

SIMPSON NURSERY NEWSLETTER

November 2018

OUR LEARNING THIS TERM

Autumn

The children enjoyed exploring and discussing the changes they noticed in the local environment. Many of the children brought in a range of autumn materials which they had found when investigating our nursery and school grounds during group times. We really enjoy involving our parents and carers in our learning. If your child has discussed any of these areas of interest with you at home, please add them to our planning wall in the cloakroom or ask to see our Floorbook and you can note them in there.

Firefighters

Our afternoon session children were recently treated to a visit from one of our parents and some of his colleagues. We hope to arrange a visit for the morning session children also.

We really enjoy having our parents/carers in to talk about their careers, please speak to a member of staff if you would be willing to arrange a visit.

Halloween

A big thank you to everyone who donated money for the Parent Council dress down day for Halloween – we hope all the children had a spook-tacular time!

Stay, Play and Learn

We enjoy working in partnership with our parents/carers and therefore would like to invite you to attend Stay, Play and Learn.

The next Stay, Play and Learn will take place on Wednesday 28th November 2018.

IMPORTANT DATES

19 th November	Book Week Scotland
24 th November	Christmas Fayre (School Hall)
28 th November	Stay, Play & Learn
5 th December	Nativity (10am or 2pm)
21 st December	Christmas Party (times TBC)
22 nd December	Last day of term
8 th January	Holiday (staff inservice)
9 th January	Back to Nursery!

NURSERY STAFF

Early Years Officers:

Miss Reilly and **Miss Sneddon**

Nursery Nurses:

Mrs Aitken

Miss Bambrough

Miss Duffy,

Mrs Henderson (Monday, Tuesday, alternate Fridays),

Mrs Galloway (Wednesday, Thursday, alternate Fridays)

Mrs Lejkowski (mornings),

Miss Meldrum (morning sessions)

Mrs Smith (afternoon sessions)

Pupil Support Worker:

Mrs Peat

Extended hours staff (breakfast)

Mrs Kirk

SESSION TIMES

Morning Session	Afternoon Session
<u>Monday to Friday</u> Drop off between: 8.00-8.35am Core hours: 8.35-11.05am Collect between: 10.50-11.05am	<u>Monday to Thursday</u> Core Hours: 12.09- 3.05pm Collect between: 3.05-4.06pm
<u>Friday only</u> Collect between:10.50-11.28am	

Christmas Fayre

The nursery children have been busy creating footprint penguin art to sell at the Christmas Fayre. Your child's canvas will be on sale for £2.50 at the Nursery stall at the Fayre on Saturday 24th November.



Nativity

We are learning the songs for our nativity. Letters will be issued soon containing further information about song words, outfits and tickets.

Story Sacks

Groups have begun choosing our story sacks to take home. Each week one group will pick a story sack to take home on a Thursday. Story sacks contain a book with associated resources such as games or puppets to retell the story or deepen learning. Please return the sacks by the Monday morning to enable our parent helpers to check the bags are complete before the next group choose their story sacks.

Lending Library

Please note that this year our lending library will be on a Thursday. All children should be issued with a book bag – please speak to a member of staff if you do not yet have one.

Celebrating Wider Achievements

A new magic beanstalk has appeared in the nursery cloakroom to celebrate our magic moments! Please write your child's achievement on a jelly bean and add it to our beanstalk, letting us know so we can share and celebrate it – it could be anything from learning to ride a bike, moving up a swimming stage, zipping up their coat, helping to bake a cake or sharing a toy with a sibling.

Adults in Nursery

We often have a number of students from colleges and universities on training placements within our nursery setting. Please ask a member of staff to be introduced to any of them.

Signing in and out

Please ensure that all prior identified adults sign in and sign out the children on the paper register in each area as we use these as part of our emergency evacuation procedures.

Children's clothing

Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name (including spare changes, coats, outdoor shoes etc.). Indoor shoes should be placed in your child's blue/red drawstring bag at the end of each session as the shoe boxes are shared.

