Festival Park Day Nursery Newsletter

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2026



It is lovely to see all our children and families returning to nursery after the summer break, we would also like to take this opportunity to welcome all our new children and families into the nursery, we look forward to getting to know you and have lots of fun learning through play together.

AUGUST

- MONDAY, 10 AUGUST 2026 (RETURN DATE FOR TEACHERS & IN-SERVICE DAY)
- TUESDAY ,11 AUGUST 2026 (IN-SERVICE DAY)
- WEDNESDAY, 12 AUGUST 2026 (RETURN DATE FOR PUPILS)

SEPTEMBER

- FRIDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER AND MONDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER 2026 (SEPTEMBER WEEKEND HOLIDAY)

OCTOBER

- FRIDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2026 (IN-SERVICE DAY)
- MONDAY, 12 TO FRIDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2026 (OCTOBER WEEK)

DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

- FRIDAY, 18 DECEMBER 2026 – TERM TIME CHILDREN'S LAST DAY
- THURSDAY 24TH – LAST DAY FOR 52 WK CHILDREN, ALL RETURNING ON TUESDAY 5TH JANUARY 2027 (CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS)







August 2026
Welcoming our returning children and their families. Welcoming and settling in our new children and their families.

September 2026
- 9th Re-launch of our Travelling Ted (2-3)
- 9th Re-launch of our Lending Library in all Playrooms

October 2025
- 5th Our new Head of Centre, Yvonne Bell arrives – Welcome!
- 5th Parents PATHs Workshops
- 6th Parents Coloustrings Workshops
- 7th Kinning Park Care Home fortnightly visits begin for 3-5 room. Parents will be notified if selected.
- 26th Bounce & Rhyme Baby Room and Toddler Room am and pm sessions (parents will be invited in to join join the fun!)
- 26th PATHs programme sessions begin within 3-5 room.
- 27th Colourstrings sessions begin within 3-5 room.
- 28th Bookbug 3-5 Room am and pm sessions (parents will be invited to join the fun!)
- 21st-31st Scottish International Storytelling Festival (Look out for information via seesaw)
- 26th-30th Sponsored Spookie Boogie Bash (Sponsored dancing) The children in the 2-3 yrs and 3-5 yrs playrooms are allowed to dress up between 26th - 30th if they wish However, we would ask that they do not wear any masks or anything that may scare other children. The children in the 0-2 yrs playroom do not dress up as this can be upsetting for them.



Toy Fund

Firstly, a huge thank you for your contributions to date, Your weekly donations of £2/£3 per family contribute greatly to the resources we provide for your child e.g. food for cultural celebrations, sensory materials i.e. shaving foam/bath gel, food colouring, baking resources, plants to enhance the outdoor areas, the list is endless. Presently our funds are running low so your continued support is invaluable and much appreciated. If you have paid in advance please ignore the message.

Your contributions can be made weekly in cash, if you would rather pay by bank transfer please speak to Lynne in the office for a copy of the bank details. Once again thank you for your continued support.



Pram Storage

Our buggy park is available in our cosy room garden! This allows us to have a much bigger and better storage area to keep our families buggies/prams during the day.

At drop off we would ask that our families please use this area for storing their prams and buggies during the day.

To ensure there is enough space for everyone to use this, can we ask that you fold your pram/buggy and place it as far back in the store as possible.

The nursery is not liable and you can leave your pram/buggy at your own risk. We do suggest that you label your buggy and even use a bike padlock for peace of mind.

Can we just gently remind you that when entering our cosy room garden that you close the gate behind you - including the top latch on the gate.





Allergy Awareness

We would ask all parents to be extra vigilant if their child has eaten nuts or sesame oil/ seeds that their hands / mouth have been washed before coming into nursery. We would ask that you do not bring any of the above to nursery.

This is due to some of our children having severe allergies.

Thank you for your co-operation!

