

## Christmas 2012



As you know Christmas is fast approaching and just like Santa's little elves, the staff at Indigo will be just as busy. Over the next few weeks the 3-5 children will be rehearsing and planning their Christmas Show *'The Fairytale Nativity'*. This is a traditional story of baby Jesus being born with a special fairytale twist including characters such as Little Red Riding Hood, Jack (of the famous Beanstalk), Goldilocks and Little Miss Muffet. Tickets and information letters have been given to all children participating.

All children are invited to join us for our Christmas parties (regardless of the day your child attends you are welcome to bring them to the room party), with a special appearance from a special guest in a red suit and white beard!

These parties will be held on the following:

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – EY at 123 Castlemilk Drive – 0-2 room and 2-3 room**

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Early Years at 29 Dunagoil Road – both 3-5 rooms**

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December – Early Years at 29 Dunagoil Road – 0-2 room and 2-3 room**

Each room will have their individual parties from 10 am-12.30 pm.

If your child does not attend nursery on the day of the party please bring them to nursery for the duration of the party only. Santa will visit each room to deliver a gift to the children during the party, each child will also have their picture taken with Santa; the cost of the photo is £1.00. (money raised will go towards the fundraising)

As you may be aware we also sent out letters with regards to measuring Christmas Eve demand, thank you for returning the slips, the rooms have now been planned. If your circumstances change and you do not need childcare on Christmas Eve please let your Key worker know.

## The Parents Council

Parents council meetings are held once every six weeks, discussing issues involving your children, fundraising and more. Meetings are very informal and crèche facilities are available on request. Parental involvement is extremely important in your child's development. If you are interested in joining our Parents Council please speak to your child's key worker. We look forward to seeing some new faces.

### HELP NEEDED!!

The Parent's Council are looking for donations for their Christmas hampers, once the hampers are full of goodies, raffles will be sold throughout November and December and during our Christmas Shows. The winner of the raffles will receive a hamper full of treats. All money raised goes towards funding our children's birthday presents and parties.

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### Points of Interest

- Christmas
- Parents Council
- Dates To Remember
- Events

### Staff News

Good luck to our Early Year's staff members who have started their CCLD Level 4 qualification.

We hope Michelle enjoys her holiday to America and brings us back lots of Disney stories and photos.

Happy 50th Birthday to Margaret Orr

Happy 21st Birthday to Georgia Moore

Hope you both have a lovely day celebrating!

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# What have we been up to?

## Outdoors & The Environment

As you may be aware some of our children have been working with our local Urban Roots Project at Castlemilk Stables in which the children had the opportunity to experience planting, growing and recycling. Urban Roots are sadly having a break through the winter months therefore invited a small group of children along to a very special tea party which we shared with other community nurseries and projects. The children had a great afternoon looking at their hard work, making leaf collage pictures and were even given some plants to bring back to nursery. We hope to continue our work with Urban Roots again soon.



## Developing Literacy

Recently our 3-5 children submitted some of their work to the 'Young Writers' My First Story Competition. The Children were asked to write a story based on four chosen scenes, encouraging them to use their creativity and imagination. As a result of the fantastic effort our children put into this project they have been successful in being chosen to be part of their children's book - My First Story - Fun in the Sun which is due to be published in January 2013. This is a fantastic achievement for our Young Writers.....Well Done!!!!



## Responsible Citizens

As the Curriculum for Excellence promotes the importance of good citizenship, staff within both 3-5 playrooms arranged visits to various community projects within our area. The children were involved in baking cakes and practising song to sing to residents of the Pensioner's Action Centre and Windlaw House. The residents and participants of these community projects enjoyed interacting with the children and listening to them sing the songs they had practised. We hope to make this a regular occurrence in which we can build stronger relationships with the people of our community.



Again in relation to the Curriculum for Excellence we work hard to promote effective contributors within the nursery therefore staff and children have been involved in networking throughout our community and have been given the opportunity to take part in the local Winter fest day held on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November at Castlemilk Community Centre. Our 3-5 playrooms will be preparing cakes and treats to sell on the day as well as a small group of children performing Scottish songs on stage.

## 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/indigogrp](http://www.facebook.com/indigogrp)

## Morrison's Let's Grow Vouchers

We are currently collecting *Let's Grow* vouchers, these are awarded when spending over £10 in any Morrisons store, if you happen to collect these vouchers while shopping it would be greatly appreciated if you could donate them to either of our early years bases. Collecting these vouchers will enable us to gain free gardening equipment to assist in the development of our outdoor area.



## Activity of the Month

### *Vegetable soup*

***As winter is upon us, why don't you warm yourself with some homemade soup!!!***

- |                                  |                                     |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 tbsp olive oil                 | 2 cloves of garlic, chopped finely  |
| 1 onion, chopped                 | 2 stalks of celery, chopped         |
| 3 carrots, chopped               | 1 tbsp fresh thyme                  |
| sea salt and fresh ground pepper | 2 x cans of chopped tomatoes (14oz) |
| 1 1/2 litres of water or stock   | 1 cup of pasta (your choice)        |

In a large sauce pan over medium heat add the oil, onion, carrots, celery, garlic, thyme and salt and pepper and cook until just soft. Add the tomatoes and water and simmer for 15 minutes. Add the pasta and cook for another 8-10 min. Serves 4-6.

### 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.
- Could you also please put your child's name on the inside of their jacket to limit any mix-ups.

### 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).

## Dates to remember

### November Parents Nights

The dates for parents nights are as follows:

123 - 0-2 playroom - 15th November

2-3 playroom - 19th November

29 - 0-3 playrooms - 22<sup>nd</sup> November

3-5 playrooms - 27<sup>th</sup> November

If you are attending parents night please see your child's key worker or add your name to the timetables on the playroom doors. Crèche facilities will be available on request.

### Christmas Closures

The nursery will be closed from 4pm on Monday 24th December and reopen on Monday 7th January.

Please remember the dates of all our 2012 closures can be found on our website

[www.indigogrp.com](http://www.indigogrp.com)

### Play, Talk, Read

In relation to the Scottish Government's 'Play, Talk, Read' each month we will post a '**30 things to do before you're 3**' checklist. This is a great way for you as a parent to get involved in your child's learning. We have just completed our first checklist involving activities relating to Halloween and our new checklist 'winter activities' is now displayed in the halls of both bases. Why not have a go at seeing how many tasks you can complete and bring us in a photo of your hard work to be displayed on our wall!!!

There is also a folder on display that will contain all the fun activities you and your child have been involved

<http://playtalkread.org/30-things-to-do-before-you-are-3>

### 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 in which the staff and children are keen to gather items such as fronts from **greetings cards, newspapers, gift wrap, unused wallpaper rolls, food boxes, milk cartons, tubes and boxes etc. and anything sparkly including fabrics!** (the only thing we ask you not to provide is egg boxes or toilet roll holders). Through collecting these various items the children will then recycle these by using them in junk modelling activities throughout the nursery.

We are also still collecting two litre plastic bottles for our Eco-Hut

As always your support and participation is extremely important  
us!

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