

# Cockenzie Nursery News

## May 2018



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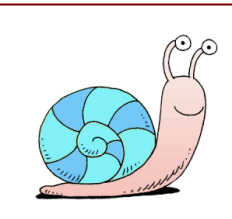
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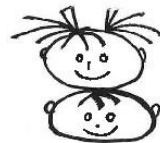
Dear Parents/Carers,

It is with great pleasure that I write my first newsletter as I return from maternity leave and take up my new post as Deputy Head Teacher. My remit as Deputy Head Teacher includes the overseeing of the nursery and primary 1. I can not tell you how much pride I have in gaining this position having taught at Cockenzie Primary School for the past ten years which included time spent teaching in the nursery.

For those of you who have not met me yet I am trying my best to be around the nursery at drop off and pick up times so do feel free to catch me at any point if you have any questions, concerns or just fancy a chat about work taking place in the nursery. I look forward to getting to know the children, parents and carers better over the course of this term.

Natasha O'Connor  
Deputy Head Teacher

	<h3>Dates for the Diary</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Monday 21st May - The nursery is <b>closed</b> to <b>all children</b></li><li>Thursday 14th June - The nursery is <b>not on</b> for <b>afternoon</b> children</li></ul>
	<h3>Teddy Bears' Picnic</h3> <p>We can not wait for our Teddy Bear's picnic for our afternoon children on <b>Thursday 28th June</b> in the nursery garden <b>from 14:15 to 15:15hrs</b> (not 13:15 as stated in the previous news letter). We hope lots of our parents and carers are able to join us for our picnic to celebrate the end of a fantastic first year in nursery.</p>
	<h3>Sports Day</h3> <p>Just another reminder Sports Day for the morning children will take place on <b>Thursday 7th June</b>. Parents/Carers are welcome to join us <b>from 10:30hrs</b> for a Round Robin of events.</p>
	<h3>Snail Summer Holiday</h3> <p>Can you help? Our snails desperately need a home for the summer! If you are interested in finding out more about what this would involve then please catch a member of the nursery team.</p>



### Sun Cream and Appropriate Clothing

Finally summer appears to be approaching! With that, please remember to apply sun block to your child as we have an open door policy and many of our children are outside in this beautiful weather. Unfortunately we are not allowed to apply sun screen to children so please ensure this is done before coming to nursery.

However, for every sunny day we have there seems to still be a cooler day as well. We would recommend that you always send your child with an extra layer in their bag, an appropriate coat and sun hat to allow for changeable weather.



### Dogs on School Grounds

East Lothian Council holds a policy where by only assistance dogs are allowed on school grounds. We ask parents/carers to please ensure that dogs are left outside of the school grounds before they drop their child off at nursery.



### The Courier Pre-School Photograph Spread

The Courier printed photographs of all of our pre-school children in the Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May edition of the newspaper. The Courier will contact parents via the nursery with details of how copies of the photographs can be purchased.

Watch this space for more information.



### Parent Link Meeting

Please [CLICK HERE](#) the agenda for the next Parent Link Meeting which is being held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2018 at 1900hrs.

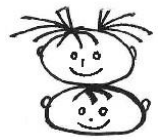
All are welcome to attend.



### Prescribed Medication - Short Term

In the event that your child becomes unwell and requires prescribed medication e.g. antibiotics, for a short period of time, please come into school to complete a medical form before we can administer this to your child.

Please note if medication is to be given three times a day this can be managed at home - breakfast, after school and bedtime.



## Primary One Transition

Here is a reminder of the important events taking place that parents and carers can participate in:

- **Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> May - Garden Party**

Parents/Carers will drop off their children and head into the nursery garden, we advise drop off at the second opening if possible so you don't have to hang around too long, and once all the children have arrived they will be put into their P1 class and will meet their P1 teacher. The children will then come into the garden class by class so that you can see who is in their class. We will then have a morning of activities that the P1 teachers will participate in so that the children and yourselves get to know them informally before we end the day with a show, funded by the PTA.

- **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June - Graduation Photos**

Graduation photos are being taken on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June during nursery hours and will be available for sale a few days afterwards. We will need two or three parents/carers to come in and assist the photographer and staff putting on/taking off the gowns and mortars, please speak to a member of staff if you are able to help.

- **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June at 18:30hrs - Parent Information Evening**

Parents and Carers are invited to attend. As well as a chat from our Head Teacher, Jacqui Mackinnon, about the school, you will learn about our expectations and housekeeping for Primary 1.

- **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June - East Links Family Park**

The children will be attending East Links Farm as part of the transition period and parents/carers/grandparents are invited to spend the day with us. Children go on a coach with the nursery staff to experience travelling with their peers and parents/carers meet us there. We try to organise car sharing for those who can't drive or do not have a car and you pay on arrival at a discounted rate.

**Please note there is NO afternoon nursery on this day.**

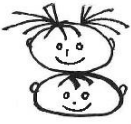
- **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> and Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June - Transition Days**

The children will spend two mornings in P1 with their teacher. On Thursday you will drop off your child for nursery at usual time and should return in time for their trial lunch. A letter will be issued at the Garden Party (30<sup>th</sup> May) providing you with further details/times for the trial lunch.

On the Friday morning you will go to the infant playground at 09:00hrs where you will be met and taken into your child's class to drop them off. You will then return between 11:45hrs and 12:00hrs to collect them from the classroom.

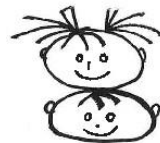
- **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June - Nursery Graduation**

Children will come into nursery at the usual time and parents/carers will return for 10:15hrs for the graduation starting at 10:30hrs. If the weather is fair we will hold the graduation outdoors and you should enter by the nursery garden gate but if the weather is not suitable we will hold it in the main hall and entry will be via the main office. The graduation will last until 11:30hrs approximately upon which all children should be signed out of nursery. A graduation party afterwards is being organised by parents/carers.



# P1 TRANSITION





### Infant Playground

There is a group of parents working to improve the infant playground. If you are interested in being part of this group then contact Kelly Evans who is a member of the Parent Link or speak to myself, Natasha O'Connor.



### A few reminders...

- Please remember to check your child's pocket regularly.
- Unfortunately we can not use toilet rolls in our modelling junk due to national health and safety guidelines.
- If you have not yet paid snack money that is due please do so asap!
- We understand it can be hard but it is important that toys do not come into the nursery as they can easily get broken or lost.
- When picking up your child please sign them out and then collect them from their gather group. Children will not be allowed over to the door.

### A final thought...

With the 16<sup>th</sup> May being National Numeracy Day you can support your child with their early numeracy skills by:



- Counting up to 20 (and beyond) every time you climb the stairs or scoop out the cereal
  - For every time you count forwards try and count backwards as well - this will help in primary 1 with subtraction. We sing lots of songs in nursery that help with this, e.g. 5 little speckled frogs, 10 green bottles
  - Count the dots on a dice pattern when playing board games. In time these will become automatic.
- Ask your child to show you a number of fingers using only one hand "Show me 4 fingers...2 fingers... 3fingers". When they can do this ask your child to show you a number of fingers but this time using both hands "Using both your hands can you show me 3 fingers...8 fingers...6 fingers".