**Bishopbriggs Village Nursery**

**Scottish Charity No. SC006583**

**September Newsletter 2018**

**Welcome**

The nursery would like to extend a warm welcome to all the children who are starting or returning this year and hope that you are all looking forward to having a busy, happy and exciting time with us.

**Groups and Key Workers**

All the children are settling in extremely well and are getting to know their key worker and other children in their groups along with the rest of our nursery staff and children. Existing children know they are in the same group as last year and all new parents were given Key Worker and group information at the end of last term. A list of the groups is posted on the nursery notice board in the cloakroom. If you wish any further information please do not hesitate to contact any member of staff.

**New Starts**

Thirteen children returned to the nursery in August and we have welcomed 12 children during August and September:

**Sunshine Group** **Dolphin Group** **Dinosaur Group**

Sam Christopherson Charlie Stevenson Annie Ritchie

Adam Ferris Keiran Moy Conor Macquarrie

Ethan Ferris Joseph Hanley Isabella Clark

Florence Watt

  Thomas Hapgood

Oliver Ferguson

We will welcome more children each month as they turn 3 years old.

We would like to ask if before you bring your child in to nursery can you please make sure they have visited the toilet. We also appreciate that everyone has drop off and pick up’s to do so if we can ask if the children could be at nursery for 9.15 as that is when the children sit with their key worker for group time and to do their teeth. It would also be good if you have to pick your children up early if you could let us know as that is when the children sit together for story, songs and games.

We are a shared building and as you will appreciate there is a lot of people using the building so it is vital that we are aware of the cafe users particularly at pick up time as the cafe can be busy.

We would also ask that the children don’t climb on the coat pegs in the kelvin room and also to ensure that no children touch the fire extinguishers.

**Planning**

The staff are now planning for the areas for a month now. The staff begin by observing in the are to understand what the children’s interests are and what skills they are looking to learn. The staff will then plan for the next three weeks providing resources which will enhance the children’s learning.

We use the online learning journals which will keep you informed about what the children have been learning in nursery and also of any updates that are happening in the nursery. We have mentioned at the information evening that the staff will aim to publish 2 observations a fortnight.

We have created a learning flower that is in the display directly outside the nursery door. This will let you know what has been happening in each of the areas and also what is for snack each day that week.

The staff have observed and have identified that the children will concentrate on listening skills and learning about the routine of the nursery.

Each month we will identify a letter and a number which will be on our interests table. This month we are looking at the letter ‘s’ and the numbers ‘0’ and ‘1’ if your children identify anything with that letter or number then they are more than welcome to bring it in for out interest table.

We will also be concentrating on a story and rhythm a month. This month we are focussing on Goldilocks and the three bears. The song is also ‘When Goldilocks went to the house of the bears’.

We would also like to ask all parents/carers to encourage your child to become more independent in getting ready in the Kelvin room, we are going out in the garden most days so the children need to know what their jackets, bags and shoes are. Can we also ask if you could remember to bring indoor shoes for your child to change into to ensure we keep the playroom clean.

If anyone has any clothes from the nursery or has any spare clothes aged 3-5 years old we would appreciate it if you could bring them into the nursery, our changing box is slowly disappearing.

We would appreciate if anyone has any junk material i.e. boxes, cardboard etc if they could bring this in as the children are enjoying creating their own models.

**Backdrop Plan** (this includes seasons, celebrations, festivals and special events) If there are any particular festivals or celebrations that you feel we should cover please let us know.

This term the backdrop plan will cover:

* Autumn
* Halloween
* Fireworks
* St Andrew’s Day

**Children’s Christmas Cards**

Munaza, Karen and Beth have offered to come into the nursery and help the children design their Christmas cards. The Christmas cards will be printed in packs of 12 and can be purchased for £7.00 per pack. Please complete your order form and hand it into the nursery by the 5th October to ensure that we have the cards printed in plenty of time for Christmas. Thank you.

