



# **Autumn Newsletter 2025**

#### Welcome!

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our new children and families who have recently started with us at Drumchapel Early Years Centre. We are looking forward to working with you towards a fun learning journey for all!

# Dates for your diary:



Spooky Sponsored Walk: Wednesday 29th October (See info below).

#### **Halloween Celebrations:**

This year, in place of one specific Halloween party, we have opted to spread the fun over the whole week. Children are welcome to dress up (if they wish) on any day they are in. We would ask that you avoid Wednesday though, as this is our Sponsored event and some costumes may be restrictive for children to participate in it. As with previous years, we ask that costumes are not frightening to other children and accessories are avoided in case they get lost!

## **Parent/Carer Meetings:**

We are having a parents/carers evening on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November as an opportunity for you to meet with your child's key worker and discuss their progress. Please see individual staff to book a 10-minute slot. As with previous years, unfortunately due to restrictions with the let, **we are unable to accommodate children at this event.** Please note on order to facilitate this event we will be closing the building to all children at 4pm, with the first appointment at 4.30pm.

#### **Family Connect:**

For the families involved in this project with Roisin & Yvonne, the first session will be on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October at 1.00pm.



#### **Personal Items:**

As our children access outdoor play every day, it is essential that they have a suitable jacket and if possible, a pair of wellies with them, to keep warm in the ever-changing weather conditions.

If you have borrowed nursery clothes, please can you return them as soon as possible so we always have a bank of clothes for emergencies, but these can run low.

If we are not provided with a change of clothes or nappies/wipes as your child requires them, we will have no alternative but to contact you, to come and change your child. Unfortunately, we do not always have surplus spares of the above. You are welcome to check your child's peg bag regularly, or ask staff, if you are unsure.

Please remember not to bring toys from home to nursery, as children get very upset when they inevitably get lost or are taken home by another child. Staff cannot be responsible for monitoring toys brought in.

Thank you for your cooperation.

# **General Info:**

# My Learning Journal:

As you will have noticed we have moved our online learning platform to 'My Learning Journals'. If you have not already completed a consent form detailing email addresses you wish to be used, please speak with staff to complete one. This will enable us to set up an individual account for your child. We would ask that you bear with us while staff become familiar with this platform and learn themselves how best to utilise it. We are hoping to be posting very soon and allowing you to see all the amazing learning taking place.

**Language of the month:** Katie & Madeleine, our EAL Champions have devised an inclusive programme whereby all children learn a simple phrase/few words in a different language every month. For October we are learning Kurdish and November Persian. We would love you to join in with learning this language together. We will be promoting the following:

Kurdish: Ch one (Hello) Who dat Ligal (Goodbye) and Persian: Salam (Hello) Khodahafez (Goodbye).

#### **Katies Cooking Classes:**

Katie is hoping to restart some parent/carer cooking classes in the next few weeks. If you haven't already signed up and would like to, please speak with Katie.

#### **Outdoor Field:**

Many of our staff have been involved in developing our large grassy area, behind the car park. This is to ensure a creative, fun, inspiring space for our children to learn in. Experiences now offered include a climbing wall, a chalkboard wall, fire pit cooking and water play.

Most of this equipment has been imaginarily recycled from pallets, cable drums and older furniture we were unable to use indoors. We hope as a community you can assist us in ensuring this area is not disturbed by anyone who shouldn't have access. If your child has had the opportunity to spend some time over in the field, we are sure they will have told you all about the fun they had!

# **Toy Fund:**



Again, thank you to everyone who has managed to contribute to our toy fund on a regular basis, whether this is through collection at the front door or bank transfer, it is very much appreciated. We are so grateful to receive this money as it assists us to provide additional activities and treats for the children such as: Flour, oil, nappy sacks, celebration decorations.

# **Christmas Raffle:**

Our Christmas Raffle is always a very successful event which we find helps us enormously to raise extra funds to pay for a gift for each of our children and all the extra festivities we like to offer. In order for us to be able to purchase a present for every child at a maximum of £5 per head, results in a bill for the gifts alone amounting to around £550.

To help us collect stock for the raffle, we would very kindly ask for any unwanted gifts/good condition items that you may have received and do not want.

We will start selling the raffle tickets very soon......



# **Donations of toys:**

At this time of year many of you will be starting to clear out toy cupboards to make way for new toys from Santa, we would really appreciate any toys that are in a good state of repair, and we would be able to gift to other families.

Thank you.



### These are some of the initiatives we have ongoing at the moment:

**Play on Pedals:** MaryAnn from Drumchapel Cycle Hub has been working with Janet and small groups of 3-5 children on learning skills required to independently pedal a 2 wheeled bike. This has been hugely successful project and already have 6 children able to cycle off!

**Family Connect:** Roisin & Yvonne will be working with some families to support engagement with childrens learning at home, whilst building on home to nursery relationships.

**English as an Additional Language** (EAL) Katie & Madeleine will be working with small groups of EAL Learners, on a 4-week programme, based around a story and linked activities. These include using props, visuals and story mapping to encourage participation at all levels. Octobers story is 'Dear Zoo' and for November it will be 'The Gingerbread Man'.

**Think Equal:** Roisin has been delivering this programme which, its goal is to combat discrimination and violence by fostering empathy, critical thinking, and a belief in equality from an early age, with the long-term vision of creating a more just and peaceful world!



# **Spooky Sponsored Event:**

We will be holding a special Spooky Sponsored Event on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October! Children will be taking part in a Spooky Walk and Pumpkin Hunt either at the large field or The Secret Garden. Please ensure you have been given a copy of your child's sponsor form. All contributions, no matter the amount, are greatly appreciated and will go directly towards enriching experiences offered to all the children.

If your child does not attend on this day, please speak with their key worker to arrange a time to pop by and take part with your wee one!

This year we are delighted to announce that local business 'Eco Save Windows' have donated one pumpkin per child, to take home following this event! We are very grateful to for this very generous gift!



