



# Lennoxtown Early Years Centre News

August 2020



Welcome

Dear Families, the warmest of welcomes to all of you for our first newsletter of the new session. To our families who have been with us prior to lockdown, thank you all for your support and understanding over the period of nursery closure. And to all families, thank you so much for your understanding and support in regards to all of procedural changes we've had to make to our service in order to keep everyone safe. We are mindful that we are still living in the recovery phase and as soon as we are able to get back to more normality and a chance to have you in and around the nursery we will do that. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact us via phone or email and we'll get back to you as timely as possible. We've also noted all of our communication mechanisms further down so if you're not already following us on twitter or having a peek on our nursery website please take some time to do so.

As we move further in to recovery, I 'd like to thank Isabel, Donna, Nancy and all the team not only for getting our service up and running in August but for their hard work and commitment through all the time during lockdown where our doors remained open for key worker families. Be rest assured that your children are in the capable hands of a very capable and hardworking team!

*Rena Goughlan*

Head Teacher

## Our Staff Team

I would normally have introduced myself and the team to all new families during your child's induction but this year has been very different so I thought it would be nice to introduce everyone in the newsletter.

Isabel Bott – Depute Head of Centre.

Adam Stubbs- Teacher

Nancy Temporal – Senior Early Years Worker under 3's

Donna Marshal-Senior Early Years Worker 3-5's

### **3-5 Early Years Workers**

Natalie Andrews

Ainsley Gillen

Dominique Taggart

Donna Ryan

Kirsty McCormick

Lynne Frew

Jennifer Fagan

Jenna Blades

Donna Forbes

Kirsty Smith

Ashley Duncan

Debbie Bryson

### **Under 3's Early Years Workers**

Gwen Hendren

Geraldine Smith

Zoe Dickie

Chloe Stephenson

Sharon Percy

Kelley-Anne Ezgu

Lisa Carr

Tracy Corlett

Jenna Todd

### **Support Staff**

Jillian Russell – Early Years Support Worker Fiona Garlinge – Clerical

Margaret McFall – Cleaner

Lynsey Kincaid-Housekeeper

Please give me a call if you have any questions.

*Isabel Bott*

Isabel Bott

Depute Head of Centre

## Contact & Communication Details

**Telephone** 0414 955 2268

**e-mail** [nursery@lennoxtown.e-dunbarton.sch.uk](mailto:nursery@lennoxtown.e-dunbarton.sch.uk)

**Twitter** @ELennoxtown

**Website** <http://www.lennoxtown.e-dunbarton.sch.uk/early-years-centre/>

It is really important that you keep us informed of any changes to telephone numbers and e-mails address and let us know if you think we may not have the correct details.

We will also communicate using learning journals and if you respond to a message this will come direct to Isabel's e-mail, we do not however receive notification of comments made on observations/stories and staff monitor these as best as they can. Please give us a call or drop us e-mail if you have any question or if you want to chat about child's experience in nursery.



## Drop off and Collection of Children

Red and Yellow groups are currently based in our Strawberry Pod and they should be dropped off and collected from the gate behind the building on North Birbiston Road.

Blue and Green groups are currently based in our Banana Pod and they should be dropped off and collected from the gate at the side of the building across from the huts.

Under 3's are based in the Rainbow Room and Baby Room and should be dropped off and collected at our main gate in front of the building.

It is essential that you tell staff who will collect your child and what time they will be collected. If you are unsure please call and let us know as soon as you do. Please remember during this exceptional time staff have additional cleaning and organising duties and therefore it is essential your child is collected on time.

**Please do not enter in to the outdoor play areas at any time and ensure you maintain 2m distance from staff and other parents at all times. We do understand that there are times when staff may need to take children from parents (particular in the under 3's) but we have additional control measures in place to mitigate risk.**

## Notification of Absence

It is essential you notify us if your child is going to be absent from nursery. If possible this should be done before 9.30am for all children as we need to order lunches. If you do not notify us by 9.30am or 2pm (for pm children) then you will receive a call and if we cannot reach you, we try all other contacts. Please also let us know if your child becomes unwell with Covid 19 symptoms, even if it is on a day they do not attend as we need to notify Care Inspectorate of all suspected or confirmed cases of children who have attend the nursery at any time since we reopened on 10<sup>th</sup> August. Thanks you for your support.

## Essentials for Fun Play and Learning Experiences

There are some essentials that we need from you to help us ensure that all children have the best possible experiences when they are in nursery.