**Dates for your diary**

The nursery will be closed for September weekend holiday on:

**FRIDAY 21st SEPTEMBER**

And

**MONDAY 24th SEPTEMBER**

And for mid term on:

**FRIDAY 12th OCTOBER which is the INSERVICE DAY** the parents committee are looking to organise a Photo shoot (more information to follow)

And on

**MONDAY 15th OCTOBER TO FRIDAY 19th OCTOBER**

**East Dunbartonshire Council Early Years Support**

Karen Cowie is our Nursery Support Teacher, she is currently on Maternity Leave so it will be someone different visiting us until she returns. Yasmin Ashby is our Quality Improvement Officer for this session. We look forward to welcoming them to our nursery.

**All About Me and SHANARRI forms**

Thank you to all the parents who have completed these forms. They provide interesting background information on the children which helps us get to know them better. If you still have the forms to complete could you please hand them in as soon as possible.

**Library**

Our lending library has become a great success over the years and the children really enjoy choosing books to take home. The library will operate weekly on a Wednesday.

**Home Link Bear**

We have decided to change how we do Scotty bear. We have decided to have a bear for each of the groups, one of the bears will be a literacy bear, a numeracy bear and a health and wellbeing bear. Having the bear home with your child at the weekend will allow you to spend time as a family carrying out the games and songs from the bag. There is no pressure for you to write lots of information giving yourself more work, all we ask is for a little recap of how it went having the bag and what worked and what didn't.

**Rotas**

A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who have volunteered to support the Nursery by washing tea towels and aprons on a weekly basis. We are always looking for parents/carers to help tidy our garden area and also to help to clear away the Nursery equipment at the end of the session. The nursery if set up by the staff every morning and has to be cleared away at the end of every session to make the hall available to other users. If you could spare 15 minutes to help do this please give your name to Heather or simply come at 11.45am to help us clear away for 12 noon. Many Thanks

**Management Committee**

We would like to say a huge thank you to all our committee members, both those returning and those new. Many parents are reluctant to join the committee as they feel it may be an onerous task and take up a lot of time. Rest assured this is not the case and as well as giving you an added insight into your child’s nursery, it can be extremely enjoyable and rewarding! Even more importantly the committee is an essential part of our nursery required by our partnership contract with East Dunbartonshire Council. So it you would like to join or help in any way please let us know.

**Continuing Professional Learning**

**Child Protection and Adult Protection - 14th August**

All staff participate in regular Child and Adult Protection training provided by Heather using EDC’s guidelines and training folder to ensure the safety of all children and vulnerable adults in our care.

**Early Years Partnership Meeting**

Heather attends these meetings regularly with other managers of partnership nurseries and representatives from EDC Early Years to discuss various aspects of Early Learning and Childcare.

Most of the meeting Heather is attending are to discuss the move towards the 1140 hours. We as a nursery are making good progress in planning for how Bishopbriggs Village Nursery will accomodate 1140 hours. We are still in the process of finding new premises which will only be a positive move for the nursery. If anyone hears of any property that the think would be suitable for a nursery please feel free to speak to me. We are trying to work with the council and Care Inspectorate to ensure the buildings we are looking at meet the requirements.

Whenever a member of staff attends a course, workshop or meeting the information is shared and discussed at the next staff meeting and any changes to procedures and practice are implemented.

**Nursery Key Information**

Please see attached for key information regarding the Nursery!!

**Committee News**

On behalf of the committee, we would like to extend a warm welcome back to the children, and a particular welcome to any new starts. We trust that the children will enjoy a fun-filled year of learning and play in the nursery. We also welcome Linda Donald as Financial Administrator as she starts her first academic year with us. She is already a familiar face in the team and we thank her for her efforts to adapt to Bishopbriggs Village Nursery’s ways! The committee members for year 2018-2019 are as follows:

Chairperson – Kirsty Woodley

Vice-Chairperson – to be elected

Treasurer – Munaza Rashid

Secretary – Sophie Cooper

Committee Member – Beth Christopherson

Committee Member – Sarah Humphris

Committee Member – Karen Nisbet

Committee Member – Sarah Jane Carlin

Being a part of the committee is both a great way to help with nursery plans and fundraising, and also to keep in the loop of what is happening. There really is not a lot required of you – we meet about every six weeks for under an hour to discuss nursery matters. It is not too late to join the committee. If you would like to be a part of it please speak to a committee member of a member of staff. We would gladly have you!

