

The Calderwood Chronicle

Issue Date: 14.1.21



We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year. We have loved welcoming back our nursery children and look forward to the new year ahead.

To make you aware, Mrs Lyon is our newest Acting Early Years Officer working alongside Mrs Laing.

The champions have been working hard to support the children to settle into their new groupings. We have found most children are enjoying their grouping, allowing them to get to know their key champion even more and engaging in activities they may not have chosen before. We will continue to extend the children's interests and build on their curiosity and engagement in play and learning.

Kind regards,
Nursery Champions

Diary Dates

18th January - Parent Council Meeting
24th-28th January - Burns Day Filming
25th January – Burns Day Celebrations

Changes in Calderwood Nursery – COVID-19

Following the updated Scottish Government Early Learning and Childcare Guidance - Calderwood Nursery is using a grouping model, which will reduce the amount of interactions the children have with children and adults. The guidance is set to be reviewed at the end of January. As soon as there are any changes to guidance we will update you. We want to thank you for your patience and support whilst we transitioned to this model and to the Parent Council Clan Reps who attended a meeting with Miss Miller to discuss the guidance further. This was a positive meeting highlighting what is going well and what we can do to improve. We have taken action on the points for improvement.

If you have any further questions please ask a member of staff or contact our Clan Reps:

- Freya Mitchell
- Claire Raeburn
- Lucy Wright
- Katy Gillies

This social story has been used with the children to explain the changes. You may want to use it at home.

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/wl/calderwood/2022/01/07/nursery-social-story-groupings/>

Burns Day

As part of our Burns Day celebrations the children will learn a Scottish Song (Three Crows) which will be filmed and shared with you.

Filming will take place between Monday 24th-Friday 28th. If your child is absent on these dates please send us a video of your child singing to wcalderwood-ps@westlothian.org.uk

Lunch

Nursery lunches should all be ordered through iPay. If you have any issues with iPay please contact the school office who will support you.

The children have access to snacks and meals throughout their nursery day. If the nursery have any concerns about your child's eating this will be recorded and communicated with you at pick up time.

If you have any concerns or questions please ask a member of staff.

Contacting Calderwood Nursery

If your child is going to be absent from nursery, you need to share any information about your child, or have a question/query please phone or email the school office on 01506 280060 or wcalderwood-ps@westlothian.org.uk. Our nursery champions spend most of their time on the floor supporting, playing and challenging the children during their learning and therefore are unable to take calls directly to the nursery between 8am-4pm. The office champions will pass the messages onto the nursery and a nursery champion will get back to you.

Learning Journals

Our Online Learning Journal platform is used to share key observations of your child's learning. To ensure consistency across this platform – our nursery are working on a framework in line with the West Lothian Council policy of how many observations you should expect. This will be shared with you in the coming weeks.

Learning Sways

We are also working on additional ways to share the play, learning and fun your children are having at nursery. In the coming week, Learning Sways will be shared with our parents. Each grouping will follow a consultative plan based on the children's interests and move to a new topic when the children want to.

Grouping Information

 Mrs Aston  Puffins  Calderwood Nursery		GROUP 1 OUR CLANS		 Miss Quinn  Hedgehogs  Mrs Carson  Mrs Shemilt  Seals	
				GROUP 2	
 Mrs Millon  Badgers GROUP 1		 Mrs Laing  Mrs Lyon  Red Squirrels  Mrs Brett  Miss Dolan  Dolphins			

There are 3 indoor play areas.



Bagpipes

Haggis

Nessy

Our activities and areas change every week based on the childrens interests.

In their areas all groups have access to: mark making, construction, story area, numeracy, games, sand&water, outdoors etc. You can see some examples of activities in each area here:

<https://sway.office.com/O2L239c1oDiPezEE?ref=Link>

Grouping Area Rotation – subject to changing guidance and staffing

DATE	HAGGIS ROOM	NESSY ROOM	BAGPIPE ROOM
10.1.22	GROUP 1	GROUP 2	GROUP 3
17.1.22	GROUP 3	GROUP 1	GROUP 2
24.1.22	GROUP 2	GROUP 3	GROUP 1
31.1.22	GROUP 1	GROUP 2	GROUP 3