



Twechar Early Learning and Childcare Centre September Newsletter

We would like to give a huge welcome to our new children and families who joined us last month at Twechar ELC and hope everyone has had a great time over the Summer period.

New staff team

The staff team here at Twechar has grown once again! Everyone has had a wonderful time meeting all of the children and getting to know them. The team, with some familiar faces and some new ones, are:-

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| Margaret Harris | Depute Head of Centre | Tracy Dodds | Senior Early Years Worker |
| Morag Smith | Early Years Teacher | Debbie Craig | Early Years Worker |
| Sandra Mooney | Early Years Worker | Natalie Wilson | Early Years Worker |
| Judith Welsh | Early Years Worker | Nichola McGuckin | Early Years Worker |
| Elaine McLaughlin | Early Years Worker | Kristina McPeake | Early Years Worker |
| Lorna Tennant | Early Years Worker | Gordon Coyne | Early Years Worker |
| Marie Fagan | Early Years Worker | Kim Pepler | Early Years Worker |



Annual data checks, photograph and internet consent

You will receive an annual data check for you to update for your child and return to the nursery. As you will appreciate, it's very important that we have up to date emergency contact details and any medical information. We have also issued photograph and internet consents to enable us to have children's photos up around the nursery, possibly on the school website as well, and to allow appropriate access to the internet. Please complete the forms and return them to us by Friday 6th September.

Parent Council meeting - Tuesday 11th September - new Parents very welcome.

The first meeting of the Parent Council this session is on Tuesday 17th September, from 6pm. We are looking for new Parents to come and join us. Meetings are about 5 times a year and are all about what goes on at the nursery and the school.

Coffee morning

On Thursday 26th September you and your fellow tea drinkers and cake munchers are invited to the World's Biggest Coffee Morning!! in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. All monies raised goes directly to the charity to help and support people living with cancer.

Nursery Treat Fund

The nursery treat fund is £2 per week. We would really appreciate it if this could be paid on a Monday to the nursery staff or handed into the school office. It is used to provide a healthy, nutritious snack for your child, and various treats throughout the year. It may also be paid monthly or termly if this is more convenient.

Sponsored Walk

On the 9th October we will be having our 'Walk Our Wings Off!!' sponsored walk to raise money for the nursery fund. More information will follow soon and sponsor sheets handed out to your child.

Snacks and Lunch

Children are offered a snack during their session both in the morning and afternoon. As we are a health promoting nursery, a variety of fruit will be available every day and a refreshment of milk or water. From 1st of August, East Dunbartonshire Council is now providing a free hot meal for every child who attends a nursery establishment piloting the 1140hr expansion of early learning and childcare. Each child is requested to choose from the menu a nutritious, healthy meal every day and offered soup or fruit also. The children have adapted very well to the change of routine and are enjoying sitting with staff and their friends for lunch. As this is a new initiative, we will be continually evaluating the process and would appreciate any feedback you may have or comments from your child.

Outdoor Play

We love to spend time outside every day at nursery regardless of the weather. We go out into the garden, visit the woods and the secret garden! As the weather is so unpredictable, we would appreciate that you provide your child with a change of clothes, a pair of wellies and a sunhat. Please remember to write your child's name on all of their belongings.

Open Evening

On Monday 9th September we will be having a Open Evening between 5pm and 7pm that all parents are invited along to. This will give you an insight into the different roles of the staff team, familiarise yourself with the two different curricula that are used within the playroom and learn more about what your child participates in throughout their session.

Curriculum and Improvement Plan

We are all agreeing our nursery rules and the children are getting used to nursery routines. Staff and children are getting to know each other and many of our responsive activities are centred around 'All about me' Child initiated learning is appropriately balanced with a number of adult led activities surrounding their current interests.

Our Improvement Plan this year has the following priorities:-

- ❖ We will be working towards our accreditation to become a Language and Communication Friendly Establishment.
- ❖ To introduce Families Connect programme and increase parental engagement.

Full copies of the Improvement Plan and the annual Standards and Quality Report are available from the school office, if you wish.

Absences

In accordance with Council policy, if your child is going to be absent from nursery you must let us know. Please phone the nursery directly on 0141 955 2334 or tell the staff beforehand if your child cannot attend.

Holidays

A list of holidays is displayed in the nursery foyer. Please note that the nursery will be closed on Friday 27th and Monday 30th September for the September break and Tuesday 1st October for In-service training.

Any Concerns

If you are worried or unsure about any aspect of your child's nursery education please let us know. Any matter will be dealt with confidentially and we are available to assist with any queries or concerns.

Margaret Harris and The Staff Team