

NEWSLETTER

February 2023



Welcome

In February we have the pleasure of welcoming some new children and their families to Green Apple Nursery Carluke. We would like to welcome Christian, Annie and Zach. We know you will have lots of fun whilst learning play and playing to learn.



Celebrations

Congratulations to Samantha Aylott who has successfully completed her SVQ Social Services (Children and Young People) SCQF Level 7 qualification, whilst working full time within the nursery and studying with for her qualification with Carousel Training Centre in Glasgow City Centre.

We are super proud of you Sam and are pleased to confirm that she will remain with us as an Early Years Educator at Green Apple Nursery Carluke.

Sam works in our Little Pips/Seedling Room (0-2). She is kind, caring, loving, nurturing and has special bonds with all children and families.



Term Time Holidays

All children who attend on a term time (38 or 46 week contract) will be on holiday on 13th, 14th and 15th February 2023.

OUR VALUES

- Creativity
- Love
- Fun
- Nurture
- Happiness
- Inspiration
- Respect
- Equality & Inclusion
- Well-being
- Understanding

Funding Applications

Thank you to all families who completed, returned and have chosen Green Apple Nursery for their child to access 1140 hours.

I can confirm that all applications for August 2023 have now been added to the system and places have been secured for your child.

Session Times:

8am – 1pm (Morning Session)

1pm -6pm (Afternoon Session)

8am – 6pm (Full Day)

It is important that session times are adhered to for ratio purposes. Failure to do so will result in additional charges as per nursery terms & conditions.



Meet the Team Monday's

With lots of new families and staff members joining us at Green Apple we have decided that now is a good time to introduce our Meet the Team Monday's.

Each week a different member of staff will share some interesting information/facts about themselves for parents to get to know them.



Parent Feedback and Support

At Green Apple Nursery Ltd, we thrive on feedback and support from our families. It helps us to identify where we are, where we want to be and how we will get there.

It is important for us to work in partnership with our families to improve the service that we provide when caring for and educating our little apples.

In 2023 we need your help. So far, we currently use paper copy questionnaires and survey monkey. We will now be introducing Google Forms, Suggestion Box, Feedback Branch and Question of the Month.

We are aware that feedback can often be time consuming, therefore aim for our methods to create questions/surveys that will take no more than a few minutes to complete.

Please click on the link below to complete our most recent questionnaire which I would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to complete:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe8TFTVF5M-piHqZN5aJeF3aenJk5qBtTpoAuximrYKsIDkkw/viewform?usp=sf_link



Green Apple Nursery Carluke

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01555 704021

Star Employee and Star Room of the Month

To celebrate and appreciate our staff as individuals and as a team, we are introducing our “Star Employee and Star Room of the Month”.

How does it work?

1. Our parents and staff will be asked to vote for their Star Employee of the Month by completing a small slip and placing it in a locked box. The nursery management team will vote on Star Room of the Month based.
2. Votes will be counted and the Star Employee will be presented with a small token of appreciation, trophy and certificate at our monthly staff meeting.
3. The Star Room of the month will be presented with a lunchtime treat on the last Friday of the month.



Star Employee of The Month – January 2023

Thank you to all parents who participated in our Star Employee of the Month for January 2023. I can confirm that Mhairi McCulloch (3-5 Room) was nominated as our Star. Mhairi received some lovely comments from parents which have been shared on Family. Star Employee of the Month is only one of the ways in which we ensure our employees are valued.

JANUARY 2023

Star Employee



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Staff Training in February

At Green Apple Nursery Ltd we are passionate about upskilling our staff and ensuring that we are up to date with most recent good practice, guidance and legislation. In January we have the following training planned:

- Forest Skills Training – Mhairi McCulloch
- Communication & Language – Lucy Beattie
 - Elementary Food Hygiene – TBC
 - Makaton (Level 1) – TBC
 - STEM (Science) – Mhairi McCulloch
- 0-3 Big Learning Book Planning – All Staff



Events Calendar at a Glance!

14th February – **Valentines Stay and Play**

21st February – **Pancake Tuesday**

Please note that due to a busy month for staff training, we have rescheduled our Curriculum Information Evening and our Parents Forest Schools Workshop. These will now take place in the March.



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3 & 4 Year Old Funding

1140 Hours Government Funding

Did you know that Green Apple Nursery works in partnership with South Lanarkshire council to deliver 1140 hours of funded Early Learning and Childcare to all 3 & 4 year olds.

