



Parkhead Nursery Newsletter

September 2024

Planning and Learning

This month, our focus will be on “Our Nursery” as we welcome our children back after the Summer and welcome our new children and families into Parkhead Nursery. We will be getting to know each other more as we form friendships and bonds between the staff and our peers.

This will help support children to feel safe in a new environment and build their confidence throughout their sessions and have fun. This will include looking at our favourite things to do in the nursery and opportunities we would like to include that we don't have already. Also, we will be exploring our families and loved ones from home and our friends in nursery, creating family trees and self-portraits. We will then discuss how we show each other kindness and support each other to promote our vision statement of “Growing, Caring, Learning, Together.” A big focus will be on the “StickMan” story and StickMan trail which links to our vision statement and curriculum rationale.

To do this, we will be learning more about our SHANARRI characters, especially “Nurturing Nicholas”, “Respecting Rishi”, “Achieving Alice” and “Including Isaac” as part of our nursery values. The children have already been helping to look after each other in our Parkhead Hospital which transformed our house corner. Here, the children were portraying a variety of roles while exploring medical scenarios with their own first aid kits and doctors' equipment. They were also exploring their nurturing skills as they helped one another feel better.

Throughout the previous month, the children have been promoting Achieving Alice and Including Isaac as they explore how to use the outdoor and gym equipment safely. This includes the bikes, scooters, climbing apparatus and work bench. Also, children have been learning how to get dressed for outside while putting on their own jackets and shoes and helping their friends to ensure they can join in the fun.

Important Dates

School closed

Friday the 13th of September
and return on Wednesday the
18th of September.
(Nursery remains open)

Welcome Stay and Play Monday the 30th of September

10.30am – 11.30am or
2pm – 3pm

Together Time

Tuesday the 1st of October to Friday the 4th of October

8am -9.30am each morning
12.30pm – 2pm each
afternoon
3.30pm – 5pm each evening

Flu Vaccine Letters

These have been given out to
parents to complete and
bring back to the nursery.
Please return these before
15th of October.

Please let staff know if you
do not want your child to
have this.

Flu Vaccines

Will take place in the nursery
on Tuesday the 29th of
October.

Home Learning

Thank you to those who have started using their Seesaw QR code to share news, learning and accomplishments from home. This month you and your child may also want to participate in some of the following home learning activities:

Can you read the Stick Man story at home with your child?

Can you share some family photos with the nursery to allow your child to discuss their family with peers?

Please share any experiences your child does at home so we can discuss their interests and ways to have fun!

Amazing Achievements!

We love to share and celebrate the children's achievements both from home and at nursery. Please let us know if your child has celebrated or achieved something at home. This can be shared during drop off or pick up with staff or through Seesaw. We like to share these on our Achievements display for the children to see and through our newsletters.

We would love to share the biggest achievement of how amazing our children have done in nursery since returning from the Summer or starting with us in August. This is a big step and all have been very busy during their time.

We need your help...

Do you have any old junk or cardboard boxes that we could use for our creative area to junk model with? It could be kitchen rolls, shoe boxes, yoghurt pots, containers.

Little Reminders

Please ensure your child's name is on all of their belongings.

Please keep any toys or resources from home, at home or in bags to keep them safe, unless discussed with staff as an individual support to help children settle.

Sharing our learning through SWAY

At Parkhead Nursery we value regularly sharing information with you about the children's learning. This session we are planning to trial a new way of doing this by using SWAY. Each week you will be sent out a link to a SWAY presentation that will outline the different activities your child may have taken part in throughout their week in nursery. It will include text and photographs and allow you to chat with your child about their learning in nursery that week.

Please note we will only include photographs of children that have permission to be posted on external websites as per our Personal Plan paperwork you completed during your child's induction.

The aim of this presentation is to provide a snapshot of the learning that has taken place during the week in nursery and it may not feature photographs of every child each week.

Individual learning observations will continue to be posted on your child's Seesaw account.

Important Information

Stay and Play

This is a welcome Stay and Play for our families into the nursery. We kindly ask that only 1 adult attends at the moment to ensure the room doesn't become too busy or overwhelming for the children. This is a chance to see the nursery, meet the staff and children and participate in some experiences with your child.

The adult can be any member of the family over the age of 16 and unfortunately, we ask any siblings to remain at home. If your child does not attend this day, you are welcome to come along with your child to join us for 1 of the Stay and Play sessions. Also, if your child is a full day session, you can choose a session or have a different adult attend each session.

Together Time

This occurs for the first week of each month and is an opportunity for family members to drop in during the session times to play with their child and be included in their learning. This is optional and the adult attending can choose to attend for 10 minutes or the full allocated time. You can also have a different family member each day of that week to allow families to share their child's experience.

Seesaw

We use the Seesaw app to communicate with you individually about your child's learning and development in nursery. If you have an older child you may be familiar with the app as it is also used in our school from P1-3.

As part of your child's induction to nursery you will be given a QR code to help you set up a parent account that will connect you to your child to allow you to see learning observations posted by our EYPs. Please ensure you use the same email address that you gave on your child's induction paperwork when signing up for a Seesaw account.

Your child will also have their own log in that we are supporting the children to use in nursery to share their learning with you. This could be in the form of a photograph, video or audio file.

Communication

We hope that you feel you can come into the nursery and chat to a member of our team if required throughout the week. However, if you can't speak to us at collection or drop off times, and need to speak to a member of staff about any concerns please do not hesitate to get in touch by telephone (**01506 871404**). You can also arrange for an appointment to speak to a member of staff in person if required.

If you need to speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team then please contact Miss Griffiths.

Telephone - 01506 871404

EMAIL ADDRESS:

wlparkhead-ps@westlothian.org.uk

WEBSITE:

<https://parkheadprimary.westlothian.org.uk/>

The Book Nook



Please feel free to watch the online video with the story.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b06t09rk/stick-man>

Some nursery songs to become familiar with:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=buE6l32rCH>

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