



BATHGATE E.Y.C. **NEWSLETTER –OCTOBER 2014**

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Thanks to all of you who came along to find out about the early level of Curriculum for Excellence at our Curriculum Evening a few weeks ago. Those who attended also had a preview of the Learner's Journey which is used as W.L.C.'s Early Level recording document for all children who are in their ante and pre school year. This document will move with your child when he/she makes the transition to primary school either in August 2015 or 2016. All parents are invited to Parental Consultation at the end of October —a separate letter has been issued.

Our Book Fair was also very successful with profits of £97.40. This will help to buy some new titles for the nursery library.

The MacMillan coffee morning went well, raising the fantastic amount of £220.19 —thanks to everyone who supported this event!

It has been lovely to meet parents/carers and I'm slowly getting to know all the children. I look forward to working with you over the next few months.

October Holiday

The nursery is closed from Monday 20th until Monday 27th October for the mid-term holiday and INSET day. Wraparound will be open as usual at BEYC.

Primary and Secondary schools have an additional INSET day on Tuesday 28th of October, but nursery will resume as normal on that Tuesday.



Curriculum for Excellence - What are we learning about this month?



We harvested apples from the orchard for apple crumble, and courgettes, potatoes and sweetcorn from the veggie garden. Now our learning is focussed on the changing weather and signs of Autumn.

Please bring in any autumn/harvest items that your child collects for discussion in the nursery and also for using in the gluing area.

Conkers, leaves and pinecones make for very interesting collages!

The children will also be learning about nocturnal creatures along with Light and Dark, and although we don't have a Halloween party, we will be looking for apples and making pumpkin lanterns after the October break. We will also have some nocturnal feathered visitors from the 5 Sisters Zoo on Thursday 30th October. (There will be no charge for this as your on-going donations to the school fund will help to cover the cost)

There is no requirement for the children to wear fancy dress for Halloween at nursery or wraparound. As an alternative we will all dress up in spotty clothes for Children in Need on Thursday 13th November and invite donations for the privilege.



Please remember that evidence of learning is recorded in our planning, including group floorbooks, and in your child's Learner's Journey – we hope you'll come in and have a look!

Once again a reminder that as the weather is becoming colder our children are outdoors most days and should be properly clad with waterproofs and suitable footwear, i.e. – WELLIES! As you know we try to encourage children towards independence through self help skills e.g. dressing and toileting. We know it takes longer to drop them off and pick them up but it makes a such a difference to your child if you encourage them to manage their own shoes, coats etc. especially for out door play.

We appreciate your support in making this as easy for your children as possible with preferably Velcro fastenings on shoes; zips; no snow suits/ dungarees and big buttons.

All clothing and footwear should be named for easy identification by parents and staff.



Developing Language and Literacy in the Early Years

The nursery library started again after the September weekend. Children can borrow a library book on a weekly basis. These are taken home in a special bag and the group library days are as follow;

Monday– Green group; Tuesday– Blue group; Wednesday-Red group; Thursday-Yellow group; Friday-Purple group.

If books are damaged or lost, please speak to Mrs Todd regarding replacement cost.

Adventure Ted has also started his travels with the children on a weekly basis. He has been to Venture photography, restaurants, in his own car seat, and has even found conkers in the park!

He plays an important part in developing Listening and Talking and this will be recorded in your child's Learner's Journey along with other evidence we collect. Thanks to all parents for their continued interest in this area of learning.

Parents' Craft Group

A letter outlining details about our craft group, has already been issued.

If you are bringing a toddler please remember we don't have a crèche and you must take responsibility for your own child. Staff are committed to working with nursery children and cannot look after toddlers too at this group!

If you have a grandparent who would look after your wee one for just over an hour this may be a better idea.

Our first meeting takes place on Wednesday 15th October, during both the morning and the afternoon sessions—we look forward to seeing you there!



Please remember...

- ◆ We continue to collect Morrison's 'Let's Grow' vouchers—please save your vouchers and put them in the collection box in the foyer.
- ◆ We celebrate Harvest by inviting each child to bring in a small non-perishable item of food to put in the basket in the foyer. We will put all your kind donations together to form a hamper, that will be gifted to our senior citizen friends at Acredale before the midterm break.
- ◆ We would appreciate if anything valuable, e.g. jewellery, toys, etc are left at home. Toys from home will often be put down and picked up by other children and this may cause distress to the child whose toy it is, so it is better to leave all toys at home.
- ◆ Please discourage your child from wearing 'super-hero' clothing to nursery, as it impacts on their play. It is important for children to become involved in a wide variety of experiences on offer, and when in character, children tend to play-fight through role-play, limiting their experiences and that of their peers.

- ◆ As stated previously, names should be on all jackets, inside shoes and wellies— children take responsibility for their own clothes in the cloakroom so please make sure all clothing can be easily identified by your child.
- ◆ Can you please check your child's tray regularly for art work etc. Staff will empty these on the Friday prior to the October holiday so anything left in the tray will be disposed of at that time.

And finally some more dates for your diary.....



<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
W/B MONDAY 13th OCTOBER	MONDAY—FRIDAY MORNING MONDAY—THURSDAY AFTERNOON	STAY, PLAY AND LEARN FOR ALL PARENTS/ CARERS
WEDNESDAY 15th OCTOBER	MORNING AND AFTERNOON	PARENT CRAFT GROUP
MON 20th OCT—FRIDAY 24th OCT	NURSERY CLOSED	OCTOBER HOLIDAY
MONDAY 27th OCTOBER	NURSERY CLOSED	STAFF INSERVICE DAY
WEDNESDAY 29th OCTOBER	4.30PM—8.30PM	PARENTAL CONSULTATIONS
	MORNING AND AFTERNOON	PAREN CRAFT GROUP
THURSDAY 30th OCTOBER	MORNING AND AFTERNOON	FIVE SISTERS ZOO VISIT TO NURSERY
WEDNSDAY 5th NOVEMBER	MORNING AND AFTERNOON	PARENT CRAFT GROUP
WEDNESDAY 12th NOVEMBER	MORNING AND AFTERNOON	PARENT CRAFT GROUP
THURSDAY 13th NOVEMBER	MORNING AND AFTERNOON	DRESS-UP FOR CHILDREN IN NEED
WEDNESDAY 19th NOVEMBER	MORNING AND AFTERNOON	PARENT CRAFT GROUP
THURSDAY 20th NOVEMBER	CHRISTMAS FAIR	2.30pm—4.30pm
WEDNESDAY 17TH DECEMBER	MORNING AND AFTERNOON	NATIVITY SINGALONG FOR PARENTS
THURSDAY 18TH DECEMBER	MORNING AND AFTERNOON	NATIVITY SINGALONG FOR GRANDPARENTS
MONDAY 22 ND DECEMBER	NORMAL TIMES	CHRISTMAS PARTIES
TUESDAY 23 RD DECEMBER	ALL NURSERY AND WRAPAROUND CHILDREN FINISH FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY	
THURSDAY 8 TH TH JANUARY 2015	NURSERY CHILDREN RETURN	

I hope you find the content of the newsletter useful. Please contact me if you wish to discuss any of the issues raised above. Enjoy the October holiday.

Yours sincerely — **Carene Hay** ~ Acting Head Teacher/ Manager