



Lenzie Meadow Nursery

Newsletter

September - October 2019

I am delighted to welcome all of our new children and families to Lenzie Meadow Nursery and welcome back all of our returning children after the Summer break. The children have all settled in really well to nursery life and are getting familiar with routines, staff and making new friends. We pride ourselves at Lenzie Meadow in providing high quality learning and teaching experiences and having a welcoming and caring environment for your child to develop and thrive in. I hope you will be happy with our service and am looking forward to getting to know you all. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or concerns and I will be happy to help.

Lesley Reid, Depute Head of Centre



Treat Fund

We ask parents to pay 40p per day for the nursery treat fund. This helps to pay for things such as party food, entertainment and essential items along with snacks and baking ingredients.

Please hand in your contributions to the nursery office. Parents/carers are welcome to pay this on a weekly, monthly or termly basis.

Nursery Uniforms

Children's poloshirts and sweatshirts can be purchased from Baru in Kirkintilloch. Poloshirts now come in white and navy and sweatshirts in navy blue.

Clothing and Footwear Provision

Please provide a pair of indoor shoes for your child for when we visit the school gym hall. Can we also ask that you provide wellies that can stay in nursery for our many wet weather days. Please ensure your child is suitably clothed for the weather each day as we will be outside on a daily basis.

Please also provide a spare change of clothing for your child. This can be kept in a bag on your child's peg with their name clearly marked. **Please label all of your child's belongings. As you can appreciate we have over 100 children and cannot keep track of every child's belongings.**

Security

You should all be aware of our signing in and out system as part of our procedures for keeping your child safe. Please ensure you notify the nursery if someone not on your 'authorised to collect' list on your child's enrolment form is coming to collect your child. The person must then quote your chosen password and provide identification on arrival. Once you have collected your child from the playroom and have entered the foyer, please keep your child beside you at all times. At pick up times the foyer can be really busy and the main doors are constantly opening and closing. Please be vigilant in keeping your child safe.

A year plan of dates has already been emailed out to you but here are some upcoming dates for your diary:

2nd September – 6.30-8pm – PTA Meeting
9th September – 6.30-8pm – Parent Council Meeting
27th - 30th September – nursery closed
1st October – in-service day – nursery closed
10th October – 6.30pm – 8pm - Curriculum Evening
11th October - In-service day – nursery closed
14th – 18th October– term-time children off, nursery open for extended year children only
24th October – 9-10am - Numeracy Stay and Play
25th October – 3-4pm – Numeracy Stay and Play
5th November –6.30-8pm - PTA meeting
12th November - 6.30-8pm – Parent Council Meeting
14th November – Tempest photography
30th November – 1-4pm - xmas fayre
6th December – nursery nativity
20th December – term-time children finish for Christmas holidays
24th December – nursery closes for extended day children

Care Plans

Thank you to everyone who has handed in care plans already. If you have not done so please hand it back in asap. We are going through all of the plans to identify starting points for learning and support and challenge needs. We are required by Care Inspectorate to have a care plan for every child so it is really important that you have completed one and given it back to your child's key worker.

Toothbrushing

All children will be encouraged to brush their teeth once during their session at nursery. We are just awaiting a delivery of more toothbrushes then we will be getting started. Our staff are trained in the Childsmile Toothbrushing programme.



Absence Reporting

Please notify the nursery office before 9.30am (am sessions) and before 1.30pm (afternoon sessions) if your child will not be attending nursery.

New Look Lunch Menu

East Dunbartonshire Council have revamped their school and nursery lunch menu for session 2019.20. Your child can now receive a 3 course healthy meal consisting of soup, hot main course and fruit. The menu is displayed in the nursery foyer and I have attached a copy for you to look through too.

We would appreciate you filling the menu ordering form in for the week so that we can notify the school kitchen of our orders in a timely fashion.

Thank you.

Parents as partners.....

Parent helpers We are looking for 1 or 2 volunteers to help with our lending library each week. Also, if you have a particular skill or trade that you would be able to share with the children we would love to have you in the nursery. Please talk to a member of staff.

PTA and Parent Council We would love some more nursery parent representation on the school and nursery PTA and Parent Council. Please come along and get involved in fundraising, policy making and have your say in any important issues.

Staff Team

I am pleased to introduce to you our staff team. We have a wonderful range of experience, skills and expertise and everyone is working together to provide a high quality of early learning and childcare.

