

St. Bernadette's Nursery Class



Edward Avenue, Falkirk FK5 4XR

01324 503404

<https://twitter.com/StBernNursery>

August 2023

Welcome back!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new children and parents. We would also like to welcome back the rest of the children and parents after our Autumn break.

We hope our newsletter will inform you about events and activities happening during this term.



Staffing

The staffing in the nursery this session will be as follows

Cat Kinnaird—Senior Early Years Officer

Sarah Honeyman - Early Years Officer (Orange Group)

Fiona MacLean—Early Years Officer (Green Group)

Sandy Trimmer—Early Years Officer (Purple Group)

Susan Beston—Early Years Officer (Red Group)

Rachel Ballard—Early Years Officer (Blue Group)

Sharyn Kemp—Early Learning and Childcare Assistant

Pam Rankin—Early Learning and Childcare Assistant

Lisa Armstrong—Support for Learning Assistant

Nursery door

The door will open at 9.00am for drop off and then 2.45pm for collection. All children must be collected by 3.00pm.

Please remember to sign your child in and write who is collecting your child at the end of the day, along with what time they are getting collected at.

Important dates

Thursday 7th September—Nursery Photographs

Monday 11th September—Nursery closed for September weekend

Monday 9th October—Nursery closes for 2 weeks for holiday

Thursday 16th November—Christmas Photographs

Friday 24th November—Nursery closed for in-service day

Friday 22nd December—Nursery closes for Christmas holidays

Monday 8th January—Nursery reopens

Friday 9th February—Nursery closed for holiday

Monday 12th February—Nursery closed for holiday

Tuesday 13th February—Nursery closed for in-service day



Health Checks

Please remember it is **Falkirk Council Policy** that a child should not return to school or nursery until they are 48 hours clear of any sickness / diarrhoea illness.

Regular checks for Head Lice are always recommended.



If your child is unwell the best place for them is at home. We cannot ensure children stay inside when recovering from illness as we are an outdoor nursery and children spend a large part of their day outdoors.

If your child is not well enough to go outdoors, then they should not be in nursery.

Activities in Nursery

Every Monday we have Miss Risk from Tiger Cubs who comes in to teach us Taekwon-Do.

Every Tuesday the children have the opportunity to go to the school library.

Every Wednesday the children have the opportunity to go to the school gym hall.

Every Thursday and Friday at break time, the children have the opportunity to go into the big garden with the school children for shared playtimes.

Toys to Nursery

Please try and discourage your child from bringing toys to nursery. These can be lost by accident and children can get extremely upset if staff can't find these items.

Children should not bring any food or sweets into nursery either.

Payment for Tiger Cubs

We have worked out the cost for Tiger Cubs this term and it comes to £5.00 per child.

If anyone has any problems paying this please speak to Cat.

Wheelie Wednesday

Wheelie Wednesday is when the children bring their bikes or scooters (**with their helmet**) with them to nursery. We then go into the Big Garden in the afternoon where they have the freedom to explore the grounds on their bike or scooter!

The children loved Wheelie Wednesday last term and this is something staff are keen to continue.

We will make this the last Wednesday of every month.

Wednesday 30th August

Wednesday 27th September

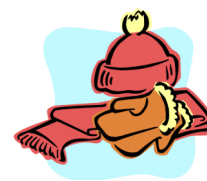
Wednesday 25th October

Wednesday 29th November



Appropriate Clothing

Please ensure that your child has appropriate clothing for nursery. As the weather is getting colder over the next couple of months, we ask that you provide your child with a hat and gloves which can be kept at nursery.



We also ask that your child has their own pair of wellie boots and waterproofs which can be kept at nursery.

We understand that the cost of living is increasing at the moment so if you are unable to provide these items to be kept in nursery, please speak to Cat.

Please make sure your child's name is on these items. It would also be helpful if you could make sure there is at least one change of clothes in your child's nursery bag.

If your child borrows nursery clothes, could these please be returned once your child has finished with them.

Outdoor Play and Learning

Our staff are huge believers in outdoor play and learning, and the benefits it has on children's learning and development. Our children have access to their outdoor environment throughout their day and choose to access it as they wish.

Many of our children engage in 'risky play'. As a parent, this may seem daunting but it is a huge part of our day to day life. Staff support children to challenge themselves during their play. This might involve climbing up a tree, walking along a wobbly plank, rolling tyres or using real life tools. The children are encouraged to assess obstacles prior to attempting them and are always encouraged to 'give it a go' to challenge themselves.

Accidents do happen, and sometimes your child may have a wee fall or tumble. This is all part of the learning experience and observations have shown us that our children are becoming more resilient, meaning they just get up and try again. Staff ensure that children are taking safe risks that cannot cause serious injury or harm.

Communicating to parents

Staff will only be using SeeSaw to send out messages about group events/activities and to let parents know about anything that is coming up in ELC. We will not post pictures of your children on here anymore.

Our main platform for sharing pictures will be Twitter (now known as 'X') and the Online Learning Journals.

If you are requesting to follow us on Twitter please tell a member of staff on the door so we know to accept you. You can find us using @stbernnursery

Every child has their own Online Learning Journal. Staff will update this with significant observations of your child. There is a section on the left hand side that says 'parent contribution'. Please feel free to add pictures onto your child's online journal so we can what they have been doing at home.

If you have forgotten your log in details for the Online Learning Journals please tell Cat and she will resend them for you.

Star Moment

+ Parent Contribution

Tesco Tokens!

We have been lucky enough to have got to the final 3 in the Tesco Grant!

If you are in Tesco please get as many blue tokens as you can and put them in our box to help support us to get more funding to further develop the garden!

We have until the end of September to get as many as we can!

Staff Training

All staff have done refresher Child Protection Training during the in-service days.

Sarah and Lisa have done Book Bug training so are hoping to extend their learning by doing more of this in the nursery.

Cat has completed her SVQ in 'Promoting the Care, Learning and Development of Children with Additional Requirements in Partnerships with Their Families, and in Early Education Settings.'

Items in nursery bags

Please do not send any food, drink or medication in your child's bag for nursery. We have children with severe allergies in the nursery and sometimes the children go into the bags and bring things out that they shouldn't.

If your child required medication to be given in nursery please speak to a member of staff and fill in a medical form for this.

Meet our team...



Cat—Senior Early Years Officer



Fiona—Early Years Officer



Sandy— Early Years Officer



Sarah—Early Years Officer



Susan—Early Years Officer



Rachel—Early Years Officer



Lisa —Support for Learning Assistant



Sharyn —Childcare Assistant



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