

Wow! We got a Big Lottery Fund



The hard work our children and staff put in preparing our application for the Big Lottery's Community and Families fund, paid off. The fabulous news is we have been awarded a fantastic £8,533.00 to create our Indigo Family Garden.

The main aim of our family garden is to ensure we give our families the best possible start in life therefore we would like to encourage our children and parents to use our family garden throughout the nursery day. We want freedom for the children and parents to explore and learn within our natural environment, we want to create opportunities to chat and learn new words, we want children to watch and learn how plants grow and what wonderful things occur when you take care of the garden. The plans and ideas for our family garden came from our gardening group made up of fabulous staff, children and parents.



Our Family Garden will include:

A Story/Together Time Hub encouraging family members to become involved in story telling and highlighting the benefits of parents and children reading together.

- A Vegetable Patch, we want to grow our own vegetables, when we get up and running we want a pick up service in which families will be able to take the home grown goodies home for their dinner!
- A Memory Patch with a pebble decorated with the name of each child who has graduated to school or moved to a new area, a real legacy to the community and the generations of families.
- A Woodwork Area for our 3-5's, introducing the benefits of safe risk, through exploring wood and woodwork tools helping children to build language skills, trust and be aware of safety.
- A Mud Patch for dynamic digging, squidy things, water funnels and other exploring gadgets to enjoy mess, mud and science.

·What else do we want?

We would like to get adventurous and build a small nature reserve next to our mud patch which will include nest boxes, a worm farm and insect towers. We want puzzle posts to get the chat flowing, yes, more **why** questions! We will adapt learning opportunities for the season, we will be spotting birds and looking through microscopes at lovely wildlife. Most importantly we want to give children a real chance to be part of something special. Are you excited yet? We cant wait!

Points of Interest

- The Big Lottery Fund
- Events
- Parental Involvement
- Parents Council
- School Enrolment
- Dates To Remember



NURSERY NEWS

We Would like to welcome all of our new children and their families to the nursery. We hope you enjoy your time with The Indigo Group

Good Luck to all the children who have moved to their new Playrooms. We are sure you will have lots of fun!



What have we been up to?

Outdoors & The Environment

As we have been successful in gaining our Big Lottery Fund grant. We will be working on developing our outdoor areas both at 29 Dunagoil Road and 123 Castlemilk Drive. Over the next few months the children and staff will be involved in planning and ordering equipment and hopefully by the summer you will see a lot of little green fingers producing plants and flowers.



Developing Literacy

The Children in the Sunlight Room at our 123 Castlemilk Drive base have been attending Book bug sessions held in Castlemilk Community Centre over the past few months. Book bug Sessions include stories, songs and rhymes which children can participate in to promote their early literacy skills.



Book bug recently teamed up with the Scottish Government Campaign, Play Talk Read, to further spread the message of sharing books with children. Reading, talking and singing are simple activities which have a hugely positive impact on children's early learning.

Within both our nurseries our under 3 playrooms are continuing to promote the use of the Scottish Government's 'Play, Talk, Read' initiative which aims to encourage parents/carers to be involved in their child's learning. We have created a display outside our playrooms providing parents/carers with an activity pack of fun and exciting activities, this display will be changed monthly. Have fun by taking an activity pack home and drop us in a picture of your child involved in the activities, share your stories with us in person or on Facebook!

Responsible Citizens

The Children from our 3-5 playroom were invited along to The Pensioners Action Centre before Christmas. The residents and participants of the Centre enjoyed interacting with the children and listening to them sing the Christmas songs they had practised, they also had a visit from Santa. We hope to make this a regular occurrence in which we can build stronger relationships with the people of our community.



Our children have been developing an understanding of different cultures and beliefs. Throughout January and February we will be celebrating 'Robert Burn's Day' and 'Chinese New Year'.

Robert Burn's Day We are having our very own Burn's Supper. We will enjoyed haggis, neeps and tatties' along with dancing to traditional Scottish music. We will be learning and exploring Burns' poems and Art and Craft activities such a porridge oat pictures, flags and tartan pictures

Chinese New Year The playrooms have been involved in tasting a variety of Chinese foods such as noodles, rice, prawn crackers and various sauces, activities have involved Chinese writing and making lucky envelopes and lanterns. As it is the year of the Snake, the children at 123 are planning on making a paper mashie snake as part of their Chinese collage.