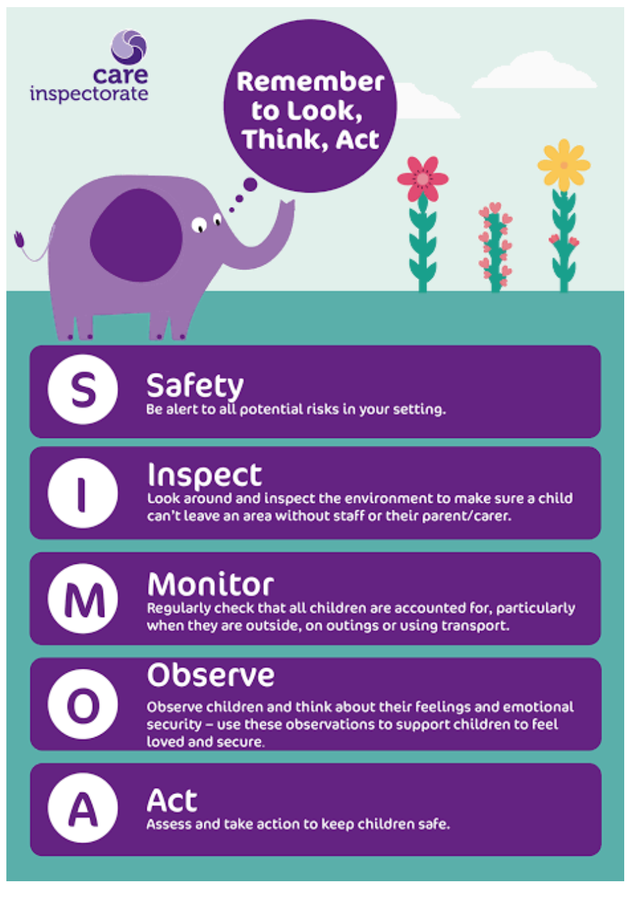
Staff News



We would like to welcome Yvonne Bell as our new Head of Centre starting on 5th October 2026.



We would like to give a big thank you to Morag McKenzie supporting our team as Acting Head of Centre, we have thoroughly appreciated your support during our staff team transitions. Thank You!!



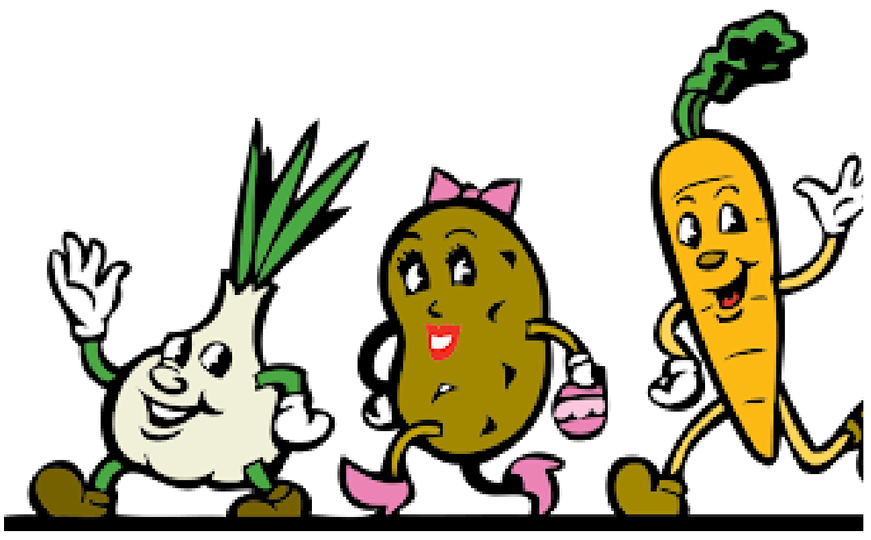
Children's Safety

SIMOA (Safe, Inspect, Monitor, Observe, Act) is a child safety framework and campaign created by the Care Inspectorate in Scotland for Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) settings



Could we please remind you that only adults are to open and close the gates and to ensure that you close the nursery gates when entering and leaving the nursery building and playrooms. This is another way of ensuring the children in our care are kept safe within the playrooms.

Thank you for your co-operation with this.



Snack/Lunch Menu

The up to date snack / lunch menus are available to be seen on the noticeboards upstairs in the 3-5 cloakroom and down stairs in the corridor outside the kitchen.

Drop Off & Collection Times



Can we remind you to collect your child at their allocated times. We understand that on a rare occasion you can be held up, however this can not only be upsetting for your child if they see their friends going home. But it also affects staff to children ratios.

Please bring your child into the playroom as staff may want to see how they have been and share information with you, it is important for your child's safety. Please speak with a member of staff when dropping off or collecting your child from nursery.

