



# Lairdsland Early Years Centre

## Welcome to our April 2023 Newsletter



### What have we been up to?

We continue to welcome new families and children into Lairdsland Early Years Centre. New children have been settling in and becoming familiar with their nursery routine.

Some children have been actively exploring the outdoor environment and becoming involved in bird watching. Some children discovered the small birds like to eat seeds and small pieces of bread. The children were excited to watch and count how many birds they could see as they landed onto the bird table. Some children have been exploring volume and forces using water outdoors to pour, fill, empty and make objects move.

Most children are involved in daily baking experiences and will sometimes take what they have made home, and other times children enjoy what has been made for afternoon snack.

Our nursery provision offers a wide range of experiences to encourage children to develop their social interaction skills, independence and problem solving skills.

*Creative play helps children flourish as confident, resilient and happy individuals and it is vital for child development. Creativity is a key ingredient for children to learn how to follow their curiosity, solve problems and make sense of the world.*

Our Creative Journey (Care Inspectorate 2017)

*This guidance document looks through the GIRFEC Wellbeing Indicators lens. Ensuring children are: **Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included.***

### PATHS Programme: Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies

PATHS, is designed to facilitate the development of self-control, emotional awareness and problem-solving skills. Pre-school children can take part in our PATHS programme. Children have been learning about reciprocity in giving and receiving compliments.

### Easter Holidays

Lairdsland Early Years Centre will be closed on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April** and **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April**. We will be open to welcome our families and children on **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April**.

### Safeguarding

Children should not be encouraged to press the green buttons when leaving nursery. We would ask parents to press the green buttons to exit nursery. When entering and leaving our centre, please close the door and gate behind you and check it is closed. Thank you.

### Treat fund

Thank you for your support and donations for the nursery treat fund. Your donations have allowed many exciting activities and experiences for the children. The treat fund supports purchasing ingredients for daily baking experiences and snack foods. Treat fund donations can be given to Fiona in the office. The fund can be paid on a weekly, monthly, termly or on an annual basis. We are grateful for your continued support.

### Pick up and drop off times

Please be mindful of pick up and drop off times.

**Afternoon pick up time: 12.45 Drop off time: 1.15**

### Accident/incidents being recorded on Learning Journals

Accidents/incidents are recorded on your child's learning journal. When the form has been filled out you should receive an email to alert you. Once you have read the form you will be asked to confirm that you have acknowledged this.

If you are having any problems logging onto learning journals or using learning journals, please email the office on [eyc@lairdsland.e-dunbarton.sch.uk](mailto:eyc@lairdsland.e-dunbarton.sch.uk) and Devlin or Charley will try and assist you.

### Clothing

Children love to access the outdoors and courtyard space in nursery. Please ensure your child is appropriately dressed for the weather. **Please put your child's name on all items of clothing.** This helps staff to identify children's clothing, wellies and waterproofs. Please take your child's outdoor clothing home weekly for washing. Thank you.

### Looking Inward: Your views matter to us

Please look out for our parent/carer questionnaire. Your views matter and help to improve our service. We plan to invite our parents/carers into nursery in April. Look out for information on times and dates. We would like to evaluate Lairdsland's Early Years Centre vision, values and aims to include: unity and connectedness, relationships matter, the central importance of play, value the rights of the child, children as autonomous learners and knowledgeable and nurturing practitioners. Click on the link to view our vision values and aims on our improvement plan. [Early Years Centre - Lairdsland Primary](#)

### Looking forward: New Project

We are excited to take part in a new woodwork project. Some staff have taken part in woodwork training and this will become embedded in our nursery environment. We will develop an area to deliver woodwork safely to Pre-school children. Information will be available to parents before the project begins.

### Planting and Growing

We plan to develop opportunities to grow herbs, vegetables and flowers and wildflowers in our nursery garden. Engaging with nature provides children with experience and understanding of nature and their place in it where children learn about the relationship of all living things.

We would be very grateful of donations of any old planters that you may no longer need and any planting experience you can pass onto staff. Thank you.



**Dates for your diary:**

May day holiday: **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May**

In-service day: **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

King's Coronation holiday: **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May**

May holiday weekend: **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May and Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May**

July Holiday: **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July**