



Carolside Newsletter Spring 2016

STAFFING: Manager – Frances Malloy Deputes – Nosheen Sajid & Carly Dunn

Practitioners: Eilidh & Matthew

Care and Playful Learning Support Workers: Shannon, Paula, Lindsay, Charlotte, Abbie, Yvonne, Hannah, Stefania, and welcome to our newest members of the team Kiren & Kirsty



Dates for the Diary

Fri 25th March & Mon 28th March MACS CLOSED (Easter Weekend)

Holiday Club operating from St Joseph's Primary from Mon 4th April – Fri 15th April.
Opening hours are 7.45am – 5.55pm. Breakfast will be served till approx. 9.15am to allow for other activities to commence, including outings. Please ensure your children have appropriate clothes for all types of play and their name on any items they wish to bring with them.



Parents Evening in Carolside School this will be held on the 29th and 30th March 2016. We will not have access to the dining hall on these days and you will need to child collect from the Main Entrance, where a staff member will be on duty to advise you.

CHILDREN'S WORKSHOPS



This term we have carried out some workshops that the children have given us some good feedback.

P1 & P2 have been working on their life skills, learning how to tie their ties and lace their shoes and butter toast. They also had workshops on personal safety: Pants (NSPCC) workshop and one on Road Safety.

P3 & P4 have taken part in Quiz's, Anti-bullying Behaviour, Pants (NSPCC), Children's Rights and Food Hygiene including a great success Team Building, and some of our older group have taken part in Internet Safety, Cooking and Food Hygiene and at present we have

introduced sewing for those interested. P5 plus have thoroughly enjoyed their cooking classes, and we also have introduced sewing to this group.



Digital and Social Media Policy

We have recently updated this Company Policy as we appreciate digital literacy is an important part of growing up and childhood today. We have considered how to adopt safe procedures and access to multimedia equipment that young people may have access too. This includes Wireless, Bluetooth and 3G & 4G access with children and staff. As we are primarily a play environment we must also consider the benefits that multimedia equipment brings to the setting as a virtual play space. Our updated Policy is available to parents on the parents table or can be emailed to you on request. The updated policy states that although we do not promote or advocate this, with the agreement of the parents, children can bring electronic devices into the projects; however there is a code of practice agreement that must be followed with parents and children. All items must be used responsibly and respectful of the rules. We know that some of the older children have phones but unless agreed with senior staff, young people should not access them at MACS. At no time are cameras allowed to be used with any electronic items that is to be accessed. The children and young people have written rules for appropriate safe use of electronic equipment and the consequences should these rules be broken.

We allow the children to share, X-Box, PS3 and a kindle, and all times this access is monitored and limited. We believe there are many outside and other activities arranged with staff that provide for a playful learning environment. Children are not allowed to share personal items as these are the responsibility of the child and parents who allow children to bring in electronic equipment. We acknowledge that some children benefit from time on electronic equipment as it does improve child development, e.g. hand eye co-ordination. We respect that each parent will have their own viewpoint and may not wish their children at MACS to access any electronic items and ask that you alert staff to that. We try to offer a service with the choice of options for your child's care, interests, playful learning and safety. We would be happy to receive your feedback on the subject. Please feel free to approach any of the senior staff to discuss your thoughts, or email me francesmalloy@macs.uk.com or you can contact Head Office on general@macs.uk.com.

By contacting the general@macs.uk.com site a link can be sent to access the new updated activity form which covers items like social media, fire pit access, etc. which have not been updated by parents. This is important information your child requires to be able to benefit from all the activities we have on offer.

Staff Achievements

Congratulations to our deputies Nosheen and Carly who have recently finished their SVQ Management level 4.

Eilidh and Matthew are undertaking SVQ Play work level 3.

Paula and Charlotte are undertaking SVQ Play work level 2.

Frances is continuing her studies in a BA Degree in Childhood Practice.

Our entire project attended a Child Protection Course on Shaken Baby Syndrome. Senior Staff have attended PND (Post Natal Depression) awareness and wellbeing indicators (SHANARRI) so that the children's care and play needs are identified and personal plans for each of the children have been updated when required.

We look forward to next month's training on attachment theory, Makaton and visual aids, First Aid and Food Hygiene and being a Reflective Practitioner to name a few with more to come.



Carolside Nursery

During my time in the nursery doing my placement I was introduced to the Cabin. For those of you that are not aware of it; this is in the external nursery building at Carolside Primary that offers the children an outdoor experience every four weeks or so. Mrs O'Hara who works hard to offer this experience is always looking for help in the way of any old unwanted garden items that the children will benefit from. e.g. Bird Table, Bird Bath, Sturdy rope for balancing, Scramble net, Soil for the mud kitchen and planting. Compost for plants, bulbs etc. Bark or risk assessed tree chips or sand. All donations would be happily welcome

Finally

If your child is going to be absent from MACS, or at a club please contact us. The same applies for unknown collectors.

The senior team is available at anytime for any concerns you may have so give us a call or make an appointment if that suits.

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