

Happy Lunar New Year!



Learning and development

As part of our continuous support in helping the children to experience the awe and wonder of the world in which we live, we have been learning about Chinese New Year, Burns' Night and Australia day. The children have had opportunities to taste Chinese and Scottish food, have learnt some Mandarin Chinese phrases and have talked about current affairs in Australia. Thank you to those who have kindly donated towards our fundraiser for the World Wildlife Fund to help treat animals who have been caught up in the devastating Australian bushfires.

Our learning and development plan for the next few of weeks is in response to the children's keen interest in Dinosaurs; we have also been focusing on specific letters, numbers and shapes. Weekly/Fortnightly learning and development plans are attached to the parent information board for your perusal. We read a lot to the children on a daily basis and try to expose them to both fiction & non-fiction books relevant to what they are learning, especially as it is National Storytelling Week.

Bev has continued to upload pictures of the children on our private Facebook page from recent activities, and the staff have continued to add individual photos to Tapestry.

Physical activity / Health and Safety

The children are continuing to enjoy the opportunity to take part in **the daily mile**; walking, jogging or running in or around the school playground on a daily basis. May I remind parents and carers to ensure their children are come into the setting in trainers or canvas shoes to enable the children to remain safe whilst being active. **Diddikicks/Dreams Captured** sessions, led by Coach Callum, continue to take place on Friday mornings. The children love taking part in these sessions. If you would like to enrol your child in these sessions, there are places still available; please contact the office staff (email addresses in the header).

Session requests for 2020

I would be grateful if those who have not already informed me of their session requests for children looking to extend their hours in the proceeding terms, email me at their earliest convenience to avoid any disappointment. Thank you.



NEWSLETTER - February 2020

Business Manager (sessions) -

Penny Harland penny.harland@croftpreschool.com

Finance Officer (invoices) - lynn.reardon@croftpreschool.com

Admin Officer (funding) - bev.swindell@croftpreschool.com

Telephone 01925 764565 **Email** admin@croftpreschool.com

Donations

Outdoor provision We are keen to further improve our outdoor facilities, so, if the company you work for (or own) are able to help, or if you know of anyone who could help, we would be grateful of anything that would help improve our outdoor provision. E.g. we are looking to have an over-door shelter built, some paving slabs fitted and looking for donations of gravel/pebbles to surround our building with. Any wooden outdoor play provision would be gratefully received.

Indoor provision We are also looking for our carpets to be changed.

Snacks Thank you for all the donations of fresh fruit, especially those who have offered to bring them in on a regular basis. We will keep you informed if we build-up a surplus.

Easyfundraising Croft Early Years is a not-for-profit pre-school and a registered charity. All extra funds we can raise go towards providing a better learning experience for the children. You can help our fund-raising just by doing your online shopping! We have joined easyfundraising.org.uk to help you to help us raise funds every time you buy almost anything online. You don't pay anything extra - the donation comes from the retailer - most of the major shops are there to choose from. Please [sign up today](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) and bookmark the page, so that you always start your shop at easyfundraising.org.uk. Many thanks.

Staff Update

I am happy to announce that Kerry is expecting a baby in May, so will be going on maternity leave after the Easter holidays. For those who have Kerry as a Keyperson, I will be in touch in due course to notify you individually of changes in Keyperson. We will have a new addition to our Staff team from March, Corina, who has Qualified Teacher Status and years of EYFS experience. We also have Liz and Lisa as auxiliary staff and Kate U. & Kate V. as bank staff.

Notable Dates

February 1/2/20 National Storytelling Week

9/2/20 Tu B'Shevat (Jewish holiday – 'New Year for the Trees')

11/2/20 Safer Internet Day

14/2/20 Valentine's Day

Preschool closes

24/2/20 Preschool re-opens

24/2/20 Buddhist Losar New Year

25/2/20 Shrove Tuesday

26/2/20 Ash Wednesday

March 1/3/20 St. David's Day

3/3/20 World Wildlife Day

5/3/20 World Book Day

6/3/20 British Science Week

9/3/20 Sport Relief

17/3/20 St. Patrick's Day

20/3/20 World Oral Health Day

21/3/20 World Poetry Day

22/3/20 Mother's Day

26/3/20 Purple Day

Many thanks for your continued support and co-operation, Penny