



BATHGATE E.Y.C. **NEWSLETTER -SEPTEMBER 2014**

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Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome to Session 2014-2015 at Bathgate E.Y.C. You and your child may be returning for a second year or you may be "New Starts". It's also nice to see " wee brothers and sisters " of children who have attended the centre in the past—we are looking forward to working with you all! Our new children are settling well and are getting used to the nursery routines and rules both indoors and out!

This session has seen the introduction of additional hours of nursery education. Obviously we have had to adjust some of our arrangements for registration, dropping off and picking up children. We understand the earlier start may be harder for some families but we do appreciate your co-operation in getting your child here at least for the start of the core time at 8.35am so they can access their full entitlement of core hours. Please remember that collection times are important too as staff have to prepare for the next group of children at the end of both morning and afternoon sessions.

We have listened to what parents have said about the location of the signing in and out sheet and we have moved it back to it's original location in the hallway! Hopefully it will stay there.

Although the children's hours and Nursery Nurse hours have increased , Admin' Support and Teachers hours have not. This means that although Mrs Todd will be working in the office when you come in and leave she will not be registering children —this is your responsibility. We will check numbers at the start of the core times for fire purposes and record as before in the playroom. Miss Anderson's contact time with children will start at 8.35am and finish at 3.16pm. PSW 's are covering the balance of time at the beginning and end of the day to ensure the correct ratio of staff to children.



Wraparound at Bathgate E.Y.C.

We no longer have wraparound provision before nursery so wraparound operates now from 11.08 until 5.30pm—Monday—Friday. It has also relocated to the Playroom off the foyer. This may change on occasion if numbers are low or staffing demands the two provisions merge temporarily.

I appreciate this may all seem very complicated but we are anxious that you understand how the changes have affected staffing at the centre.

Congratulations!

At the end of last session Miss Wilkinson was appointed to the new W.L.C. post of Early Years Officer at Bathgate E.Y.C. This is a promoted post and Miss Wilkinson now has additional management responsibilities within her job remit.

Communication with Parents/ Carers

Each month a newsletter is published as part of our communication with parents. Contact details for the school and myself are detailed on the first page. The plasma screen is also used to give you daily updates and we may text you using our GROUPCALL system. Other information is given in letter form and very soon you may wish to access our website which is currently being updated by Miss Wilkinson.

Please remember most of you have contact with staff every day both in wraparound and in nursery. This is also part of our communication and participation strategy—if you have any concerns at all, please speak to a member of staff.

Assessment and Reporting to Parents

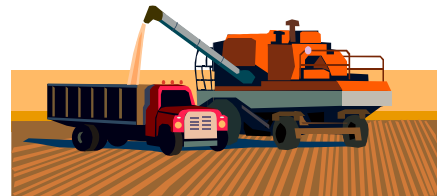
As you know children are allocated to colour groups and each group has a Key Worker. This helps us build up a clearer picture of each child to record in his/her Learner's Journey. If your child is a "Returner" - they may have stayed in the same group or they may have moved on—if you are not sure who your child's key worker is please speak to one of the staff. More information about the Learner's Journey is provided overleaf.

Curriculum for Excellence (CfE)- What are we Learning about this Month?

We are providing a wide range of appropriate learning opportunities for all children within Curriculum for Excellence .Along with a very child centred approach to learning staff plan a wide range of

learning opportunities meeting the children's individual learning needs and styles. This year we continue to develop the Early Level recording document devised by WLC. It's called the Learners Journey and covers the Early Level of CfE — this document will move with your child when he/she makes the transition to Primary One. Please come along to the Curriculum Evening on 17th September to find out more.

Please also have a look at the displays in the foyer and in the nursery to find out about Curriculum for Excellence and what the children have been learning. This month the natural focus will be Harvest, Autumn and the seasonal changes to our natural environment.



CfE ctd.

We celebrate Harvest by inviting each child to bring in a small non perishable item of food which will be collected together in a basket and given to our senior citizen friends at Acredale before the midterm break. The basket will be placed in the foyer from next week. Children and families are invited to bring along items of interest for our displays around the nursery.



In line with our work on Skills for Life we are always happy to welcome parents/ carers who would like to share some aspects of their work. In the past this has included: Road Crossing Patrol; Police; Fire Service; Carers; Dentist; Vet ;Doctor; Postal Workers; Bus Drivers, etc. Can you help with this area of learning?

Weekly Snack Money/ Nursery Donation (£1.50 donation includes 55p per week for snack)

Please remember this has to be paid on a weekly basis or in a termly block. Mrs Todd will issue reminders about unpaid snack money next week. (Nursery breakfast and late end of Nursery day snack is free). 55p is used to buy snack for the children the remaining 95p helps to buy baking supplies; playdough n; craft supplies; items for displays to promote learning and teaching; replacements for resources which are broken/ damaged etc. We really appreciate this donation as it helps us to resource and support the children's learning as interests and needs arise.

ECO School—Morrison's—Lets Grow

We continue our Eco work at BEYC. Having achieved our third green flag in June we are now working towards the next stage of this award scheme! As one of our main focuses for fundraising this year continues to be the Garden we have decided to participate in the Morrison's promotion. Please save any Morrison's vouchers for us! The collection box is in the foyer.