Communication Wall

If you could take a moment to add your suggestions to our Communication Walls that are situated in the front foyers of both bases, questions are posted monthly and are then added to our comments book.

You can also 'Like' us on Facebook, where you can view information and pictures of recent events and activities happening within both nurseries. Again there are opportunities to voice your opinions and thoughts regarding the nursery and it is a great way of keeping up to date with everything that is going on.



www.facebook.com/indigogr

Give us your Junk!

Our Eco team would like to ask if you could join in with our recycling initiative. In the main hall of our 29 base there are recycling bins for us to collect two litre plastic bottles for our Eco-Hut

Could parents also help with our recycling of Junk materials, wrapping paper & bows, old greetings cards, and any unwanted material (old curtain, etc.) There are buckets in the front hall— go on fill them up!



Activity of the Month

'Mashed Tatties'

Children love helping out in the kitchen, and on Burns' Night there's plenty of mashing to be done. So why not ask your wee one to get stuck in?

If you're making haggis, neeps and tatties, here's a good way to get your toddler involved safely. Reserve an extra potato, let it cool, and give your toddler a small bowl and fork so they can help to mash it up. There might be a bit of a mess, but don't worry – it's all about discovery! And they can eat it when they've finished!

Information specific to

Early Years at 29 Dunagoil Road

- As winter is upon us please ensure children are wrapped up nice and warm and have appropriate footwear to allow them to participate in outdoor play.
- Please ensure that your child's purple bag is stocked up with spare clothes.
- The 3-5 room will be learning about pets this month if you have any photos of your pets it would be great to see them. If your child would like to bring their favourite pet soft toy to nursery, they can do so and this will be treated as the Nursery pet.
- If parents have any unwanted children's books, the Moonlight Room are looking to start up a second hand lending library. Please see staff in the room for more information.

Information specific to

Early Years at 123 Castlemilk Drive

- Please ensure that your child has a change of clothes at all times and that these are kept in the purple peg bags provided. Can we remind parents to replenish supplies of nappies and wipes when required.
- Can parents ensure that they change their child into soft shoes before entering the playroom
- Could parents ensure that they fold their prams/buggies and put them in the pram store as neatly as possible to allow other parents access.
- Please do not leave changing bags/rucksacks on pegs as there is limited space in the cloakrooms (please use purple bags provided).

Help us be Safe: Plastic bags on children's pegs are a danger. Please pop your child's belongings straight into your purple peg bag (e.g. changes of clothes, pants and nappies/wipes) and take your plastic bag home for recycling.

Toilet Training

We have lots of new children showing signs of being ready for toilet training, in order to help and continue this important stage of their development could we please ask that you provide a few changes of clothing each day for your child. In the early stages accidents can happen therefore we encourage parents to provide us with several changes of underwear and easily assessable clothing such as shorts and skirts, also footwear such as jelly shoes as these are easier to clean and wash if needed. Staff are always on hand and available to offer any assistance and support while toilet training.

Parental Involvement

Within both our bases we have now set up an Achievement wall. This is situated outside the 0-3 playroom at 29 Dunagoil Road and outside the pram store of 123 Castlemilk Drive. It would be fantastic if you could participate by writing up any news or achievements your child or close family have i.e. child moving playrooms, new baby, family member gaining a new job etc.,

29 have also put up their eco schools wall across from the Starlight Room pegs, giving parents info on the benefits of outdoor play, asking for parental/family involvement in developing the gardens and also a picture step by step journey of the transformation.

Over the next few months we will update our eco walls with information on our Big Lottery fund project. We would greatly appreciate family support in completing our project, if you are keen to help us please speak to your child's keyworker.

Parents Council

Our next parents council meeting will be held on Tuesday 5th February 6pm until 7pm at our 123 Castlemilk Drive base, please let staff know if you wish to attend, it would be lovely to see you.

Crèche facilities will be available on request.

School Enrolment

If your child will be five on or before 28 February 2014 you must register for them to start school during the registration week from Monday 14 January - 18 January 2013.

All children eligible for starting school should now be registered and parents/carers should let their key worker know which school they have enrolled their child in or put in a placing request.

Dates to remember

The nursery will be closed on the following dates;

In-Service training Wednesday 13th February 2013

Please remember the dates of all our 2013 closures can be found on our website

www.indigogrp.com
