

Antonine Early Learning and Childcare Centre



Welcome Back

All children have returned to ELC with confidence, settling back into daily routines and eager to progress in their learning. We have also enjoyed welcoming our new families to Antonine ELC. The children are all settling in well, making new friends and engaging with the learning experiences on offer.

Staffing

As you are aware, we have had a few changes in staffing this term. We are really pleased to be welcoming Eilidh, Danielle and Tracy as permanent members of our team. Eilidh and Danielle join us as Early Years Officers, while Tracey is now taking on the role of Support for Learning Assistant.



Children's Safety

The playroom can become really busy at drop off and pick up. To ensure our children are safe at all times, can we kindly ask that all parents/carers ensure they sign their child in and out of ELC, using the registers provided.

A snap shot of our learning

All children are busy exploring our environment and engaging with their new friends. They have shown a keen interest in learning more about animals, dinosaurs and volcanoes. We also continue to learn outdoors and visit the school gym hall, developing our gross motor skills, physical play and risk awareness. The children have also enjoyed going for walks in the local community and making some yummy treats. We have even made some delicious soup! Over the next few weeks, we will continue to further develop our spaces and environment to reflect the children's interests.

Outdoor Play

Outdoor play is an integral part of the ELC day. As children are outdoors in all weather, they can, at times, become a bit messy. Can we therefore, please ask that all children bring with them a suitable outdoor jacket, welly boots and a change of clothes please? Can we request that all items of clothing please be clearly labelled with your child's name?

Sharing the learning

We are committed to working collaboratively with all families to support our children in their learning journey. Throughout the session, you will have various opportunities to learn more about your child's learning experiences. The children's learning journals and our ELC Floor book is available for you to view whenever you wish. Inside these you will find out more about the children's current interests and learning experiences. Every six months you will also have the opportunity to meet your child's keyworker to review your child's progress in more detail.

We aim to ensure all children have a positive ELC experience. The children's What Matters to Me document plays a key role in this. All families are therefore asked to review this regularly to ensure staff's knowledge of the children is up to date. We also operate an open door policy and regularly share information via Twitter and the school app. In addition, we would love to hear from you if your child has a WOW moment or achievement out with ELC so that we can also add this to their learning journal.



Family Events

We are really excited to announce that following parental feedback last session, we will be offering increased family events this session. On Friday 8th September, we will be holding the first one of these - a Sibling Sing Along from 2pm – 2.45pm. This is an opportunity for children's siblings to come along to ELC and join in with singing some songs together

Family Wall

We are currently developing a family wall display within our ELC and would greatly appreciate if the children could bring in a photo or two of their family to share with us and their friends.

Resources

We are also looking for some resources to help us further develop learning experiences within our ELC. If you have any of the following items and would be willing to donate these to us, it would be most appreciated:

- Adult shoes/hats/shirts/dresses for dressing up
- Bottle tops/corks
- Kitchen utensils, pots and pans for our home corner
- Cardboard tubes and boxes
- Wooden Pegs
- Curtain rings
- Ribbons and buttons



Parents Helpers

We are keen to get some family helpers into support us with different learning experiences within ELC. This may include helping us with walks in the local community, developing areas within our ELC and setting up a book lending service for our families.

If you are interested in this and would be able to support us even on the odd occasion please feel free to contact Nicola on nicola.majury@falkirk.gov.uk letting us know what days/times you would be available and what you would be interested in helping with.



Absence Procedure

Can we please ask all parents/carers to inform us if your child will be absent from ELC. This can be done via either email or telephone. antonineprimaryschool@falkirk.gov.uk 01324 503140

Key Dates for your Diary

Date	Event
Friday 8 th September, 2pm – 2.45pm	Sibling Sing Along
Monday 11 th September	Holiday - ELC closed
Friday 29 th September	Macmillan Coffee Morning
Monday 9 th October – Friday 20 th October	Holiday – ELC closed
Monday 23 rd October	ELC reopens at 8.45am
Monday 30 th October – Friday 3 rd November	STEM Stay and Play sessions – more information to follow regarding specific day and times for each group.
Week beginning 20 th November	Children's reviews with key worker (Red, Yellow and Purple groups)
Thursday 23 rd November	In-service day – ELC closed
Week beginning 27 th November	Children's reviews with key worker (Blue, Green and Orange groups)
Friday 15 th December 2pm – 2.45pm	Sibling Sing Along
Friday 22 nd December	ELC Christmas Party ELC closes at 1.30pm