

February Newsletter

2008



OUR CHILDREN WILL CREATE A WORLD
WE CANNOT IMAGINE.
THEY WILL ACCOMPLISH THINGS
WE CANNOT EVEN DREAM.

KATHRYN T. SHAW

Dear Parents,

As our friends in China welcome a New Year best wishes to everyone.

The children have had their Chinese dance in the garden, practised their writing with calligraphy pens and are enjoying the challenge of chopsticks as they enjoy stir-fry noodles at snack,

New baby

Lesley-Anne has given to birth to a beautiful baby girl, Catherine (Catie) weighing in @ 7 lbs 10z. Wonderful news 😊

New pet

The staff in La Camera dei Bambini have asked me to inform you that they have a new pet, a hamster called Susie. The children love her already and are taking excellent care of her.

Flamenco Dancing

You may remember Ana, who danced in the garden at our Christmas Fair. She is a Flamenco teacher and would like to start a class for three and four year olds, using the lovely space at the Scottish Storytelling Centre, just down the High Street.

The cost would be £3 - £4 per child for a 30 minute session. She has asked if we could find out how many of our Sala Infantil children might like to try a Flamenco class, and if we have enough interest she will go ahead to book the space – we are not sure which day yet, but will try to avoid Wednesday and Thursday mornings.

Please let us know if your child would be interested in dancing with Ana once a week and we will get back in touch with her.

Bella and Istke have already noted their interest 😊

Curriculum Evening

Our Curriculum Evening is on 28th February 7.30pm – 9.00pm. There will be presentations on our curricula, Early Effective Development and Learning and A Curriculum for Excellence. Additionally we have invited a speaker, Jenny Watters, Forest School Development Officer. Jenny will talk about 'What is a Forest School'. As we aim to be a Forest School you may be interested in what it means for your child.

We do hope you can come 😊

In-service Day

Our in-service day will be on brain gym. We have invited two brain gym specialists to come and speak to all the full staff team.

Here is a brief overview of what Brain Gym is:

Brain Gym

Without a thought, there's no action; and every action can be traced back to a thought in the brain.

Brain Gym is a series of body exercises which stimulates the brain. Different exercises activate different brain areas in preparation for learning.

There are movements for concentration, reading, maths, self-esteem, memory and many more.

The exercises can be done by individuals, groups, classes and even the whole centre; this is what we are aiming for.

HMIE / Care Commission Inspection

The children were shining stars during the inspection. They were a credit to you all. Now we wait 😊

Additional Support for Learning – Team

The Additional Support for Learning Act introduces a new framework for supporting children and young people in their school education, and their families. This framework is based on the idea of additional needs. This new term will apply to children and young people who, for whatever

reason, require additional support, long or short term, in order to help them make the most of their school education.

All staff have a responsibility to ensure individual children work towards achieving their full potential. In Cowgate under 5's Centre the ASL team will work together with the child, other members of the team and family members to support learning.

The ASfL team here is:

ASfL Team Leader – Karen Thomson

ASfL Team Members – June Graham and Margaret Wanstall

If you would like to know more about this service please speak to Karen in the first instance. Additionally a copy of our newly written policy is in the family room.

Dates to remember

Please remember our in-service day on 18th February. We have invited the 'Brain Gym' trainers to share their expertise with us.

Parents Forum – first meeting on Wednesday @ 5pm. Parents currently involved Beth (Cross – mother to Ben), Lynn (Walford – mother to Jasmine and Rosie), Johnny (Allan – father to Ruby) and Nick (Croft – father to Hamish).

Warm, kind wishes for a cold month

Lynn