lunch time.

2 Full day Children can order lunches from the kitchen through iPayImpact Please contact the office if you have not already set this up

Can we remind parent/carers that face coverings should be worn at drop off and pick up on school grounds, even if they are not entering the building

### \*\*\*Snack Fees Toy Fund Donation \*\*\*

Nursery snack Funds no longer required to be contributed to but we are happy to receive donations to our Nursery Toyfund. We offer healthy, nutritious snacks daily within the guidelines of "Setting the Table": Nutritional guidance and Food standards for Early Years Childcare Providers in Scotland (NHS Health Scotland, 2015) Our snack menu for the week is available to view on the School App along with other information.

### Our Toy Fund Is Depleting Fast!

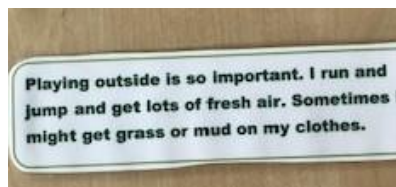
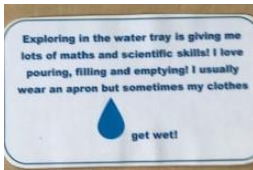
### Please Help!

\*Thank You to everyone who have previously supported our Nursery/Toy Fund, without which we wouldn't be able to sustain our high quality resources.\*

We are happy to take any donations via iPayimpact, any queries please speak to Mrs Robertson who can help with any iPayimpact queries.

## Benefits of outdoor and messy play

In Blackridge ELC we aim to bed outdoor learning and all that it promote the many benefits the Allows children the opportunity to learn through imagination and expression, helping them to develop emotional, social skills and sharing. Encourages experimental play, inspires new interests and improves cognitive skills. Encouraging children to learn about raw materials, such as mud, sand, water and paint, builds on fueling their imaginations and creativity in an unrestricted way.



Please ensure your child has a full change of clothes in their Nursery bag, as they may require changing, when participating in water, messy, and outdoor play etc. Please name **ALL** clothing, lunch boxes & contents, backpacks, and outdoor shoes **Please supply nappies / pullups and wipes if your child is not yet ready for toilet training and some sunscreen if you have completed the nonmedical consent form - forms are available on request from Nursery Staff**

### **Absences**

Please don't forget to notify the Nursery or School office if your child is absent or requires time off for holidays

### **Covid 19**

A reminder that the symptoms are:

- High temperature or fever
- A new continuous cough
- A loss of, or change in sense of smell or taste

If pupil displays symptoms of Covid 19, we will contact you to collect your child (please ensure that we have your most up to date contact details). They will be taken to the Community Wing to be collected by one adult. The pupil should, if possible, wear a face covering en route and avoid public transport. You will be asked to follow Test and Protect and we will provide you with a copy of the Test and Protect Leaflet and Step by Step Guide when your child is collected

If your child tests positive please see government guidance for up to date isolation period please ensure you notify Nursery staff or school office

### **Sickness and Diarrhea**

In the interest of Health and Hygiene, please be aware that should your child have a sickness and/or diarrhea bug, they should not return to Nursery until **48hrs after all symptoms have stopped**, to prevent these bugs spreading.

### **Headlice**

Please remember to continue to check your child's hair regularly for signs of head lice.

### **Colds and Flu**

Can we ask that the children are suitable dressed for our ever changing weather front In conjunction with West Lothian policy and NHS guidelines

Please could we have 1 photo of your child taken along with their family for our "Family Photo Gallery"

### **Big Bedtime Read**

Any returning children that still have their red book bag at home can they please return them along with the 5 books as soon as possible so we can complete the audit of returns. Unfortunately due to Covid 19 restriction we will be unable to resume the BBR lending library until further notice

### **Help! We still need:**



Water urns! Glass or metal with taps 👍

## **ELC Hours**

Due to Covid social distancing restrictions the Nursery drop off and pick up time have had to be adjusted to fit in with other classes in the school.

The drop off time slots for AM and 2 Full Day Children are 8am & 9am prompt.

AM pick up time slot is 12:45pm

PM drop off slot is 1:15pm

The pick-up time slots for PM and 2 Full day Children are 3:20pm / 4pm / 4:30 / 5pm / 5:30pm

Children are to be dropped off and collected from the main school entrance; Nursery staff will escort the children to and from the Nursery.

Please advise staff of your preferred pick up time slot during drop off.

We understand that there may be times when children have appointment's etc therefore please do not hesitate to speak to a member of the Nursery team to arrange an alternative drop off or pick up time

**A small reminder - your child's personalised Christmas card order must be made on line and the photocopied artwork returned to Nursery as soon as possible so that the original artwork can be sent off to complete your**

If you have anything you would like to talk about regarding your child's time in the Nursery, please don't hesitate to speak to any member of the Nursery Team by telephoning the nursery on **01501 751223 option 3**