**Fundraising**

There are a variety of ways in which we will try to fundraise over the coming year. Last year, the money raised went towards paying for a magician for the Christmas and graduation parties, Christmas and graduation presents for the children, a block of “A Star Sports” sessions for children during nursery time, Easter eggs, and two trips to Mugdock Country Park. Every penny raised goes straight back into providing resources and activities for the children which they would otherwise do without. We really appreciate all you do to help us in this task.

**Fundraising Meeting**

In October, the committee will arrange a fundraising meeting which will be open to non-committee members too. This will be to discuss plans for the year ahead – mainly the Christmas Fayre which is our main fundraiser. Please consider coming along or if you can’t manage the meeting we will be glad of any help you can offer throughout the year.

**Nursery Ceilidh**

The committee are holding a ceilidh on Saturday 15

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th September from 3pm-5pm in the nursery hall. The idea behind this is that it will be a good way to get to know each other better while enjoying ourselves and hopefully raising some money for the nursery! Tickets are £4 per adult, £2 per child (under 3s free), or £10 for a family ticket (two adults and two children). Tickets available from committee members. Sophie Cooper (Jack Cooper’s mum) has done all the organising for this and we thank her for all the commitment and enthusiasm she has given, and will give, to it. Please speak to Sophie if you can be of any help on the day with setting up the hall, helping to serve refreshments, clearing up, and if you can do any baking!

**[www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/)**

For those new to our nursery and as a reminder to everyone else, easyfundraising.org.uk helps charities, schools, clubs and community groups to raise money when their supporters shop online. If you love online shopping then this is for you! It really is easy to register. Just log on to the easy fundraising website, click on 'support a good cause', enter 'Bishopbriggs Village Nursery', then click 'support' beside our name. You can then open an account and every time you purchase online from one of the hundreds of participating retailers you will be raising money for the nursery. So PLEASE think EASYFUNDRAISING whenever you shop online.

**Rag Bag Initiative**

Here is another great way of raising money for the nursery as well as having a clear-out at the same time. Please put all your old clothes, sheets etc into the BIG GREEN RECYCLING BIN just outside next to the planters by the entrance. Every kilo of textiles results in much needed funds for the nursery. Remember to tell all your friends and family to use it too. With the support of staff, parents, and church users, last year we raised over £590.00? This year it would be great to raise even more.

**Polo Shirts and Sweatshirts**

The above items are on sale at £6.00 for polo shirts and £7.00 for sweatshirts and are available throughout the nursery year. Anyone wishing to purchase any items should complete an order form and hand it to any member of staff. A pile of order forms can be found on the cloakroom table. We can accept cash or cheques payable to Bishopbriggs Village Nursery.

**Snack and Session Fees**

The snack fee of £0.80 per session is collected on the first Wednesday of every month (where possible). The amounts will vary from month to month due to holidays and may cover 2, 3, or 4 weeks so please check the sign on the nursery door to see how much to pay for your child. Don't forget that you can pay termly if this is easier on your memory! Session fees for unfunded children (£12.22 per session) are payable at the same time. Look out for Linda in the foyer.

**Car Park**

Parking in the car park can be a stressful part of the daily nursery routine. As you know, the car park is used throughout the day by patrons of the church and will continue to be a busy place at drop off and pick up times. The church has asked us to remind parents that double parking MUST NOT happen. For those who don't already know, there is a small car park (for the Memorial Hall) that can be accessed from Balmuildy Road. It has a short path leading downhill to the church grounds and is another good parking option. All of that said, the safety of both children and parents is the priority so if parking on the main road - MIND YOUR BACK! When walking through the car park - MIND THAT CHILD!

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**Queuing**

Picking up our children at 12pm from the nursery is a busy time in the foyer/café area of the church building with both nursery and café patrons. We ask that, as nursery parents and carers, we are considerate of those visiting the café. When queuing, please leave a gap for café patrons to enter in and out. We also ask that nursery people do not use the café tables and chairs to sit on when putting on our children’s outdoor shoes and jackets. Thank you in advance.

**Staff Pay Rise**

It was with deep regret that this year we were again unable to give our hard-working staff a pay rise due to another year of no increase to the funding we receive from East Dunbartonshire Council.

**Feedback Form**

We are always happy to hear suggestions and/or ideas which will help the nursery. Please feel free to complete this feedback form or speak to any one of the committee at any time. You can also contact the committee via email: bvncommittee@hotmail.com

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