Mrs Sheona Allen – head teacher

Mrs Lesley Reid – depute head of centre

Mrs Heather Hill – senior early years worker

Mrs Kirsty Quinn – nursery teacher (wed – fri)

Miss Laura Allen – nursery teacher (mon – tue)

Mrs Avril Zammit – nursery clerical assistant

3-5 Room

Mrs Sandra Macdonald – early years worker (mon – thur)

Miss Aimee Clark – early years practitioner (full time)

Mrs Tracey Elliott – early years practitioner (full time)

Miss Rachel McMillan – early years practitioner (full time)

Ms Fiona Philp – early years practitioner (ams)

Mrs Kirsty Mullaney – early years practitioner (ams)

Mrs Wendy Stirling – early years practitioner (pms)

Miss Pamela Shovlin - early years practitioner (pms)

Mrs Sharon Warner - early years practitioner (ams)

Miss Suzanne Hay - early years practitioner (ams)

Mrs Debbie Armstrong – early years practitioner (mon & thur)

Mrs Louise McLaren – support worker (ams)

Mr Grant McNeil – support worker (ams)

Miss Ailish Docherty – modern apprentice (full time)

Mrs Lindsay Macaulay – early years practitioner (full time covering Lynsey McMillan's maternity leave)

2-3 Room

Miss Lesley Irving – early years practitioner (full time)

Miss Jeanna Nisbet – early years practitioner (ams)

Mrs Nicola Paterson – early years practitioner (full time)

shaping our future

together.....

Parent and children questionnaires – consultation time

We would love to hear what you and your child think of our nursery and for you to give your suggestions for further developments/resource ideas etc.

Please complete the short questionnaire attached and hand it back into the nursery office or email it back to me (paper copies are also available from the office)

Communication

We will communicate with you via email, group text and nursery facebook page (closed group). If you have not joined our Facebook page already please find us at Lenzie Meadow Nursery. Unfortunately staff are not permitted to be friends with parents on their personal facebook accounts so please avoid friend requesting any members of staff.

We also use twitter to share our learning.

Please notify us of any changes to your contact details so that we can get hold of you in an emergency situation and so that we know you are receiving our correspondence. If you would prefer information to come to you in paper format please notify the nursery office.

Find us on 

Curriculum Evening - Thursday 10th October – 6.30pm – 8pm

We would like to invite all parents/carers to come along to our Open Evening. This will give you the opportunity to look around our playrooms, chat with staff and experience some of the learning activities your child is offered throughout their nursery day. We will also be giving a short presentation about our curriculum, planning and assessment and daily routines.

Inspection Report

We received an inspection visit from the Care Inspectorate in June 2019. We are delighted to say that we were graded as follows:

Care and Support – Excellent

Management and Leadership – Very Good

I would like to thank my staff team for their hard work, commitment and professionalism that was clearly recognised by our Inspector. I would also like to thank our very supportive families who make our job very rewarding and worthwhile.

There are paper copies of the report in the nursery foyer and I will also send out an electronic copy via email for you to read.

Tempest Photography

Tempest will be visiting on **Thursday 3rd November**. This will be for all our nursery children. You are welcome to bring your child into nursery if it is not their usual session. If your child has an older sibling in the school and you wish them to be photographed together please let the nursery office know so that we can co-ordinate with the school.

Improvement Plan

This year's improvement plan priorities are as follows:

- improving literacy continuous provision indoors and outdoors
- improving numeracy continuous provision indoors and outdoors
- Improving children's health and wellbeing through all stakeholders implementing the principles of being communication friendly.
- Preparing for the delivery of 1140 hours in August 2020

We will be self-evaluating our progress throughout the year ahead and looking for your input into this.

Outdoor Learning

At the start of each session (approximately 9am and 1.15pm) the children do their 'daily mile'. This gets the children active and ready to learn for the rest of the session. They will be encouraged to walk, run, skip, hop, jump – whatever they choose to do so long as they are moving and having fun! Please note, the only day we do not do the Daily Mile is a Wednesday morning due to assembly and gym hall time.

When we return from doing the Daily Mile the children then have the option of staying outside or going back indoors. The children are free to choose where they play and can move from indoors to outdoors and vice versa independently. We really value outdoor learning and the benefits it brings to a child's whole development and wellbeing.

In order to manage a free flow 'indoors to outdoors' approach we are having to review our current practice. To help it run more smoothly we are now encouraging the children to change into their welly boots and put on a nursery jacket at our outdoor canopy area. When they return indoors all they need to do is get their shoes from the welly tub and hang up their jacket. This saves having to go out and in to the foyer repeatedly.

Also, when your child arrives at nursery please now keep their outdoor shoes on. When they are going outside and require welly boots they can change into them at the canopy area where the welly boots are stored. The outdoor area is open from 8.30am so children arriving after then in the morning have the option of going straight outside or staying inside. The same applies for the afternoon session. The children will change into their indoor shoes when going to the gym hall.

IF YOUR CHILD DOES NOT HAVE WELLY BOOTS AT NURSERY CAN YOU PLEASE PROVIDE A PAIR THAT CAN BE STORED IN THEIR GROUP WELLY TUB WITH THEIR NAME CLEARLY WRITTEN INSIDE. THANK YOU.