



# Renfrew Street Nursery News!

## February/March 2024



### Dates for your diary:

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March**-nursery will close at 2.30 for the Spring Break holiday

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April**- nursery reopens at 8.30

### Story and Songs Sessions:

All parents are invited to join us for a Story and Songs session with their child on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February from 2.00 to 2.30. This session will include a story, songs and rhymes, and will be good fun for you and your child. You are welcome to bring younger siblings too. There will be tea, juice and biscuits. The session will be led by Sharon. We look forward to seeing you there.

### Outdoor play:

Scottish Government guidelines recommend that all children should spend a large part of each day learning outdoors. We want to try and extend the time our children spend outdoors. All the children go into the nursery garden after lunch each day for at least an hour. We plan to offer an additional outdoor play session from 8.30 to 9.30 every day. This means that all children will have the opportunity to play in the garden when they arrive at nursery. The downstairs playroom will also be open, so that if any child would rather play indoors they can play in this room. The key workers will be based in the garden at this time, so you can still take your child to their key worker when they arrive at nursery. We are also planning to have outdoor learning experiences throughout the day which the children can choose to do. This will start on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February.

### The nursery day:

We thought it might be interesting for you to know what happens during a typical day in nursery.

The children start each day in the nursery garden, or in the Construction/Role play room. We ask you to take your child to their key worker when you arrive, so that they can welcome your child to nursery. At 9.30 all children will go to their key worker for "Welcome Time". At this time there will be a group chat, sharing news and discussing what is happening in nursery and in the wider world. We would encourage you to bring your children to nursery before 9.30 so that they can participate in outdoor play and in "Welcome Time." The children can then go to any playroom and choose what they would like to do. Children are allowed to go upstairs and downstairs, and we are building their confidence in doing this-some are more confident than others! One member of staff will also offer learning experiences in the garden.

The Snack bar is open between 10.00 and 10.30 in the morning and 2.00-2.30 in the afternoon. Snack is a choice of fruit and something bread-based, such as toast, crackers or breadsticks. Sometimes there are low-sugar pancakes or muffins. There is milk or water to drink. The children come together to do a short singing time from 10.30 to 10.50. This helps greatly with language development.

All children have lunch downstairs at 12.00. There is a choice of two different meals, and dietary requirements are accommodated. We encourage independence at lunchtime, and children can serve themselves, clear away and pour their own water. After lunch the children brush their teeth. There is another outdoor play session in the garden.

Children can participate in a variety of different learning experiences during free play times. Upstairs, children can take part in literacy and numeracy experiences, arts and crafts, baking, and science experiences. Downstairs, children can take part in construction and role play experiences. They can also chill in the sensory room. Children can also access a variety of learning experiences in the garden, and we regularly go for walks in the local area.



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### Clothing for nursery:

Please dress your child in comfortable clothing for play and to help them visit the toilet on their own (no belts, dungarees or stiff buttons). Children will be outside to play every day so please provide a warm, waterproof jacket and sturdy outdoor shoes or wellington boots. Children are not required to change their shoes, but they can bring indoor shoes if you wish. A spare set of clothing at nursery is needed in case children's clothing becomes wet or messy which can happen during play. Each child has a named peg for their coat, and a named bag to store hats, gloves and spare clothing. Please write your child's name clearly on all items of clothing, including coats and footwear, as sometimes children have the same items of clothing. This will help to avoid confusion.

### Cloakroom Area:

We have recently made some changes to the cloakroom area to give the feeling of more space. We have had many positive comments about it, and we hope you like the changes we have made. We ask that you make use of the string bag provided for your child's change of clothes. There is not much room for large rucksacks. Thank you for your help with this.