

Blackwood Primary School Nursery Class

September 2019 Newsletter



September 2019

Thursday 12th September
(Forest School – Afternoon Red Badges)

Friday 13th September
(Forest School – Morning Red Badges)

Thursday 19th September
(Forest School – Afternoon Red Badges)

Friday 20th September
(Forest School – Morning Red Badges)

Wednesday 25th September

Parent Council Meeting 7pm

Thursday 26th September
(Pre-School Parent/Carer Supporting my
Child's Literacy and Numeracy Development)

Friday 27th September
HOLIDAY

Monday 30th September
HOLIDAY

October 2019

Wednesday 2nd October
Stay and Play Session

Thursday 10th October
(Forest School – Afternoon Red Badges)

Friday 11th October
(Forest School – Morning Red Badges)

Monday 14th October – Friday 18th October
OCTOBER WEEK HOLIDAY

Thursday 23rd October
(Forest School – Afternoon Red Badges)

Friday 24th October
(Forest School – Morning Red Badges)

Tuesday 29th October
(Possible Family Learning Event – Room on
the Broom)

Nursery Staff Update

The Nursery Class would like to welcome back Miss Rebecca Morgan, the Nursery Team Leader following her maternity leave. Miss Morgan has returned on a part time basis working on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Miss Marshall is continuing as Acting Team Leader on a Monday and Tuesday until the post has been permanently filled.

We would also like to welcome Miss Kirsten Craig as the job-share partner of Mrs Heather Stewart. Miss Craig will be working on a Monday, Tuesday and a Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. Karen Summers has been appointed to the nursery as an additional member of staff in preparation for the role out across the authority of the 1140 hours from August 2020. Mrs. Summers - will be working on a Wednesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday. On a temporary basis she is also working on a Monday and Tuesday to cover Miss Marshall's Early Year Worker post until further notice.

Finally, we welcome Miss Lauren Miller a Foundation Apprentice who will be with us on a Monday.

Session 2019-2020

We would like to thank you for your continued support and patience as we review and adapt our routines to incorporate the varying patterns of attendance we now offer. If you have any comments that you would like to make about the changes or ideas that we could try, please speak to a member of staff or place a comment in the suggestion box located in the main cloakroom (foyer).

In order to provide a flexible approach to the 1140 hours this year, parents/carers whose child attends full day have been given the opportunity to select their hours of attendance. In order to ensure equity and fairness and assist us with the flow of children in and out of the nursery we would kindly ask if parents/carers could please follow these times.

Lending Library



Your child will select a book to take home each week. The book will be placed in a special named library bag and placed on their peg to take home at the end of their session. The books should be returned the following Monday.

Parental Calendars ... The School and Nursery Class Year

All parents/carers have been given both a school annual planner and a separate nursery planner. These planners contain a number of important dates of events, Stay and Play sessions, workshops and family learning opportunities. If you have not received your copies, please speak to a member of staff.

WOW Wall

We are revamping our nursery achievement wall to become more visual and inclusive of both home and nursery achievements, not only for the children but also for parents/carers and staff. It has therefore moved to the nursery foyer for all to see. Achievements can be big or small – e.g. your child sleeping in their own bed for the first time, taking part in a dancing display or a football tournament or certificates for swimming. Parent/carer may like to share achievements such as passing their driving test, gaining a qualification or running a 10k. As well as increasing the opportunities to engage families in the life of the nursery, it is important that children are aware that successes and achievements continue throughout life. We would value your support in taking forward this initiative.



Supporting my Child's Literacy and Numeracy Development

We are inviting parents/carers of pre-school children to a presentation on Thursday 26th September 2019 to discuss ways that you can help to support your child's literacy and numeracy learning at home. The presentation will take place twice in the day to accommodate your child's pattern of attendance and a letter with more information will be handed out shortly.

Family Learning

We have provisionally arranged a Literacy Walk in conjunction with the library for Tuesday 29th October. The walk in Blackwood Park and associated activity will focus on the story 'Room on the Broom'. A letter confirming this date and available time slots will be handed out shortly.

Loose Parts

As part of an initiative within the nursery, we are actively engaging the children in Loose Parts Play. This type of play fosters creativity as the resources allow open-ended opportunities. An example is a cardboard box that to many children could be a car, rocket ship or a robot. We are therefore looking for your support in gathering different resources including:

- Tubes – kitchen, cling film, wrapping paper (no toilet rolls)
- Pebbles/stones
- Shells
- CDs/DVDs
- Wooden kitchen utensils
- Guttering
- Corks

Independence

At nursery, we encourage children to be as independent as possible. This starts with being able to put on/take off their jacket and change their shoes. Almost all the children are able to do this and we would be grateful if you could encourage them at the start and end of the session to do these tasks by themselves. It would also aid your child's independence if both their outdoor and indoor shoes were either slip on or had Velcro as laces reduce your child's ability to be independent.

Group Drawers



Each group has a drawer at the entrance to the nursery containing work that can go home – e.g. paintings, collage pictures, writing. We would be grateful if parents/carers could check your child's group drawer on a regular basis.

Outdoor Learning

The majority of the children are engaging almost daily in outdoor learning; however, we have realised that when the children are playing on the grass that it can be very muddy. We would be grateful if your child could have a full change of clothes – top, trousers/skirt, pants and socks in the event that they need changed.

Lost Property

We have only been back at nursery for a few weeks and we have already had lost shoes and jumpers. If you label your child's jackets, indoor and outdoor shoes, jumpers and cardigans, we will be able to reunite children with any lost property.

Change of Clothes

Our current stock of spare clothes is running extremely low, especially trousers and socks. We would kindly ask that any borrowed clothes are returned as quickly as possible.

Peanuts/Nuts

We would like to remind parents/carers that Blackwood Primary School and the Nursery Class is a peanut and nut free zone, as there are children who have an allergy to peanuts and nuts. We would be grateful if you could please check that any food or snacks brought into the nursery do not contain nuts directly or traces of nuts. This includes Kinder products that may contain traces of nuts.

Sun Cream

If you still have a letter about sun cream at home, could you please return the permission form and if you have agreed to leave a bottle of sun cream at nursery could you please hand the labelled bottle into the nursery.

Resources

If you have any of the following resources, please speak to a member of staff:

Items to help look after a baby:

- Baby sponges
- Baby clothes
- Baby towels
- Empty bottles of baby shampoo/baby wash
- Empty bottles of baby food
- Baby bottles
- Baby bowls and spoons

Items to help enhance the house area:

- Kettle (doesn't need to be working)
- Toaster (doesn't need to be working)
- Small teapot
- Tins/pasta
- Small empty food colouring bottles
- Milk cartons/coffee jars
- Magazine racks
- Other small food items

Items to help enhance technology:

- Different textures
- Small electrical items that the children could take apart
- Padlocks and keys
- Different sizes of screwdrivers



EDUCATION SERVICES
Executive Director: Tony McDaid
Blackwood Primary School - Head Teacher: Ms Christine McMillan