Any clothing items found without a name will be put in our lost property box in the cloakroom. We will empty these at the end of each term.

Spare Clothes

Please ensure your child has a full set of spare clothes in their nursery bag in the cloakroom. With the wetter weather and outdoor play we are running low on some of our spare clothing items. We would appreciate any donations of socks, pants, trousers and leggings in all sizes.

Outdoor Play

Children will have access to outdoor play in all weathers. Please ensure your child comes to nursery in weather appropriate clothing, for example, wearing a waterproof jacket and wellies on wet days.

Tissues

As we move into Winter and many germs begin to appear we would greatly appreciate any donations of boxes of tissues!

How can you help at home?

We continue to promote independence at our nursery. You can help at home by encouraging your child to independently change their shoes and put on their coat.

PEEP

We will be running weekly PEEP sessions for a group of our pre-school children and their parents/carers to support their learning through songs and activities. Please watch out for more information about dates for our PEEP sessions in the new year.

Suggestions

If you have any suggestions related to the nursery, please note your suggestion on a post-it note and pop it in the suggestion box in the cloakroom.

Communication

Letters

Please let us know if you do not currently receive letters electronically and we can add you to our email list. Any printed letters will be put in document wallets in your child's coloured group trays for collection. Please check the trays regularly at the end of each session. We will also add a copy of each letter to the cloakroom folder for your reference.

Blog

Please check our blog for weekly updates about our learning in nursery at the end of each week. Visit: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/wl/simpsonps/>

Twitter

We have Twitter! Follow us @NurserySimpson for regular updates and reminders.

Cloakroom Noticeboard

Please check the noticeboard in the cloakroom for weekly updates. We will begin sharing this on our Twitter feed for those parents/carers who are unable to make it in to our nursery.

Sway

We have been creating Sways to share our learning. A sway is an electronic presentation enabling us to share images, videos and text about our learning with parents/carers. Please check the display board for QR codes to view our previous sways.

Online Journals

Please check your child's Online Learning Journal for regular updates on their learning. If you have any trouble accessing your account please let us know. Visit: <https://simpson.yourlearningjournals.co.uk>

Floorbooks

Please feel free to visit the nursery to view our floorbooks which document all our learning – just ask a member of staff to see them.

Website

Visit our school website for information about the nursery and school including upcoming events. Visit: <http://www.simpsonprimary.westlothian.org.uk/>

Snack

The cost of snack remains at £1.50 per week this year. Please pay any snack money on a Monday to the member of staff at the painting table.

Update of information

Please remember to inform a member of nursery staff as soon as possible if any changes occur to the following: Emergency contact details / Address, phone number or email address / Pick-ups / Personal circumstances affecting nursery / Permissions e.g. photography / Medication or allergies

Absence

If your child is unable to attend Nursery, please contact the school office prior to the session on that day to inform them of the absence.

Please note that if your child is suffering from sickness and/or diarrhoea they must be absent from school for at least 48 hours after their symptoms have cleared.

Allergies

As we have a number of children with severe allergies please do not bring your own food or drinks into nursery (including in bags in the cloakroom) as this compromises the risk assessments we have put in place to safely meet the health care needs of all children. If your child does require to bring any food or drink to nursery (e.g. lunch for going to a child minder) please hand it in a clearly labelled lunchbox to a member of staff to be kept in our kitchen area.

Winter Ready

As we begin to experience the start of the winter weather, it is important that we remind you of procedures to be followed, should we experience particularly severe conditions. In such an event, West Lothian Council will provide updates on school closures through Groupcall, local media and radio stations, such as Radio Forth and Real Radio. The West Lothian Council website, Twitter and Facebook page will also provide severe weather warnings and relevant updated information.

In the event of our school being closed, learning will be supported through the use of our Glow blog, which staff will update regularly with activities which the children can do at home. There will also be information on Twitter.