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BATHGATE E.Y.C. NEWSLETTER –FEBRUARY 2017

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Dear Parents/Carers

Apologies for the delay in getting this newsletter February is whizzing past with our mid term break tomorrow until Tuesday 14th February. The nursery will open again on Wednesday 15th February. Wraparound will remain open as usual at BEYC during this holiday period.

What are we Learning about in February?

Children are continuing to learn about water and bubbles through a wide variety of experiences. The children have been birdwatching enthusiastically and recording the different types of birds which come to our new bird station feeding area in the orchard.

Pancake Day is celebrated on the 28th February—the children will be experimenting with different pancake toppings and flavours. Following last year's success we will be welcoming some new visitors to the centre as part of our learning about new life. The children will be incubating eggs and hopefully by Easter we will have some baby chicks to look



after and learn about! Eggs arrive on the 22nd February 2017.

Fairtrade fortnight takes place from 27nd February until 12th March. In the meantime if you are out and about shopping and buy a FAIRTRADE product please bring in 1 wrapper/ package with a note of where and why you bought it so we can discuss Fairtrade with the children at group time as part of their learning about global issues.

We will be enjoying Fairtrade snacks and trying to ensure that the products we use are linked to Fairtrade. Miss Heenan will send out details of our Fairtrade raffle early next month. Prizes are being donated by TESCO and SCOTMID and all proceeds will be added to our fundraising event for Red Nose Day later in March.



Big Bedtime Read



We are delighted to announce that we had the Launch of the Big Book Time Read .Mrs Frame is the co-ordinator for this project as part of her Parental Engagement work. Changeover days for book packs will be Wednesdays it is very important that all books are returned Wednesday of each week .

We also need Parents helpers Am/Pm sessions . Please speak to Mrs Todd if you can help with this .

Severe Weather

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

westlothian.gov.uk/winter.

The council is also asking residents and local businesses to help:

- Park sensibly - abandoned vehicles can cause serious issues.
- Share information with friends and neighbours, and spare a moment for vulnerable neighbours.
- Stay informed. Sign up for the email alert on the council's website at www.westlothian.gov.uk/email, like the council Facebook page at www.facebook.com/westlothiancouncil or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/lovewestlothian for updates.
- If you are able, clear the path and pavement in front of your home.
- Prepare your car and home ahead of the winter.
- Keep the winter issue of Bulletin handy.
- Parents and carers should also ensure that their child's school/nursery has up to date contact information.

Spare Clothes

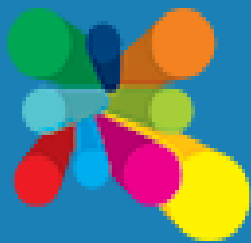
As intimated in last months newsletter we are still desperately short of spare clothes for emergency changes **particularly pants and socks** . If you are having a clear out we would appreciate donations of any old clothes sizes 3– 5 years. Please also remember to leave a labelled change of clothes in your child's peg bag.

Parental Engagement in the Life and Work of our Centre !

PEEP

Due to the success of PEEP babies we are going to be running another PEEP baby group every Wednesday from 09.45 -11.00. New group starts on the 22nd February 2017.

Transition PEEP will also start after the February break on Friday mornings. Groups start on the 17th February 2017. Places are very limited so please speak to Mrs Ola if you and your child would like to attend either/ both of these groups.



DIGITAL SCHOOLS AWARDS SCOTLAND

Digital Schools Learning Award

Many of you will know that we have been awarded the above accolade following a visit from Education Scotland earlier in the month.

Evidence of our practice and policies were carefully examined by the validator , Lee Dunn from Education Scotland prior to the visit . On the day Lee spent the morning in nursery speaking with children and staff and observing a wide range of learning Demonstrating high levels of ICT enriched teaching and learning both indoors and out.

We have been identified as the first " stand alone" Early Years Centre in Scotland and the first educational establishment in west Lothian to receive the award.

The award will be represented later this moth in Fife and will be received by Miss Wilkinson and Miss Kelly on the centre's behalf.

We have volunteered to become a mentor school to support other schools and centres in the process of developing Digital Learning in their own schools.

Dates for your Diary		
DATE	TIME	EVENT
Friday 10th February	ALL DAY	NURSERY CLOSED—FEBRUARY HOLIDAY WRAPAROUND OPEN AS USUAL
Mon 13th February	ALL DAY	NURSERY CLOSED—FEBRUARY HOLIDAY WRAPAROUND OPEN AS USUAL
Tuesday 14th February	ALL DAY	NURSERY CLOSED—FEBRUARY HOLIDAY WRAPAROUND OPEN AS USUAL
Wednesday 15th February	BOTH SESSIONS	NURSERY RESUMES AS NORMAL
Monday 27nd February	BOTH SESSIONS	FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT BEGINS
Friday 26th February	Deferral applications to be submitted to Pupil Placement.	
Wednesday 27th February— Sunday 12th March	FAIRTRADE Fortnight	
Wednesday 1st March	RAG BAG DAY—Please bring any clothes etc. for recycling	
Thursday 2nd March	WORLD BOOK DAY— BOOK VOUCHERS will be issued to all children.	
W/B Monday 13th March	STAY , PLAY AND LEARN FOR <u>PARENTS</u> OF ALL CHIDREN AHEAD OF MARCH PARENTAL CONSULTATIONS	
Wednesday 22nd March	Red Nose Day - Different Hairdo Day	
Thursday 23rd March	4.30-8.30PM	PARENTAL CONSULTATIONS
Wednesday 29th March	Times tbc	GRANDPARENTS DAY
Thursday 30th March	PM SESSION	LAST DAY OF TERM
Friday 31st March	AM SESSION	LAST DAY OF TERM

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.

