

Happy New Year! MAURICEWOOD

January 2019

NURSERY CLASS



Winter Weather

When it is icy and /or snowy the care taker clears and/ or grits and salts two main paths into school. One from the infant gate at the Mauricewood Road side of the school and the other the path from Salamanca Crescent to the P7 atrium doors. The care taker is working on his own and cannot clear the general playground areas. We will open the doors at 8.15am so children can come straight into nursery. Children will still go outside as much as possible so please make sure they have suitable footwear and coats. If weather conditions lead to school closures the information goes out on Midlothian Council Website and Radio Forth.

We are looking for a parent to come in once a week both morning and afternoon to do some baking activities with small groups of children. This does not need to be the same parent every week but if you could spare any time we have put a rota in the foyer asking parents to put their name down. The children will choose what they would like to bake beforehand and we will order in the ingredients, provide the recipe and support the parent.

We are asking for donations for our home corner and recycling for our gluing area. Please see the list of things we are looking for on the foyer wall.

A VERY BIG THANKYOU TO EVERY-ONE who donated or came along to our Christmas Fayre and Singalong...an amazing £158.60 towards our nursery funds has been raised. Thank you to **Ellmdee Designs and Events** for helping the children make the beautiful Christmas table decorations and to Mrs Liz Anderson for the beautiful hand made coasters and purses she donated for our sale. We hope you enjoyed it as much as the staff and children did!

Please provide a change of clothes for your child at nursery. This can be kept in a bag on their peg. Please return any changes of clothes your child has had from our nursery spares to nursery.

Road Safety Message

Please remember the school car park must NOT be used for nursery pick up or drop off. This can lead to road safety issues with children and parents accessing or leaving nursery by foot. If you have a medical condition which impacts on your walking please speak to a member of Nursery Staff.

Sickness and absence

Can we please remind parents there is a 48hour exclusion period for sickness and diarrhoea This is 48 hours after the last symptom has stopped. Please inform us if your child is going to be absent from nursery. Our direct number is 0131-271 4631.

We will be sending your child's learning folio home with them this term. If your child wishes to add anything from home such as photos or a drawing please encourage them to do so. In the front of the folio there is a parent feedback form that we are asking you to fill in and return to us. Your feedback is important to us. Also please remember if your child has an interest from home then let us know so we can add this to our planning wall and extend their learning on the subject at nursery.

As the children are now leaving the session straight from play we ask that you help your child tidy up what ever activity they are playing with prior to leaving. The staff would really appreciate this help!!

Snack Money Term 3

Snack money for part time children this term will be £36, full time children £44. This money allows us to take the children on trips and book visiting specialist to come into nursery. Please sign up to parent pay if you haven't already done so.

Outdoor Experiences

We are continuing to offer the children the choice to participate in outdoor learning out with the nursery environment every session Monday to Thursday. Please keep an eye out on the notice board in the foyer to see if your child has chosen to go that week. We would ask that if possible every child has wellies with their name in them , water-proofs and clothing appropriate for the weather.

We also have the community bus driven by our very own Mr Lorimer that we can use for trips. If you wish to attend any of the outings with your child please let a member of staff know. All Welcome!!

If your child has a particular interest in visiting some where please let a member of staff know so we can facilitate and extend this interest both indoors and outdoors.

Planning Wall

We would like to thank all the parents who have already contributed to our Nursery Planning Wall and we would like to encourage all parents to use it. If your child has a keen interest on a topic or subject at home please inform staff so we can extend their learning on this subject at nursery. If you are unsure please speak to a member of staff for more information.

Big Bed Time Read/Lending Library

Thanks to Mrs Sue Stephens, Mrs Stacy Seales and Mrs Andrea Perfect we have had a very successful term of issuing the Big Bed Time Read Packs to all of our families. We have asked parents and carers to continue to tick on the sign in registers if their child had a bedtime story the night before. Mrs Stephens, Mrs Christine Berg and Mrs Seales have taken on the mammoth job of re-vamping our nursery story sacks and creating numeracy sacks for our nursery lending library. We are asking parents and carers for any suggestions of cultural/religious story sacks we would be able to make. If you have any ideas please speak to a member of staff. This term the children will choose a library book on a Wednesday to take home and we ask it be returned to nursery on the following Monday. We have a story/numeracy sack launch which you are invited to on Wednesday 27th February 2019 at 10.30am and 2.30pm. Please come along and find out more about this fantastic resource for you and your child to use at home.

Blended Model Pilot

We are very excited to be piloting the blended model with childminders which started at the beginning of January. All parents were given the opportunity to fill out an application form in December if they wished to be considered for this pilot. We now have some children who are with us in nursery for a session and with a childminder for the other session in a day. This is funded by the local authority. We look forward to working more closely with the childminders.

Please, please, please remember to label all of your children's belongings they bring to nursery.

Aaron House

As part of our citizenship focus we will continue visiting Aaron House Care Home in Penicuik once a month where we will be organising singing activities, BookBug, PEEP and Art activities with the residents. Aaron House will also be visiting us once a month in nursery and the children look forward to these visits. The children really enjoyed Aaron House joining us for Pogle, our Xmas party and fayre.

Parents Meeting Term 3

We will be holding a parents meeting on Wednesday 27th February at 10.30am and 2.30pm. We have put an agenda sheet in the foyer for all parents to write any points they would like to discuss at this meeting. Everyone is welcome and please feel free to add anything you wish to discuss or anything you would like more information on. We look forward to seeing you all.



Dates for your diary....

Tuesday 22.01.19	A group of children visiting Aaron House Care Home 10am and 2pm
Thursday 24.01.19	Burns supper..all welcome 10am and 2pm
w/c 28.01.19	Bumble Bee Group Folders home.
Thursday 31.01.19	Aaron House residents visiting nursery am
w/c 04.02.19	Butterfly Group Folders Home
Tuesday 05.02.19	A group of children to Aaron House Care Home 10am and 2pm
Friday 08.02.19	Last Day of Nursery before February School Holiday
Monday 18.02.19	All Resume
w/c 18.02.19	Caterpillar Group Folders Home.
Thursday 21.02.19	Aaron House residents visiting nursery am and pm
w/c 25.02.19	Snail Group Folders Home
Wednesday 27.02.19	Parents Meeting and Story Sack Launch 10.30 & 2.30 pm (please see agenda in foyer)
Thursday 28.02.19	A group of children to Aaron House Care Home 10am and 2pm
w/c 04.03.19	Ladybird Group Folders Home
Tuesday 05.03.19	Aaron House residents visiting nursery am and pm
Thursday 14.03.19	A group of children to Aaron House Care Home 10am and 2pm
w/c 25.03.19	STAY & PLAY WEEK ...All welcome
Thursday 28.03.19	Nursery PRE SCHOOL Parents evening 4-6.30
Friday 29.03.19	Miss Torry 's last day (maternity Leave)
Thursday 04.04.19	Daffodil Tea Party—10.30am and 2.30pm. All welcome
Friday 05.04.19	Term ends for Easter Holiday
Tuesday 23.04.19	All Resume.