



Gartconner Early Learning and Childcare

August/September 2021

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all our new and existing families to Gartconner nursery. Over the course of each term we will be updating your children's learning experiences and play throughout the use of learning journals and parent consultations. We hope this will help all our parents and carers with the involvement of their child's development within the centre. All children's health and wellbeing is paramount. In the event of a child protection issue/concern Mr Manley is the main point of contact for all families/children within the centre. We will be introducing tooth brushing again after a long stop due to Covid therefore, please keep your eyes peeled for future updates on this. We will be trialling weekly surveys for lunch orders for children coming in for their 1.15 sessions. If you kindly fill this out and return it as soon as possible to ensure your child has their input of their lunch selection. We will continue operating in zones in the meantime, however, moving forward with the easing of Covid restrictions we will update all parents on this after the September break. This is to ensure the change is gradual being mindful of everyone's safety within the centre.

What we are learning about/ focusing on?

Butterfly room/Blossom room zone 1&3

The staff are focusing of the children's transitions from home to nursery. The other main focus is the transition of children from the 2-3 room into the 3-5 room. The children have been doing great coming into the nursery during these unforeseen circumstances. We hope all parents can rest assured that their child/children are settling in great at nursery. The planning will be focused on the children's health and wellbeing tailored to their interests. This responsive planning targets learning experiences based on the children's interests. The children have been discussing "All about me" looking at various ways of building friendships with others. The staff have been concentrating on routines and personal hygiene promoting independence and responsibility. We are now developing the garden area through discussion with children. The children have requested a castle to be built. Therefore, the staff are finding ways to resource this for the children. We are now baking everyday ensuring children are involved in their snack making and eating fresh bread. The children are enjoying mixing, filling and weighing the ingredients. This will encourage early numeracy and fine motor skills. We strongly promote the rights of the child within the nursery therefore, children's voice is evident when planning and making choices. Although zone 1 is the 3-5 room and zone 3 is the 2s room the focus on settling remains the same. Moving forward the planning for both rooms will slightly change as the 2s room will plan using the pre-birth and the 3-5 room will plan using the curriculum for excellence. The planning as a whole will be responsive tailored to children's interests.



Blossom room zone 2

The children are responsively accessing areas of their choice to ensure they are selecting resources they are interested in. Staff are focusing on settling new children into the nursery. Staff are planning responsively to children's needs and interests. This will allow staff to plan ahead any future adult led experiences. The staff are focusing on All about me. Staff are promoting hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills by drawing what we look like, families who live with us and any pets we have. The staff have been focusing on plp targets and parental comments supporting the children with their all-round independent skills. The staff are encouraging personal hygiene and new routines reinforcing this daily. The children have requested some instruments therefore, staff will be bringing in pots, pans and spoons creating a musical wall. The children will be encouraged to bake each day developing their numeracy and fine motor skills.

Please note; Can all parents and carers regularly check their child's learning journal for updates on experiences and play within the nursery. All new starts will be added to the learning journals once the enrolment process is completed

General updates

Rachel Travers DHC will be returning after maternity leave at the end of this month. Rachel will be working alongside Jan Robinson. If you have any queries, please contact the following Deputies on their working days noted below.

The nursery telephone number is 0141 955 2324.

Dates for your diary



Wednesday the 22nd of September – National fitness day

Friday the 24th of September 2021 - Monday the 27th September 2021 (September weekend – Nursery closed)

Monday the 4th to the 10th of October – World space week

Sunday the 10th of October – World mental health day

Friday the 8th of October 2021 in-service day – Nursery closed

Eco and the growing project update

The eco committee have continued to implement a range of experiences with the children around the topics of biodiversity, litter and food. Some examples of learning opportunities provided to the children are focused around different animals and their habitats, the importance of recycling and disposing it correctly and the food growing process. This will encourage the children the importance of healthy eating. The eco committee will be looking into ways in involving families to achieving the green flag award. We will keep all families updated on ways to get involved.

In the meantime, all suggestions and ideas are welcome. Just drop us an email, comment on the learning journal or even give us a call. We will be happy taking any ideas forward.



Meet the Team

Head teacher – Paul Manley (Available Monday-Friday)

DHoC Head of Centre – Rachel Travers (Available Mon-Wed)

DHoC Head of Centre – Jan Robinson (Available Thu & Fri)

Senior EYW – Hoda Al-Hilli (Available Monday-Friday)

Nursery Clerical – Laura Ness

Nursery Teachers – Elizabeth Wilson

Teacher Support: Kim Pepler

Blossom Room (3-5)

Key Workers – Suzy Wright, Heather Woollon, Megan Hutchison, Lorraine Daily, Beverley Gray, Monica McKernan, Linda McColl, Claire Holmes, Sarah McBride, Shauna Turner, Leanne Ritchie, Caroline Cowan, Rachel Rodger, Lynsey Murray, Ross Harrison.

Early Years Support Worker – Katey Bodle

Apprentice – Jenna MacHattie, Josephine Kerr

Butterfly Room (2-3)

Alison Berrie, Simone Donnelly, Angela Curtis

Catering staff

Olivia Carberry

Finally,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents and carers for their continued support. Can all carers provide the following essentials noted below;

- Spare changes
- Sun hats
- Sun lotion
- Outdoor wellies and wet suits
- Nappies if required

Please be mindful we do not hold any spare changes at the moment.

