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BATHGATE E.Y.C.
Newsletter
December 2014

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Dear Parents/ Carers

Christmas is fast approaching and the children are busy with a wide variety of seasonal activities, very much enjoyed by all.

Children moving to P1 in August 2014

If you have not already done so, you should complete and return the P1 enrolment form to your nearest school or W.L.C. Civic Centre by 30th December. Parents who are applying for deferral must still apply for Primary One. Please speak to me if you wish more information about deferral.

Children in Need

As you know last month we all dressed up in spots for Children in Need. This year the total raised was £69.11. Thanks to all who supported this event.



Christmas Fair

Thank you to all who helped organise and to those who supported this fantastic event at the end of November. £890 was raised on the day! Along with Festive Season expenses, this money will help to replenish resources to further enhance the children's learning experiences in our centre.



Health and Wellbeing

Last month the children participated in many learning experiences related to Health including Road Safety. Can I suggest you have a look at the following websites for more information and home learning activities?

www.gosafewithziggy.com

There are lots of good ideas and suggestions for children , parents and staff. As you will know, there have been lots of coughs, sneezes and other bugs around for the past few weeks at nursery. Please remember that if a child has sickness and/ or diahoerraea they should not return until at least 48 hours after the symptoms have ceased. This will help to keep us all safe and well!

Severe Weather

So far we have not encountered the same severe conditions as some previous years. If this should happen, please refer to our Severe Weather policy which was distributed with the November newsletter. Additional W.L.C. information can be found at:

westlothian.gov.uk/winter.

What are we learning about this month?

As we move into December the children will be learning about Advent and preparing for Christmas. We are learning about Christmas customs and traditions from our own Scottish culture and those of other countries. We would like to welcome you to share special traditions that are unique to you and your family, by completing the attached sheet with your child.

The Nativity story is the main focus for our learning and celebrations this month. All children will have the opportunity to dress up, if they wish, as one of the Nativity characters and act out the story in our stable. The children will also learn about Christmas in our own Post Office where they will sort and make daily deliveries. Children's art work will be displayed around the centre and we will be learning Christmas songs and listening to Christmas stories.

This year we are acting out the story of Christmas through the Christmas musical play —"Jesus' Christmas party" so our children are learning new songs and musical accompaniments. All the learning experiences above are related directly to curriculum for Excellence covering all areas of learning.



Christmas Sing-along

As you know, our space for holding special events is limited, but following the success of previous years', we will again host two Sing-alongs which will allow us to accommodate more people. One for grandparents only and the other for parents/carers. Due to the high demand for tickets we will offer two tickets per child for both Sing-alongs. Times are noted on the diary section of the newsletter. (Please remember that for reasons of Child Protection no photographs/video recordings can be taken on cameras ; phones etc. on the day.) There is no charge for this event, but again this year we will invite you to make a donation to a charity at the Sing-along. You can help us with preparations for this event by singing along with your child to the Christmas songs we will sing on the day. Miss Wilkinson has already sent song sheets home. As our Nativity play is centred around the story of Jesus' Christmas Party, we would like all children to wear their party clothes on the day of the Nativity.



Christmas Party

The annual Christmas party for both groups will be held on Monday 22nd December. This takes the form of a traditional children's Christmas party with lots of nice party games, food and fun!

Children are invited to wear something special for the party and we hope that a special visitor will visit with gifts for the children. Normal nursery times apply—please see details of the session outlined on our diary sheet.



I hope you find the content of this newsletter useful . If you wish to discuss anything relating to the newsletter, please get in touch.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas, and thank you for your continued support and involvement in the life of Bathgate Early Years Centre.

Kind regards,

Carene Hay—Acting Head Teacher/Manager





Diary Dates

You will find a list of December dates/events below but please remember that all the activities planned for Christmas are dependant on any severe weather. Please check the WLC website for updates: www.westlothian.gov.uk/newsroom/winter update

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
Week beginning 8th December	Both Sessions	Christmas card week!
Wed, 10th December	Both Sessions	Christmas Hat Day
Thu, 11th December	Both Sessions	Magic Mac visit
Wed, 17th December	10.15am/2.30pm	Nativity Sing-along for PARENTS
Thu, 18th December	10.15am/2.30pm	Nativity Sing-along for GRANDPARENTS
Mon, 22nd December	<u>Christmas Party Time!</u> Children can wear their party clothes .Parents/Carers are invited to come along to join in the excitement when Santa visits! Please arrive at 10.10am/ 2.25pm sharp if you want to see your child receive a present.	
Tue, 23rd December	Morning an Afternoon children finish for the Christmas holiday. Wraparound closes for the Christmas holiday.	
Wed, 24th Dec —Wed, 7th Jan 2015	MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS!	
Thu, 8th January 2015	Wraparound and Nursery resumes	

