



7 Old Assembly Close, 172 High Street, Edinburgh EH1 1QX
Tel: 0131-225-7251

Head of Centre – Lynn McNair

April 2007 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

As I write the sun is shining brightly, it is time to say farewell to the cold and frosty mornings and say hello to the birds singing and long 'lazy' days ☺

Welcome

Welcome to Saira who is a member of La Camera dei Bambini team. We hope you will be very happy here.

Welcome to Catherine our student nurse from Napier University.

Welcome to Angela (Br) who is covering for Clare's maternity leave. Angela is a familiar face in the Salle de Jeux, she will now spend her week sharing her skills in both rooms.



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Welcomę back to Linda who is returning from her maternity leave. Linda is returning to work in a job share position. Linda will resume her responsibilities as line manager for La Camera dei Bambini. We have advertised to complete the other part of Linda's post.

Parent Forums

New legislation has been brought in to encourage parent forums and councils in all schools across the city. These will replace the previously named 'school board'. Currently this legislation does not include nursery classes or early years' centres. Despite this we are planning to review our existing parent / staff consultation group and establish a 'forum' or 'council' that meets the requirements of the new legislation. One of the first decisions of the new Parent Forums is to decide on the type of Parent Council that they would like to see in their own setting. This will be the main item on the



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agenda for the scheduled meeting on Thursday 19th April @
9am. Currently the members are:

Sam (parent – Salle de Jeux)

Lynn (parent – La Camera dei Bambini / Sala Infantil)

Liz (staff member – La Camera dei Bambini)

Janet (class teacher) – Sala Infantil

Linda (deputy manager)

Lynn (H.O.C)

If anyone would like to join this group please do let me know.

Parents Consultation Week

Please note the change in the parents' consultation week. It was originally planned for week beginning 2nd April; it has been rescheduled for the week beginning 23rd April. With many families on holiday it was proving difficult to organise. Many apologies for any inconvenience caused.



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Buggies

Please can I remind parents to use the buggy store / outside storage for buggies? Thank you for your assistance with this. There is a possibility of using the bottom door to bring your buggy in. This is currently being explored. Further information will be displayed on the Healthy Schools Noticeboard in the vestibule.

Grounds for Awareness Scheme

Lorraine is applying to this wonderful scheme to enhance our beautiful garden. The Grounds for Awareness Scheme exists to encourage schools to plan and carry out environmental improvements in their grounds for the benefit of wildlife, amenity, schools and communities.

The scheme is run in partnership between The City of Edinburgh Council and Scottish Natural Heritage. Awards up to £1,000 are available to City of Edinburgh Schools for projects that attract wildlife, improve amenity and encourage



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the use of school grounds as a creative resource. The aims of the project are:

- ✚ To enhance and maintain the natural environment of school grounds for the benefit of wildlife
- ✚ To raise awareness and encourage the use of school grounds as a resource for teaching and learning, play and positive behaviour
- ✚ To provide opportunities for schools and communities to work together.

Lorraine is currently preparing our application for a nest box camera system. Watching wildlife in our own garden can be one of the most rewarding experiences for the children. A birdbox camera can reveal some of the most amazing images of wildlife in action.

There are a number of different kinds of camera used in nest boxes and Lorraine is currently researching which type of technology is most suitable.

Lorraine is also preparing information on willow structures – we hope to have some willow planted in the garden.



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We will keep you updated on the progress of the application.

Eco – Health Awareness Week 23-28th April

Being an eco – health promoting school we are ideally positioned to share our practice with others. Our aim is to raise awareness and offer experiences in both eco and health initiatives. All week we will have various opportunities on offer, paper making, compost making, healthy food, a taster judo class etc. We are hoping you might participate or pop along on Saturday (10am -2pm) to support our development ☺

Health Promoting School – Meeting

We had our first joint eco-healthy group meeting on 22nd March and Jane, Healthy Schools co-ordinator is writing up the four actions we have agreed to begin the journey towards healthyschool accreditation.



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Eco Schools

The time has come for us to apply for our second Green Flag. To gain our second Green Flag we have to cover four topics in detail and explain how our eco work has progressed over the past two years. We can choose four topics from, litter, waste minimisation, energy, water, transport, health and well – being or our school grounds. The eco-committee is currently preparing the application, it will be available on the website soon...

Real Nappies

The real nappy initiative is going very well, however...we are experiencing a minor problem due to the padding of the real nappies the children's trousers are a little too tight. Please would you support this initiative by putting slightly larger trousers on the children who are wearing real nappies? Thank you for your assistance with this ☺



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Finally...

We wish you all a wonderful Easter break; have a lovely rest with your family.

Warmest wishes

Lynn



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