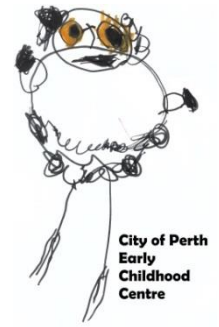


16<sup>th</sup> August 2018

## Newsletter



Welcome back after the summer. The team are looking forward to supporting your children's play, learning and development this year, as well as supporting our families too. Please read the information below which may answer many questions you have. If it doesn't, come and see me! The list of term dates for year has been requested by many parents – please keep the link to this newsletter in your phone or computer or ask for a printed copy to stick on your fridge at home.

**Lunches and snacks are now FREE!** If you have any payments outstanding from last term or summer, I would be grateful if you could pay these to Elaine as soon as possible. We have a new lunch and snack menu – this is now only one item, not two choices. This is a menu shared with all extended hours nurseries. We also have a tea-time meal option for children in from 1-6pm, also FREE. ***If you have any feedback on the new menu, please come along to parents coffee and cake drop in, or ask for a time to speak with myself, Carmen or Sandra Gibb.***

Our **core opening hours have now changed to 9am-3pm (for Oak room)** to bring in line with the national 1140hrs provision. Some families however have opted for the extended hours provision with different times. ***If you have any feedback on the new menu, please come along to parents coffee and cake drop in, or ask for a time to speak with myself, Carmen or Sandra Gibb.***

The team have discussed our **nursery golden rules** and we have now agreed three main values for children:

Be kind

Be safe

Be responsible

You will see and hear more about this in the coming weeks and months. This is the language we will use with children to promote positive social and personal skills. We will share more information at our next parents info evening about this and the puppets and characters that we will be using to support this. We also look forward to working with all parents to promote these values at home in order to help parents manage children's behaviour.

Our Oak room afternoon snack is from 2.40pm to 3pm. It can be unsettling for children to be collected mid-snack, and makes it hard for staff to talk with parents about their child's day effectively. Could I therefore request that parents collect either at the start of snack or at the end (3pm). Sometimes parents like to sit with their child and join in with snack – please arrange this with your keyworker if you would like to do this sometimes.

Please **label your child's items of clothing and shoes**. Lots of clothes items do get moved around and don't always end up on children's pegs and can get mixed up with other children's possessions. Children shouldn't come to nursery in their "best" clothes and the most useful way to avoid lost clothes is labelling with their name.

Family life can be fun and rewarding but it can also be challenging. There are various groups that the **Parenting and Family learning team** provide that can help.

**Incredible Years** is a 15 week programme aimed at parents and carers who have children aged 3-4 years. Supports parents to manage their child's emotions and behaviour in a positive way. An opportunity to meet other families and support each other in a friendly, relaxed environment. There are various groups starting from 27<sup>th</sup> August, including Tuesdays 9.30-11.30am at Balhousie Primary School and Wednesdays 6-8pm at North Inch Community Campus. Creche spaces are available.

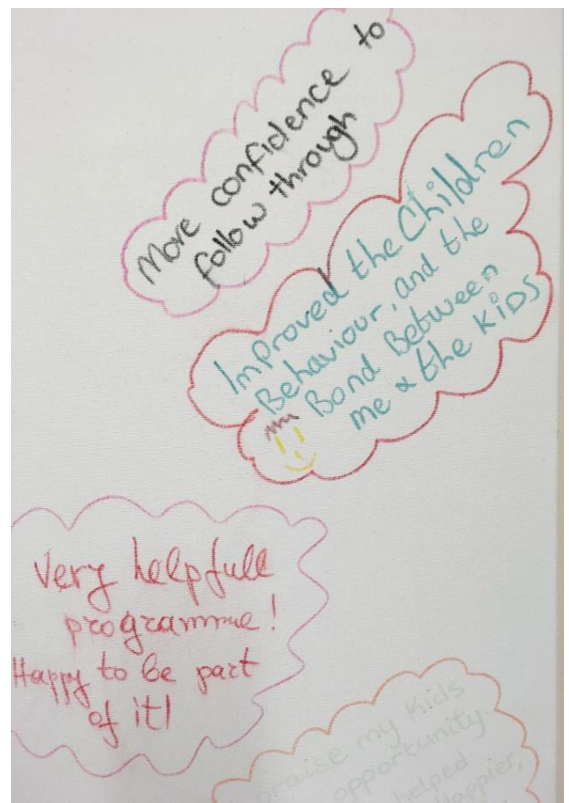
Here are some of our parent comments from those who have taken part in previous groups.

Elaine Rose from the parenting and family learning team will be at copecc on Monday, Wednesday and Friday next week, around pickup and drop off times for those who wish to discuss this further.

**PEEP Learning Together** offers the chance for you to have fun with your child and learn together as well as sharing your experiences and ideas in a safe and supported environment.

We can help you to apply or you can phone the Family Learning team on 01738 477697.

*For a full list of groups, have a look at the list in the family room.*



**Parents chat with coffee and cake** – Steve, Carmen and Sandra Gibb will be available to chat informally with parents over a cuppa and some good cake next week, Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> August from 9-9.45am and 2.15-3pm in the staff room. Please come along. We can talk about anything you want but in particular we want to know:

- Parents fundraising ideas and discussion about nursery trip
- Discussions about our new hours and our new menus for lunch/snack :what you think
- What support you want as parents, what groups you want and anything we can do better!

**Stay and Plays** will start in nursery from 16<sup>th</sup> September and these have been very popular over the last year in enabling parents to share in what children are doing at nursery and spend quality time with your child and their keyworker. We are looking at other ways of supporting parents and children in nursery including Story Safari to develop children's language skills, Cook and Book to support language with some baking and ways to work with colleagues in Occupational Therapy to improve children motor skills and coordination.

You will receive a couple of letters home soon asking for up to date **information about Health Visitors/GPs** and also the **annual data check form**. Please return these to Elaine promptly otherwise she will have to chase you up by phone call!

## Key dates – COPECC 2018-19

### 2018

Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	-	Last day of term
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	-	Return from Oct hols
Thu 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	-	Parents night – 3.10-4.30pm
Thu 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	-	CLOSED – STAFF INSERVICE DAY
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	-	CLOSED – STAFF INSERVICE DAY
Tue 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	-	Oak room nativity – am
Thu 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	-	Christmas parties
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	-	Last day of term – CLOSED AT MIDDAY

### 2019

Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan	-	Return from Christmas hols
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	-	CLOSED – STAFF INSERVICE DAY
Thu 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb	-	CLOSED – HOL PLACES ONLY
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	-	CLOSED - HOL PLACES ONLY
Tue 5 <sup>th</sup> Mar	-	Parents night – 3.10-4.30pm
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	-	Last day of term
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> Apr	-	Return from Easter hols
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Apr	-	CLOSED – GOOD FRIDAY
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Apr	-	CLOSED – EASTER MONDAY
Tue 23 <sup>rd</sup> Apr	-	CLOSED – STAFF INSERVICE DAY
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> May	-	CLOSED – MAY HOLIDAY
Thu 30 <sup>th</sup> May	-	Sports day and family BBQ
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> Jun	-	Leavers celebration - am
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> Jun	-	Last day of term – CLOSED AT MIDDAY
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> Aug	-	CLOSED – STAFF INSERVICE DAY
Tue 20 <sup>th</sup> Aug	-	Return from Summer hols



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