

March & April 2021

Bathgate Early Years Centre
Whitburn Road
Bathgate EH48 2RD
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Twitter - @wlbeyc

Head Teacher: Margaret Johns

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome Back

Staff at Bathgate Early Years were so excited to welcome the return of our full cohort of children on the 15th February, we love to hear our ELC setting filled with laughter and play. We are so proud of how well our children have adapted to the new provision and changes in our setting. They have shown great strength and resilience during these unprecedented times. We would like to thank our families for adhering to the new guidelines and in their help supporting the children through the changes. We would like to send a gentle reminder about social distancing and facial coverings for all adults at all times.

Achieving



What are we learning about this month?

January and February have passed by so quickly with lots going on. We have recently been celebrating a whole range of events including Valentine's Day, Shrove Tuesday and Safer Internet Day. Recently the children have been keen to plan and develop our outside environment. Alongside the children, staff have been providing opportunities and activities in our garden that engage and develop their curious minds in relation to outdoor play. We would like to ask for donations of outdoor plants or flowers to add to our beautiful planters, giving the children first hand experiences of nurturing and looking after their own gardens. If you can donate any plants or flowers please speak with staff.



Illness/Covid19 Guidelines

We would like to remind you that it is very important that all parents/ carers adhere strictly to the WLC policy and guidelines on sickness and also NHS Guidance on Coronavirus. **If your child has developed any symptoms relating to Covid 19 including coughing, high temperature, loss of taste or smell, you must not send them to nursery and seek medical advice as soon as possible.** Please note that if your child develops these symptoms during their session, staff will inform you they must be collected asap and that you seek medical advice.

Woodland Adventures

As Mrs Ola continues to take part in her Froebel in Childhood Practice studies, we are implementing weekly Woodland Adventure sessions. You will receive a group call message in advance to let you know when your child will be visiting the local woodland to ensure they are dressed appropriately. The children will spend their session working together as a team creating shelters, getting closer to nature, exploring open spaces, climbing trees, digging deep into their imaginations, risk assessing their capabilities and discussing the boundaries and how freedom with guidance can allow us to have the best experiences. Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Ola if you would like more information on the Woodland Adventures.

Safe



Fire pit

We have been gradually re-introducing our fire pit into nursery as the weather improves. Previously we have toasted marshmallows, melted chocolate and made vegetable pizzas. This is a great opportunity for the children to develop a skill for life, risk assessing their own boundaries and capabilities. If you have any further questions regarding the fire pit please speak to a member of staff.



Labelled Outdoor Clothing



We are awaiting Spring but the weather remains very cold, please can we ask that children come to nursery dressed appropriately for outdoor play, each group will be outdoors every day in all weathers. Please also ensure your child attends with a full change of clothing including pants and socks in their bags. **Please can we ask that all clothes and shoes are labelled, this is essential for children and staff.**

Staffing Update

We are both delighted and sad to let you all know that Miss Kelly has accepted a new role within West Lothian Council as an Early Years Area Support Manager. Miss Kelly has played a vital role in developing BEYC and is a huge support to all our families, staff team and children. Miss Kelly will be leaving Bathgate Early Years Centre on the 19th March and information will follow as to who will be taking on the role of Early Years Officer at BEYC.

Contacting Nursery

Please note our nursery phone numbers. To contact nursery please use the following telephone numbers:

Main office phone line: **01506 284963**

Nursery playroom phone line: **01506 284965**

Nursery email address: wlbathgate.eyc@westlothian.org.uk

We would be grateful if you could share this with family/childminders who may need to contact nursery.

Parent Consultations

This year our Parent Consultations will be different done as telephone appointments keeping in line with our Covid19 guidelines. Key workers will be in touch with parents/carers via email to arrange a 10 minute time slot to contact you by telephone. The consultations will take place on **Friday 19th and 26th March**. If your time slot is unsuitable please speak to your child's group lady to rearrange.

Included



Packed Lunch boxes



If your child brings a packed lunch box to nursery can we please ask you to ensure you do not give your child any kind of peanut spread including Nutella. Please also note that all grapes must be cut lengthwise before coming to nursery.

Safe



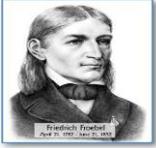
Car Park – PLEASE DO NOT USE



Please, please, please can we ask parent's/carers to ensure they are **not using the school car park or surrounding areas this includes the bottom gate along Whitburn Rd** at any time. It is council policy across West Lothian that only staff use the car park and this is to keep everyone safe. We have a number of parents and grandparents who continue to use the car park and it is causing great concern for safety. If you have childminders/grandparents/family or friends dropping off or collecting please can you let them know not to use the car park. Thank you for your help with this. Please contact West Lothian Council for further guidance.

Keeping up to date with BEYC

Please take a look at our blog <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/wl/beyc/> or Twitter **@wlbeyc** for regular updates about all the learning taking place at BEYC. You can also find observations in your child's individual online learning journal, if you need help to access your child's account please let staff know.



'The child should experience nature 'in all its aspects –form, energy, substance, sound and colour'.
(Froebel in Lilley 1967:148)

Kind regards

The Nursery Team