

SIMPSON NURSERY NEWSLETTER

February 2019

OUR LEARNING THIS TERM

Weather

With all the different types of weather we have been experiencing recently the children have had many discussions about what they can see in their local environment. The children have been observing the weather in our nursery outdoor environment, creating pictures to represent what they have observed. As it has been rather cold during the past month the children have also been investigating any ice or frost in the garden and talking about how to be safe as it can often be slippery.

Castles

Some of the children have recently been using our junk modelling resources to build castles, which started a greater interest in investigating castles. We have been exploring the castles we have around Scotland and the different parts of castles when they were built. The children have also started to explore different types of flags and have been designing their own. We have recently started a Floorbook to show our learning about castles, please ask a member of staff to have a look. If you have ever visited a castle with your child, please let us know by adding it to our planning wall in the cloakroom, speaking to a member of staff or emailing the school office if you can't make it in to nursery.

Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC)

Our children and young people have the right to be safe and healthy. They should also be respected and included, nurtured and responsible. And they should get all the encouragement they need to be active, and to achieve things in their lives. Please look out for further information coming soon about how we ensure all children have these rights in our nursery.

IMPORTANT DATES

4 th February	PEEP Sessions Start
13 th /14 th February	Individual/Family Photographs
18 th February	Holiday
19 th February	Holiday (staff inservice)
25 th February	Stay, Play & Learn
28 th February	Family Learning Showcase Event (6.30pm)

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	

PEEP

Our first PEEP group starts this month. PEEP is aimed at supporting children and parents to learning together. Our current PEEP group is aimed at 3 year olds and their parents and will run between 9am and 10am in Simpson Primary School. The group will be run by Mrs Lejkowski and is a 6 week block. Please speak to a member of staff if you wish to attend or have any questions about this group.

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 Monday 25th February.

Burns Supper

The children had a great time celebrating Robert Burns at our Burns Supper in January. We all got the chance to taste Haggis, Neeps and Tatties. Some children also helped bake shortbread that we were all lucky enough to taste! After our Burns Supper the children enjoyed a story telling session of the Gruffalo in Scots and singing some Scottish nursery rhymes.



We have created a SWAY (an interactive powerpoint) about our Burns Supper event. Please click the link here to view:

[Go to this Sway](#)

Story Sacks

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 following Monday morning to enable our parent helpers to check the bags are complete before the next group choose their story sacks. Unfortunately we are still missing some story sacks. If you have one can you please return as soon as possible. Thank you.

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

If your child has achieved something outside of nursery, big or small, we want to celebrate it. Please write your child's achievement on a jelly bean (from the cloakroom) and bring in the bean to nursery so we can share it with others before adding it to our beanstalk in the cloakroom. 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.

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

With germs constantly appearing in our nursery we 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.

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.

Adults in Nursery

We often have supply staff or 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 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.

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/>

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>

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.

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.

Medication

If your child requires any medication please speak to a member of staff as we require a form to be completed. If your child is bringing medication to nursery, please hand it to a member of staff. Medication of any kind should not be left in the cloakroom.

Winter Ready

In the event of our school being closed, 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.