- We have supplied every child with a drawstring bag which is kept in the nursery so please do not bring any bags as we have nowhere to store these.
- Ensure your child always has a at least one set of spare clothing (including socks and underwear), more if they are toilet training. Please put names on everything.
- Regardless of the weather in the morning, please ensure your child has a waterproof jacket everyday as the children have access to outdoors all day regardless of changes in the weather.
- Again children need suitable outdoor shoes or Wellies every day. We can store indoor shoes in their bag but outdoor shoes & wellies need to be brought with them daily. Sandals, flip-flop, crocs etc are not suitable outdoor footwear as children are exploring, running, jumping and climbing and these can cause accidents.
- NHS Scotland website states that the sun is strong enough to cause skin damage from March to October so please check the weather forecast in the morning and apply suncream before bring your child to nursery. We will reapply if necessary or if you do have any suncream. Please remember if staff apply suncream they wear gloves (and change these for every child so please try to do this and help us save resources). Children should also have a hat in the bag to us if needed.
- On colder days children should have hats and gloves.

Remember to dress your child in clothing that allows them to explore and take on physical challenges without being worried about getting messy or damaging it. We all know children often say they didn't do anything today but every muddy mark, wet patch or paint stain on their clothing tells a different story. Use marks on clothing as a way to talk to your child about the fun they had and what they achieved and believe me you will be surprised at what they have packed in to their day.



### Holidays

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> & Monday 28<sup>th</sup> Sept – Centre closed – reopens Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> Sept  
Friday 9<sup>th</sup> Oct – In-service day Centre closed- reopens Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Oct  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Dec – Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Jan – Centre Closed-reopens Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Jan  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb – Centre closed – reopens Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> Feb  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> & Monday 5<sup>th</sup> Apr - Centre closed reopens Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> Apr  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Centre closed reopens Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May – Centre closed reopens Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> & Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May – Centre closed reopens Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> Jun  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Jul – Centre closed reopens Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> Jul  
End of nursery place for pre-school children will be Friday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021



## 3-5 Room

### Strawberry Pod

The staff in the strawberry pod in the 3-5 room have been working on the new nursery routine and promoting independence and good hygiene throughout the day. The children have settled well into the new routine and room.

The children have been spending most of the session outdoors exploring the mud kitchen and have been looking for mini beasts. Please ensure that your child has appropriate clothing and wellies.

The children have also been enjoying the role play area.



### Banana Pod

The staff in the banana pod have been working on promoting independence and good hygiene throughout the day. The children have been settling in for the past weeks and have settled well back into the room and smaller pods.

The staff have been using the SMART board to do number and colour activities. They also have been using the board to do virtual stories and some yoga.

They have also been spending most of the day in the outdoor area exploring the mud kitchen. Please ensure that your child has appropriate clothing and wellies.

The children have been making their own pasta dishes with the girls developing their fine motor skills, learning how to use knives appropriately as they cut the ingredients up.



Adam will be working with the pre-school children in the next few weeks. Until now he has been help the new P1's set in to school and moving forward he will work across the school and nursery.

## 2-3 Room

The 2-3 room have been settling into the nursery after our return. We have been working on handwashing and promoting independence throughout the room. We have also been trying very hard to share our toys and turn – take during snack time etc.

We have been spending lots of time outdoors exploring the mud kitchen and doing obstacle courses. We have been making lots of plans for our outdoor area and will share these with you at a later date. Please make sure that suitable clothing and wellies are provided as we do not have anything spare here.



## Baby Room

The babies have been settling into the new nursery room and routine. Staff and children have been bonding with their new friends.

The baby room staff have started to develop the outdoor area as we are spending more and more time out in the garden. Please make sure that suitable clothing and wellies are provided.



## Monthly Treat Fund

Thank to everyone who has contributed to our treat fund. This money is used to provide a healthy snack and for things such as Christmas gifts and resources to enhance the children's play. The current situation means that we will not be able to do our sponsored family walk this year so we will be relying even more on our treat fund. We are having to do things a little differently this year as any cash payments must be left for 72hr before we deal with them. Any treat fund payments should be put in an envelope with your child's name, the date and the amount written on the outside. The staff collection the children will have a folder these can be placed in. These are then transfer to the office to be opened after 72hrs has passed.

Some parents have asked about making payments direct to our bank but unfortunately not possible at the moment. As some people prefer to pay by term or for the whole year we normally display these amounts on our notice board so I have included these below for anyone wishing to contribute the treat fund is 40p per day.

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
1 day £7.60	1 day £6.40	1 day £4.80
2 days £15.20	2 days £12.80	2 days £9.60
3 days £23.20	3 days £19.60	3 days £14.80
4 days £30.80	4 days £26.00	4 days £19.60
5 days £38.40	5 days £32.40	5 days £24.40

Please remember this is a voluntary dotation to our fund and you can choose to contribute or not.

Thank you

## Family Champion Corner

Nancy is our family champion and she is current working on how she can still help you with any parenting issues.

Nancy will be in touch with everyone soon to let them know what she does and how and when she can be contacted.



## Useful Websites

<https://www.parentclub.scot/> - Scottish Government information site for parents

<https://www.facebook.com/NHSGGCSLT/> - East Dunbartonshire Speech and Language Therapy and Facebook.