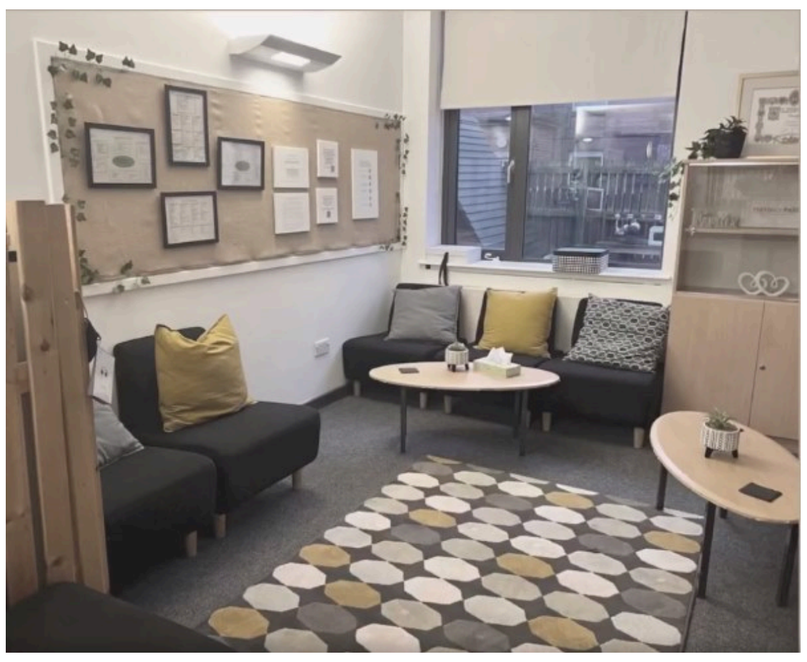


Mobile Phones in Festival Park

Could we remind parents and carers the importance of not using your mobile phone when you come into the nursery building – this includes use within the nursery playroom.

We ask due to Child Protection reasons. It is important you give your full attention to your child when dropping off and picking up for their safety.

Parents Room



We invite you to use our parents room for a cup of tea/coffee and biscuit when visiting the nursery, if you are dropping off/ picking up or helping us to settle your child into the nursery – feel free to pop in and use the space to relax.

We will have lots of different leaflets/books available for our families to make you feel welcomed and kept informed with supports and information on groups within the local community.

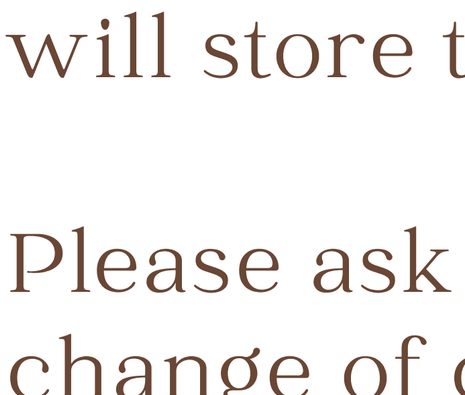


Nursery Clothing Reminder

Could all parents and carers please provide a full change of clothes for their child e.g. pants, socks, trousers, leggings., top etc. Also, if you have any nursery clothes at home could you please return them to the nursery. We would also request that the children do not bring bags to nursery, this is due to limited space in the cloakroom; the children do have their own little cotton bag on their peg.
If your child has had a change of clothing, we will store their soiled clothing in a labelled box.

Please ask the staff and they will give you the change of clothing from the box the bags are stored in.

Thank You.



3-5 Badges

Could we ask our 3-5 Room parents/carers to come into the playroom and support your child when putting on their badges at the start of their nursery session/day.
At pick up time, could we also ask parents/carers to return your child's individual name badges to their basket at the end of the day/session too (this will help get your child into a nursery routine).
If you child has accidentally taken home their badge – that is no problem, just remember to bring it back in for their next nursery session or day as these can be costly to replace.

Thanks.







Planning Our Learning

The children and staff follow the Curriculum For Excellence in the 3-5's and the Pre-Birth to Three in our 0-3's when planning their learning experiences at nursery. Observations on your child's learning are gathered by staff which form a progress report to be shared with you.
Please see our planning notice boards or ask staff if you would like to know more.



Taking care of our Playooms/Outdoors Spaces/Resources

We understand that children are curious about their environments, but could we please ask our parents and carers to encourage the children to not pull at the nursery displays or take toys from the playrooms or the outdoor area near the pram shed when entering and leaving the nursery.
This can be costly to replace, we appreciate your help with this.

Outdoor Play at Festival Park



Outdoor learning is a big part of children's learning at nursery. All children will explore outdoors within their nursery session.

We provide every child with wet suits and wellies for outdoor play, so we can be out in all weathers. Please only put on clothes on your child that you don't mind getting dirty. If you would prefer to provide your own suits and wellies, you are most welcome to – please don't forget to label your child's wellies and suit if this is something you would prefer to provide.

Seesaw App

All children's learning at nursery will be shared using the seesaw app. Every child will have their own individual profile which will be filled with photos, videos and voice recordings of their time at Festival Park Day Nursery.

This is a great way to communicate from the nursery to home but also a way which you can share your adventures at home with the nursery too!

If the nursery have any updates, we will communicate using the seesaw app and using emails/text.

If you do not have a QR code or you have any further questions about Seesaw please speak to a member of staff.