

**Melrose Primary School
Early Learning and Childcare (ELC)
Newsletter
Term 3
January to March 2020**



We would like to share a few photos of the experiences the children engaged in last term within our nurturing learning environment.

- Learning about our own needs and feelings and the needs and feelings of others
- Recognising special occasions together i.e. Diwali and Christmas
- Sharing experiences with family and friends i.e. stay and play sessions, baking, job roles
- Exploring the ELC environment indoors and outdoors
- Exploring the signs of Autumn in our local environment
- Learning to problem solve and risk assess
- Developing an awareness of road safety during visits to the local shops
- Being creative using a variety of resources
- Using our imaginations to construct
- Thinking of others in our local community – kindness bags, foodbank collection in January
- Listening in small groups, sharing our thoughts and ideas.
- Taking part in our ELC cookie jar enterprise to raise funds for ELC resources
- Experienced performing Christmas songs to an audience (parent/carers)
- Learning to use tools safely with guidance from Struan's Dad
- Investigating materials (waterproof or non-waterproof)



Care Plan Review

The children's individual care plans need to be reviewed 6 monthly, therefore the children who attended ELC last year are due a review. This should only take a short discussion with your child's keyworker. The review requires a parent/carer to read over the documents you have already submitted and update any details that may have changed or add any additional information. Your child's keyworker will organise a time either at the beginning or end of a session that suits you to be able discuss. If you are unable to come in to ELC we will send you a copy home for you to look over, sign and hand back in to a member of staff.

Library

This term children will have the opportunity to change their library books each week within their keyworker group at the end of a session.

We have allocated each keyworker group a day to change their library books, these are as follows; -

Mrs Brown's keyworker group should bring their library bags on a **Tuesday**

Mrs Hall's keyworker group should bring their library bags on a **Wednesday**

Mrs Patterson's keyworker group should bring their library bags on a **Thursday**

Dates for your diary

Parent/Carer Consultations for ELC

Parent/Carer consultations with your child's Early Learning and Childcare key worker will be taking place on **Monday 24th February and Thursday 27th February**

Each appointment will last 10 minutes.

A sign-up sheet will be available in the ELC cloakroom to enable parent/carers to select an appropriate time for their consultation. If you are unable to come into ELC to sign up for an appointment please contact the school office who will make the arrangements for you.

The discussion during the consultation meeting will be based on your child's strengths and development needs in key areas including the level of support required. You may be given suggestions for ways you can support learning at home.

If you have any queries, please speak to a member of ELC staff or contact the school office.

School Class Photos

School class photos will take place on **Monday 27th January 2020**. Children will be taken through for a class photo during the normal ELC session.

Fly on the wall session

Parents/Carers who have children that will be attending Melrose Primary School P1 in **August 2020** are invited to attend a 'fly on the wall' session to observe the teaching and learning in the Primary 1 environment.

Sessions (15 minutes) are available on **Thursday 13 February 2020**

We can accommodate 4 or 5 parent/carers per slot.

If you are interested in attending please write your name next to a date and time on the booking form situated on the information board in the ELC cloakroom. If you are unable to access the booking form in the ELC please telephone the school to book a time that is suitable for you.

ELC Christmas Cookie Jar Enterprise Project

Thank you to all who helped to make our cookie jars and to those who purchased them. We raised £215.00 which will be used to purchase new resources. The children will be involved this term in choosing some of the resources for our ELC environment.

Foodbank Collection Box Donations

The children have been thinking about how we can care for others in our ELC environment and in the local community. We would like to donate to the local food bank therefore we will be going to the Co-op with the children to buy some food to add to our collection box. Could you please support your child in bringing in an item of food from home to add to our foodbank collection box, any item that you feel you could spare from your cupboards such as tinned soups, meat, beans, vegetables and fruit or pasta, rice and cereals would be gratefully appreciated? Please don't send in any glass jars.

Clothing

The outdoors is regularly used for learning. Please ensure that your child has suitable clothes, a coat and outdoor shoes. On wet days please send your child to ELC with wellies. Children are encouraged to be independent and, where possible, should be sent with shoes they can fasten and unfasten independently.

Melrose ELC would like to offer parents/carers an opportunity to order an ELC jumper and t-shirt for the children to wear when they are busy learning through play. If you would like to place an order please ask a member of staff for details.

Snack Money

The children have snack every day through which healthy eating is promoted. In the cloakroom there is a snack menu for the week and a list of snack costs. Children are given the opportunity to suggest healthy snack ideas and try new foods. Snack is priced at £0.50 per day. You will be informed of the total cost of snack for your child each term (holidays and in-service days will be taken into account). Payment should be given to a member of staff. Cheques should be made payable to "Melrose Primary School" and cash in an envelope marked with the child's name. A receipt will be written and placed in your child's pocket.

Snack money for this term is now due.