



April 2009 Newsletter

Staff News

We have arranged **First Aid for Appointed Person** and **Baby and Child First Aid** training for EVERY member of the team. The training is Health and Safety Executive approved and will be valid for three years. This will ensure that ALL staff are trained and confident when responding to accidents and common childhood illnesses, and ensures we are doing everything we can to support the health and wellbeing of every child. The training will take place over two weekends in May!!

We are very sad to announce that Nicola G, having completed her training, will be moving on to a new nursery! We are all going to miss her very much, but know that she will keep in touch with the many good friends she has made here. Nicola will also be coming back to attend the First Aid training, and we hope that she will pop in from time to time to visit us. Best of luck in your new job Nicola!!

Front and Back Garden Development

One of the areas raised in the Parent Questionnaire in November was the outdoor areas, and we have been consulting with staff and children to identify what improvements we should make. Carol has attended a training course on Outdoor Play and Kim visited nurseries in Belfast (as part of a training course) that have been highly praised for their outdoor areas - this has given us lots of ideas and plans to take forward. Jill has also spent two days hard toil weeding, turning over soil and general tidying duties to prepare the back garden - well done Jill! Our intention is to invest in a new wooden playhouse / activity centre for the front garden to provide children with opportunities for pretend and physical play outside, and to invest in a variety of plants for the back garden to make it a more interesting, attractive and stimulating environment for children and staff to be in. We will be linking this in with our Eco Schools work, and doing further consultation with the Committee! Any parents / families who have "green fingers" and can offer advice / help with the garden developments please speak with Kim!

Garden Mural Competition

We would like to create a mural for the garden and are inviting all children and their parents to participate. All you need to do is draw a design, as simple as you like, that you think would make an attractive feature and / or represents the Nursery. The winning design will be made into a mural and all the children (and parents) will be able to help make it! Please hand in your entries to the Office by **Friday 1st May!** Good luck!

Comic Relief

Many thanks to everyone who helped raise money for Comic Relief by wearing something silly! We raised £28.44 and the children decided that our money would go to help children who don't live at home!

Nursery Photographs

Our photographer Ronnie came into Nursery on Wednesday 1st April to take individual and family group photographs of the children. However, as a lot of children have been off with Chicken Pox, Ronnie will be coming back in towards the end of April (date to be confirmed) to take the remaining photographs! Following consultation at the Parents' Forum, we have arranged with Ronnie to provide a greater variety of photo styles, we hope everyone will get a photo they love!

Tesco and Sainsbury's Vouchers

We are collecting the new Tesco for Schools and Clubs Vouchers and Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers - please remember to collect yours when you're shopping, and ask friends and family to help also! We will talk about what resources we should get at the next Forum meeting in April!

Questionnaires

We have attached our Monitoring Questionnaire - please pop your replies into the **Comments Box** in Reception! Your responses are extremely valuable to us to help us monitor the work of the Nursery and identify our strengths and areas for development. Thank you!

Management Update

Kim - Over the last 6 weeks I have been attending Working with Fragile Families training with Experiential Play, funded by Glasgow City Council as involving and supporting families is a national priority. I found the training interesting and it really highlighted how we can all be "fragile" at times, and what we can do to best support through these times! The final part of the training was a two day trip to Belfast to visit 4 nurseries and attend a conference with Nancy McGrath of Edenderry Nursery School. The trip was really inspiring, and the two main things I have taken from it are ideas for our garden developments, and new and fun ways of involving parents and families in the Nursery.

Elizabeth - I am really pleased that three parents and their children were able to join the Eco Committee for its first meeting. We worked our way through the Environmental Review (watch out for results on the Eco Board which will be appearing soon) and are working on our action plan. This will give us targets to help increase our environmental friendliness and raise everyone's awareness!

SUMMER TRIP - We have booked our Summer Trip for **Friday 12 June 2009!** We discussed ideas for this at the Forum Meeting, and agreed that this year we would try a slightly different format; we will be having a **Family Day Out** to Mugdock Country Park. More information will be coming out shortly however **book your day off now** if you would like to join us! All parents and families are welcome and we will be having a **Bar-B-Q!**

Dates for Your Diary

- Summer Parents' Day** - Thursday 4th June from 3 - 6pm
- Parents' Forum** - Thursday 30th April at 6pm
- PSF and College Easter Hols** - Monday 6th to Friday 17th April
- Photographer** - To Be Confirmed (last week of April)
- Summer Family Day** - Friday 12 June 2009

Room Updates

Baby Room

The babies have also really enjoyed making hand and footprints recently so we will be extending this to painting with our whole bodies over the next weeks!



Tiny Tots

The Tiny Tots have been enjoying messy play recently - we have made Mothers' Day cards, St Patrick's Day pictures and a big Comic Relief painting!



Tiger Tots

We have been enjoying getting out and about in the nice weather - in the garden, at the park and even to the Mitchell Library!



3 - 5's

We have started our spring planting with wild daisies, pumpkin seeds and sunflowers - some shoots have come up already! Please come in and have a look!



We would like to thank all the parents for their continued support!