****

**January Newsletter 2025**

**Drumchapel Family Learning Centre**

**Dear Parents/Carers and Families,**

May we welcome you all back to nursery after the festive period and wish you all a very Happy New Year!

**New Baby Garden**

The plans for our new baby garden at the back of our building are now underway – yay! You may notice that the old fence surrounding an overgrown piece of land is now replaced with a taller, more secure fence. This work is the very beginning stages of what we hope will become a lovely little space for our babies to enjoy their own safe space when exploring outdoors. We will keep you updated with the progress!

**Building Accommodations**

We identified back in August that some areas within our building could do with an update/revamp to meet current guidelines from Care Inspectorate to provide a higher quality service for our children. For this reason our changing areas in the 0-2 room and 2-3 room will be refurbished to provide better ventilation and within our 3-5 room we are redeveloping a storage space to create a new changing area to offer a more inclusive approach to changing for the children within this room.

We are in the process of clearing out our ‘Family Room’ which is the last room in the building to have a wee update. Hopefully we can welcome you soon to a lovely wee multi-purpose space. We will keep you updated!

**Care Inspectorate Feedback**

We were delighted with our recent Care Inspectorate feedback from an unannounced inspection that took place in November 2024. The Inspectors acknowledged all the fantastic work the staff do for our children and families and were very complimentary about recent changes we have implemented since August to improve the service. The published report will become available to view/read online soon and I will share the link with you all once it becomes available. Thank you to all our parents/families who contributed to the inspection questionnaires.

**Staff Development**

All staff at Drumchapel FLC are encouraged and supported to develop their knowledge and skills to offer the children the best care and learning experiences possible. This month we have staff attending the following training:

* Leighanne and Margaret: Block Play
* Maureen and Fiona: Nurturing my Potential
* Leighanne Music and Phonological Awareness
* Lisa (LPA): Inclusion Training
* Gina and Fiona: Nurturing my Potential

**Staff Updates**

We would like to welcome Emma MacFarlane to Drumchapel Family Learning Centre as our new Support for Learning Worker. Emma has an NC in Childhood Practice and will be based within our 3-5 room. Her official start date with us will be the 27th January.

We would also like to make you aware that Margaret (CDO) who is based in our 3-5 room and Leighanne (CDO) who is based in our 2-3 room will be switching over rooms at the end of the month. All children/families within each key group have also received a letter to inform how we will make this transition a smooth one.

Finally, Nicola (CDO) who is in our 2-3 room will now be a term time member of staff which means she will remain in the 2-3 room and over see her key group with no changes however, she will also be in the 3-5 room at the end of the week to allow us extra staffing to plan for future outdoor plans i.e Forest Schools.

**Outdoor Resource Updates**

We will be investing in an outdoor toilet, portable pop-up tent (for toilet privacy) and a handwashing station for our large outdoor space. These additions mean that when children are exploring outdoors in the ‘big’ garden their play is less interrupted by transitions to the toilet.

**Scottish Book Trust**

Our ASN Author in Residence Maria Cairnie will begin sensory story telling sessions with us this Friday and join us every Friday thereafter for 6 weeks to support staff with skills to provide a more inclusive and accessible approach to literacy. This comes from the grant we were awarded from the Scottish Book Trust that we told you about last year. We are very excited for these sessions to begin and look forward to the news skills and knowledge we can share as a team to provide better outcomes for all children.

**Thank You**

We would like to thank our guest ‘Santa’ for his role in last years festive fun, Mrs Claus (my wee mum) for Christmas stories and songs with the children (although she wanted to thank all the children because it really brought her joy to spend some time with all our lovely and very welcoming children).

We would also like to thank Men Matter Scotland who generously provided additional gifts for children last year at Christmas. It’s the support of the community at times like Christmas that really shows character and thoughtfulness for others, and we are very grateful for so many generous characters within our support network.

Please scan below for more information on the fantastic work that Men Matter Scotland do and get in touch if you require any information about their services.



**Kind Regards,**

Kat Connelly (Head of Nursery)