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## BATHGATE E.Y.C. NEWSLETTER -JANUARY 2015

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Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year to you all! I trust everyone had a good rest, and a very blessed Festive Season. Christmas seems so long ago now - the children had lots of lovely experiences in the weeks leading up to Christmas which were topped off with their party and the Nativity Sing-along when we were joined by parents and grandparents! I hope you all enjoyed the Sing-along. Your donations raised £276.72 for Children 1st, formerly known as the RSPCC. Well done and thank you so much— this money will be put to very good use, because every childhood is worth fighting for!

I would like to thank everyone, on behalf of all the staff at Bathgate Early Years Centre, for all the lovely gifts and kind regards given to us at Christmas time. They were very much appreciated.

**With regards to severe weather—please ensure you have read our Severe Weather policy and if you use the wraparound service, please make sure that you leave work in plenty time to pick your child up by 5.30pm. This will enable staff to get home safely and avoid incurring any additional charges .**

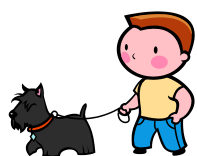
### **WINTER BUGS**

Everyone will be aware of the various winter bugs which are still going around. Please remember the WLC guidelines re sickness and diarrhoea. Children must not return to nursery until 48 hours after the symptoms have ceased. Thorough hand-washing and personal hygiene should be followed by all

parents/ carers and children at all times. If everyone adopts this approach we will help to keep our families and staff sickness free. The nursery staff and the link Health Visitor will be happy to provide any further advice should it be required.



## WHAT ARE WE LEARNING ABOUT?



Once again, the changing weather will provide opportunities for learning through investigation, discussion and observation, during our Winter topic. We also look forward to seeing what the children will bring through their experiences and knowledge and how they will extend their learning and that of their peers.

As Burns day (25th January) is a Sunday this year, we will celebrate this occasion in nursery on Thursday 22nd January. The children can wear something tartan on this day! The children will also be learning about Chinese New Year and the Year of the Sheep, and again we will have our own celebration on Thursday 29th January. If anyone has any talents in the areas of Scottish / Chinese music/poetry/art/cooking and would like to contribute to our celebrations, please let us know. Over the next term children will continue to be encouraged to develop independence in dressing, fastening etc. We would appreciate your support in this , (especially at the start and the end of the sessions in the cloakroom), as these skills are an important part of preparing for the transition to school and indeed getting ready for outdoor play each day at nursery.

## RAG BAG COLLECTION

Doing a big clear-out at home? Please bring in good quality clean and dry clothing, paired shoes, handbags, wallets and ties for collection before or on Thursday 29th January. All materials donated are recycled in the UK, and not only does it help to raise funds for our nursery, it also protects the environment and assists WLC to meet recycling targets. Reduce, reuse, recycle!



Our textile bank was recently emptied and 143kg was collected - we raised £57.20, thanks to your support!



## JUNK AND SPARE CLOTHES

We are looking for donations of clean, washed junk for the children's arts and crafts in the nursery. Please remember that we can't accept toilet rolls or egg cartons.

Our spare clothes bank is also running low—pants and socks in particular will be much appreciated. Please also remember to leave a labelled change of clothes in your child's peg bag.



## Deferred Entry

Children who have their birthdays in January and February, are eligible to apply for a deferred year in nursery. If you are considering deferral for your child and would like to speak to myself and your child's key worker, please do this ASAP. It is my understanding the applications for deferral must be made by the end of February 2015.



## Parent Helpers

Once again we need parents/grandparents/carer helpers in the nursery this term. If you are interested in coming in to help in nursery or with other jobs, e.g. Story sacks, please let the ladies know.



## Please help us in the CLOAKROOM !

We all know the cloakroom is a very busy place at times full of children, parents and belongings. The nursery supplies a shoe bag for each child so we would prefer that you use the nursery bag rather than bringing a separate bag from home as this just adds to the pile of belongings, including outer clothes and shoes; wellies etc.

Anything which the children don't put in their nursery bag will be lifted by staff at the end of the daily session and deposited in the Lost Property box. This is emptied at the start of each term and anything which is not collected by parents is sent for recycling. Please encourage your child to use their shoe bag, take responsibility for their belongings and keep the cloakroom tidy.

Also, please remember to check the table in the foyer for labelled bags of clothes if your child has wet/soiled themselves and you have signed a form.



## Collection times

Please take note of collection times in the morning and the afternoon. It is essential that you collect your child on time as late arrival eats into important staff preparation and planning time. Children that are accommodated after these times, are children who are enrolled in, and pay for our Wraparound Care Provision.

Morning session: Parents/carers and children should be clear of the building by 11.05am and no later than 11.28am on a Friday morning.

Afternoon session: Parents/carers and children should be clear of the building by 4.08pm.

I hope you find the content of this newsletter useful. Please contact me if you wish to discuss any of the issues raised above. Thank you for your continued support and involvement in the life of Bathgate Early Years Centre.

Yours sincerely,

**Carene Hay**



## Dates for your Diary

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
THU, 8th JANUARY	NURSERY RESUMES	
FRI, 13th FEBRUARY	ALL DAY	NURSERY CLOSED—FEBRUARY HOLIDAY WRAPAROUND OPEN AS USUAL
MON, 16th FEBRUARY	ALL DAY	NURSERY CLOSED—FEBRUARY HOLIDAY WRAPAROUND OPEN AS USUAL
TUE, 17th FEBRUARY	BOTH SESSIONS	NURSERY RESUMES AS NORMAL
MON, 23rd FEBRUARY	BOTH SESSIONS	FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT BEGINS
W/B MON, 16th MARCH	STAY , PLAY AND LEARN FOR <u>PARENTS</u> OF ALL CHIDREN AHEAD OF MARCH PARENTAL CONSULTATIONS	
THU, 26th MARCH	4.30-8.30PM	PARENTAL CONSULTATIONS
THU, 2nd APRIL	BOTH SESSIONS	LAST DAY OF TERM
FRIDAY 3rd & MONDAY 6th APRIL	WRAPAROUND CLOSED FOR PUBLIC HOLIDAYS	
TUE 7th –FRI 17th APRIL	WRAPAROUND OPEN AS USUAL	
MON, 20th APRIL	NURSERY RESUMES AS NORMAL	