What does this mean for our families?

This means that when your child turns 3 years old they will be entitled to 1140 hours of Funded ELCC which can be accessed at Green Apple Nursery, meaning that you do not have to move them to another establishment and begin the settling in process again. We will do the transition in-house from our 2-3 room or from home to nursery if your child does not yet attend Green Apple.

How do I apply?

A paper copy of the application form can be collected from the main office at the nursery or Nicola can email an electronic copy if preferred. All you must do is to complete the form and return it to Nicola, with a copy of your child's Birth Certificate or Passport and 2 letters which are proof of your home address, such as a utility bill and council tax bill/driving licence. Joyce (Admin) will then add your application to the NAMS system which is shared with SLC and you will receive an offer of place letter from SLC.

How is 1140 Hours allocated?

As a Partner Provider and Private establishment, we deliver the 1140 hours in the following way:

51 Weeks = 22.35 hours per week (Parents choose which booking pattern suits their childcare needs and pay wraparound where necessary – for example if a child attends 3 full days 8am – 6pm (30 hours) over 51 weeks, the charges would be 7.65 hours per week.)

46 Weeks = 25 hours per week (Delivered on a pattern of maximum 5 x am or pm sessions – 8am-1pm or 1pm-6pm. Children do not attend 5 weeks per year during Christmas or Summer period).

38 Weeks = 30 hours per week (Delivered on a pattern of maximum 3 full days from 8am to 6pm during the school term. Children will not attend on School Holidays, Public Holidays or Inservice Days.)

When does my child get their funding?

If your child is 3 between start of term (mid-August) and the last day in February they will be granted their funding from the Monday after their 3rd Birthday. If they are 3 between March and the start of term (mid-August) they will receive their funding in August.

If your child's birthday falls on a Monday, they would receive their funding from the following Monday.



If you would like to chat about your child's funding, please pop into the office to chat with Nicola.

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What is Coming next?

- We are working on our settling in process, we will be re-introducing stay and play sessions as part of the settling in procedure. This means that a child's first settle at nursery will
- We will be introducing key worker videos to support settling in and transitions between Home to Home and Room to Room. These will be posted on Famly in advance of any transition.
- We will post videos of each room to support transitions and settling in.
- We will continue to ask for feedback as we go through this journey.

Curriculum Information Evening

We are delighted to announce that Green Apple Nursery Carluke will host it's very first Curriculum Information evening on:

Tuesday 28th March 2023 from 5.45pm until 7pm.

The aim of the Curriculum Information Evening is to develop parents knowledge and understanding of the Curriculum delivered at Green Apple Nursery and in addition how we support their child's learning and development.

On the evening the topic below and much more will be on offer:

- Risky Play Indoors & Outdoors – Including the implementation of Forest School
 - Transitions from Room to Room
 - Loose Parts
 - Creativity Station
 - Staged Intervention
 - Healthy Eating – Mealtimes (Including Self-Serve)



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New Staff

I would like to introduce Lauryn who is taking on the role of Early Years Assistant. Lauryn will be based within the 0-3 department of the nursery for the first 6 months of her training. Thereafter Lauryn will move to the 3-5 room to gain further experience. Lauryn will complete her training with Qualitas who are based in Wishaw. Some of you may already have seen Lauryn in and around the nursery since August 2022 as she was Pathway's student until December 2022.

Please help us to welcome Lauryn to Team Green.



Maintenance Updates

- Prior to the Christmas break we introduced some new resources to our garden areas. Thank you to Chloe's dad who kindly volunteered to build these for us.
- We are currently awaiting a new shipment of outdoor equipment for our gardens. This includes another Mud Kitchen, Picnic benches and Planters from local company The Shed Squad. We have also ordered a See Saw, Climbing Wall and Sand Pit.
- The gardens have been separated into 0-2 and 2-5's. Thank you to Sophie's dad who kindly repaired our wind damaged fence.
- Lucy has been busy auditing our indoor learning environment and has purchased lots of exciting new resources which include small world, role play, construction, science and sensory.

Family App

For us to ensure we can communicate and use our Family app effectively it is important that all parents ensure they keep their child's profile up to date, this includes:

- Address and Contact numbers
- Any Additional Contact Numbers/emergency contacts
- Health and Allergy information
- Dietary requirements or preferences
- Updating permissions
- Informing us of any sickness, absence, or holiday leave.



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