**Rattray Early Childhood Centre Newsletter**

**January and February 2023**



We would like to wish all our new and existing nursery families a Happy New Year and welcome back to a new and busy term.

**Useful information:**

\*Rattray Early Childhood Centre telephone number is 01250 871981. Please use this telephone number to inform staff of nursery children’s absences, appointments, etc. Please use the Centre email address RattrayECC@pkc.gov.uk to contact us with any questions or concerns.

\*We are delighted to welcome our new families to Nursery this term. We look forward to working and learning with you.

\*We have been joined by two new members of staff this term – Play Assistants Mrs. Ramona Paven and Mrs. Izabela Witkos. Both ladies will work and play with us until the end of the term.

\*Please could all children wear a coat and bring gloves and hat to Nursery this term so that we can continue to enjoy outdoor play. Please could children also bring a pair of indoor shoes to nursery to change into if they are wearing boots outdoors. A snow suit is also advantageous in the cold, damp winter weather as we try to play every day outdoors.

\*Parent Pay and the School App remain our principle means of communication with parents/carers this session. Please contact our nursery teacher, Miss McCulloch, if you require details on how to access these digital platforms.

\*Please avoid putting treats and juice bottles in children’s bags as these can cause unnecessary behaviour difficulties. Children are provided with healthy snacks and water is available daily in line with current national and local guidance.

\*Children should not bring toys to Nursery unless they have been agreed by Mrs. Ritchie or Mrs. Stewart. In addition, dressing up clothes should only be worn on special dress-up occasions as these can also cause unnecessary behaviour difficulties.

**This month We Are Learning To (W.A.L.T.):**

\*Talk about events and characters in stories.

\*Take part in familiar songs, stories, and rhymes.

\*Count forwards and backwards within ten.

\*Count a given number of objects accurately.

\*Compare objects in order of size- for example, longer, taller, shorter, etc.

\*Take turns and share.

\*Talk about friendships, sharing and caring.

\*Develop independence in dressing myself.

\*Tidy away items I am playing with.

\*Put my name on my pictures and drawings.

\*Take part in energetic play both indoors and outdoors.

**Dates for your diary**

**(Please note these dates are provisional and may be subject to change.**

**Other dates may also be added.)**

\*Primary 1 enrolment for session 2023-24 opens online on Perth and Kinross website week commencing Monday 9th January. Children who will be 5 years of age on or before 16th August must commence primary education. Children whose 5th birthday falls between 16th August and the last day of February 2024 may attend school from August 2023, or alternatively, may defer entry to school until August 2024.

\*Nursery registration for session 2023-24 opens online on Perth and Kinross website week commencing 16th January. Parents and carers of existing children who are eligible for a further year of nursery provision must re-register for next session.

\*Heather, our family learning worker, has scheduled Bookbug sessions for ante- pre-school children and their families throughout the month of January. In addition, Heather will be offering healthy eating activity sessions throughout the month of February and Spring Stay and Play opportunities throughout the month of March - a letter will follow with information about these activity sessions.

\*Wednesday 15th February :

Nursery will be closed to pupils for Inset day 5.

\*Thursday 16th & Friday 17th February :

Nursery will be closed to term time only pupils for the February mid-term holiday. Children accessing 45- and 50-week provision should attend at their normal times.

**And finally, …**

 A big thank you to all those members of our community who have helped Nursery this term in any way.

* donating clothes and toys children have grown out of
* purchasing new resources

Our children really benefit from and appreciate your continued support.

**The Nursery Team**