

Antonine Early Learning and Childcare Centre



Welcome Back

All children returned to ELC very excited and keen to share news about their winter break. They have all settled back into ELC routines well and we are excited to see where their learning takes us in Term 3. The cold weather has sparked an interest in the weather this week. The children have enjoyed being outside, exploring the ice, looking at the different shapes and discussing how it forms and melts.

Thankyou

Thank you to all of our families who joined us in December for our Family Festive Fun event. The children were excited and had a great time. This is the first year we have run an event like this and as always, we appreciate your feedback and will be giving everyone another opportunity to comment on this. As of next week, there will be question sheets on the noticeboard in the cloakroom for you to add your views and any comments you think may support us in the future with regards to planning family events.

Session Times

Our ELC session times are 8.45am to 2.45pm. We open the doors at 8.45am and operate a soft pick-up where the doors open from 2.30pm. From 8.55am onwards, all staff are supporting children with their learning. This means that any children arriving after this time can be dropped off to a staff member at the main ELC door. This not only ensures the safety of all children, it minimises disruption to children's learning.



Learning Interests

Children are currently showing a significant interest in the weather, monster trucks and messy play such as gloop, playdough and shaving foam. We also currently have lots of young bakers in ELC, who are enjoying using our new bread maker on a daily basis.

Clothing

We enjoy learning in lots of different ways at ELC. Sometimes we can get messy and wet when learning especially outdoors. Although we do have some spare clothes we can provide children with, our supply is becoming limited. Could we please ask that all children bring a few changes of clothes with them to ELC? As we are outdoors learning every day, please feel free to leave these, along with welly boots at children's pegs if easier to do so.

Bikes

Many children are showing an interest in cycling and loving bringing their bicycles to ELC. Whilst we are so happy to see the children developing their cycling skills, we are unfortunately unable to store these in our cloakroom. We are looking into purchasing a bicycle rack for outside our ELC door and hope this is in place soon.



Sickness and Medication

We understand that there are times when your child may require medication if they have been under the weather. If your child requires medication to be administered whilst they are attending ELC, the medicine must have a prescription label and be accompanied with a medication form that can be collected from your child's key worker.

Similarly, if your child only receives medication at home, it is useful to alert your child's keyworker as it allows them to better support your child whilst in ELC. In the event that your child becomes unwell whilst in ELC, a member of staff will notify you or your emergency contact. Can we please ask that all parents/carers ensure that these contact details are up to date? Thank you.



Primary 1 Transition

At Antonine ELC we are committed to ensuring all children have a positive transition to Primary 1. All children have various opportunities throughout their pre-school year to become familiar with a classroom environment, meet their buddies and engage in school experiences. The dates for all transition events are detailed below:

Week beginning 4 th November 2024	P6 buddies complete buddy training and begin ELC visits.	
Week beginning 28 th April 2025	Transition information given out Class Teacher information shared with families	Email and on the school app
Wednesday 7 th May 2025 Wednesday 14 th May 2025 Wednesday 21 st May 2025 Wednesday 28 th May 2025	P1 teacher visits ELC	
Friday 9 th May 2025	P6 and ELC buddies get together	STEM focus
Wednesday 28 th May 2025	P6 and ELC buddies get together	Sports Day
Tuesday 3 rd June 2025	P1 Induction Information event for parents/carers	
Friday 13 th June 2025	P6 and ELC buddies get together Lunch in the dinner hall	Games Afternoon
Thursday 18 th June 2025	P6 and ELC buddies get together Lunch in the dinner hall Meet the Teacher Event	Outdoor Picnic
Wednesday 25 th June 2025 1.30 – 2.30pm	ELC Celebration of learning	

Other important dates for your diary

Date	Event
Monday 6 th January 2025	ELC reopens at 8.45am
Friday 14 th February 2025 – Monday 17 th February 2025	Holiday – ELC closed
Tuesday 18 th February 2025	In-Service Day – ELC closed for children
Wednesday 19 th February 2025	ELC reopens at 8.45am
Week beginning Monday 10 th March 2025	Stay and Play – more information to follow regarding specific day and times for each group
Thursday 3 rd April 2025	Sibling Sing Along Event
Friday 4 th April 2025	In-Service Day – ELC closed
Monday 7 th April 2025 – Monday 21 st April 2025	Easter Holidays – ELC closed
Tuesday 22 nd April 2025	ELC reopens at 8.45am
Monday 5 th May 2025	Holiday – ELC closed
Week beginning Monday 12 th May 2025	Health Focus Week Family Breakfast – more information to follow regarding specific day and times for each group
Wednesday 28 th May 2025 at 1.30pm	ELC Sports Day
Week Beginning Monday 9 th June 2025	Children’s Reviews (Blue, Green and Orange)
Week Beginning Monday 9 th June 2025	Children’s Reviews (Red, Yellow and Purple)
Friday 27 th June 2025	School and ELC closes at 1.30pm

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