McMillan Coffee Morning

This year we have decided to hold a coffee morning to raise funds for MacMillan Cancer Care and get to know our parents and grandparents. This will take place on Friday 26th September in the parents area and small playroom. We need helpers for this on the day so please speak to Mrs Todd if you can spare some time. Donations of baking will also be greatly appreciated! We will also use this opportunity to pass on information about the various other groups which run in the centre.



Book Fair

Our Book Fair takes place from Wednesday 17th September until Wednesday 24th September. Books are supplied by Linlithgow Book shop and are specially chosen for the children's age group and their siblings. The Book Fair will also be open during our Welcome/Curriculum Evening for parents/carers on Wednesday 17th September.

Nursery Library and Adventure Ted.

Both resources provide opportunities for you to become involved in your children's learning at home and will start w/b 22nd September. More details about library and Adventure Ted will follow separately with initial donation cost etc.



Footwear at nursery.....

Staff have also asked me to remind you that your child should bring a pair of gym shoes for indoors and a pair of wellies for outdoor play. These are the easiest for children to manage and means they can cope with shoe changing independently!

As described above we give each child a nursery shoe bag. Following suggestions from parents we have provided shoe bags in each of the group colours. This means you do not have to bring any bag from home **especially trolley bags** which take up lots of space! The nursery shoe bags are for storing "inside shoes" and a change of clothes and must be left on your child's peg each day at the end of the session. **PLEASE DO NOT TAKE THESE BAGS HOME!**

Can you also make sure that names are on all items of clothing/ footwear ?

As part of our work on developing independence skills we encourage the children to replace their clothes etc. on their pegs and shoes in shoe bags when they return inside from outdoor play. We have to leave the cloakroom floor clear at the end of the day for our cleaner to clean the floor and dust etc. Any shoes which are found will be put in the lost property box and this is emptied at the end of each term—October, Christmas, Easter and Summer.

Parents Group

This session we also resume our Parents Group and the first meeting will be on Wednesday 8th October from 9.15am—9.45 am and from 12.30pm until 1pm. Staff are keen to build on the success of parents/ carers commitment to the Gala Day by reinstating the craft group which teaches parents/ carers some new and old skills and also help to prepare goods for our Christmas Fair Day. If you are interested in coming along and supporting your child and the work which goes on in the Nursery please speak to Mrs Todd. Everyone is welcome.

School Improvement Plan and Standards and Quality Report .

These will be endorsed shortly by our Education Officer, Meg Morrison, and will be displayed in the nursery cloakroom. If you wish a separate copy please ask Mrs Todd. The priorities for development in the centre and indeed across the Bathgate Academy cluster this year are raising Attainment particularly in Reading . We are also continuing on our work to develop Partnership with Parents.

School Photographer

The school photographer will be in school on Thursday 25th September. The photographer will also come back in the early evening to take family photographs .A separate letter will follow in the next few weeks.

Nursery Calendar

Please find some dates for your diary detailed below. We will add more events as the weeks go on.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
MONDAY 15th SEPTEMBER	NURSERY CLOSED	SEPTEMBER HOLIDAY
TUESDAY 16th SEPTEMBER	NURSERY CLOSED	STAFF INSERVICE DAY
WEDNESDAY 17 TH UNTIL WEDNESDAY 24 TH SEPTEMBER	BOOK FAIR IN PARENTS AREA	
WEDNESDAY 17 TH SEPTEMBER	6.30PM UNTIL 8PM	BOOK FAIR IN PARENTS AREA WELCOME/ CURRICULUM EVENING FOR PARENTS/ CARERS ONLY
THURSDAY 25 TH SEPTEMBER	AM ,PM AND EVENING	PHOTOGRAPHER IN SCHOOL
FRIDAY 26 TH SEPTEMBER	9.30-11AM	MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING
WEDNESDAY 2nd OCTOBER	6.30PM—8.PM	CURRICULUM EVENING—PARENTS/ CARERS ONLY
W/B 13 TH OCTOBER		STAY PLAY AND LEARN FOR ALL PARENTS/ CARERS (LETTER TO FOL- LOW)
MONDAY 20TH OCTOBER— FRIDAY 24th OCTOBER	NURSERY CLOSED	OCTOBER HOLIDAY
WEDNESDAY 29 TH OCTOBER	4.30PM UNTIL 8.30PM	PARENTAL CONSULTATION
DATE TBC IN NOVEMBER	DRESS UP—FOR CHILDREN IN NEED	
THURSDAY 20TH NOVEMBER	DURING COURSE OF NURSERY DAY TIMES TBC	CHRISTMAS FAIR
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	
WEDNESDAY 7TH JANUARY 2015	STAFF AND WRAPAROUND CHILDREN RESUME— NO NURSERY	
THURSDAY 8 TH TH JANUARY 2015	NURSERY CHILDREN RETURN	

We welcome any suggestions as to how we can improve our service at Bathgate EYC and you can either use the suggestion box in the foyer or contact me by phone or by e mail as detailed on the front page of the newsletter.

I hope you have found the content of the newsletter helpful—please contact me if you wish to discuss any of the information stated above.

Yours faithfully

Mvairí S. Lynch - Headteacher/ Manager

