

# Chat about Childcare



## Welcome to the September edition of Chat about Childcare

I hope that you've all had a lovely summer, in spite of the weather. I'm sure that it didn't stop you and the children and young people you work with enjoying a wide variety of activities over the holidays.

In this edition some of you have shared events, activities and experiences that you have been involved in. We are always interested in hearing from you and sharing your practice, so please get in touch and tell us your story.

In addition there is information on new guidance on Blind Cords from the Care Inspectorate, the Scottish Learning Festival, South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture, and Setting the Table.

I hope you enjoy this edition and share it with colleagues, parents and friends.

*Jean E. McKeown*

**Councillor Jean McKeown**

Chair, South Lanarkshire Early Years and  
Childcare Partnership

If you need this information in another language or format, please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs. **Phone: 0303 123 1015**  
**Email: [equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)**

**[www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk](http://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk)**

## Green Apple Nursery

At Green Apple Nursery we raised £389.00 for St Andrew's Hospice by holding a Teddy Bears Picnic, Teddy Bear games and arts and crafts over the period of 1 week. We are exceptionally proud of the commitment from the parents in helping us raise these funds. We will continue to work in partnership with local and wider community raising funds for charities.

For further information, please contact Green Apple Nursery at [greenapplenursery@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:greenapplenursery@hotmail.co.uk) or **01698 891141**



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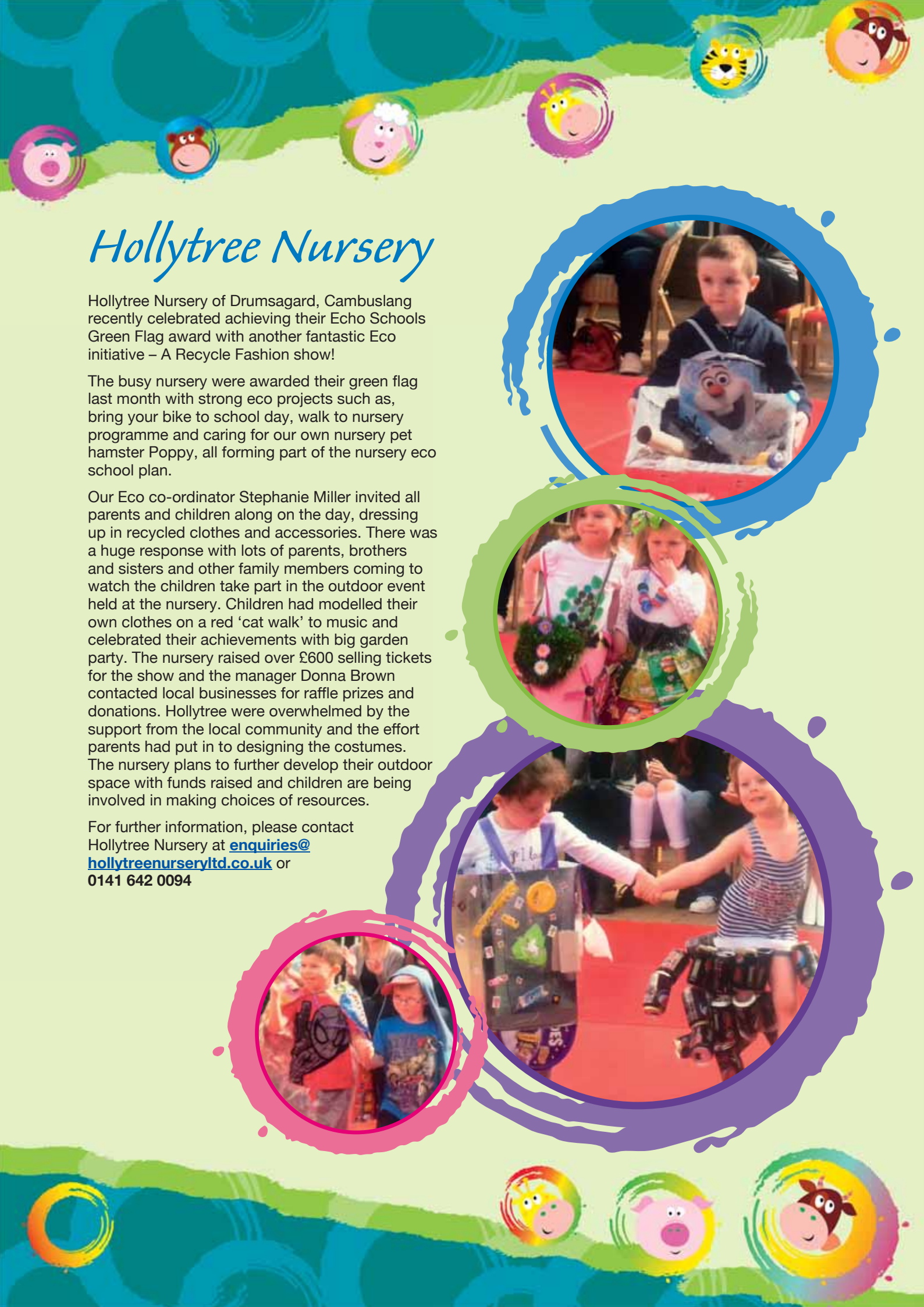
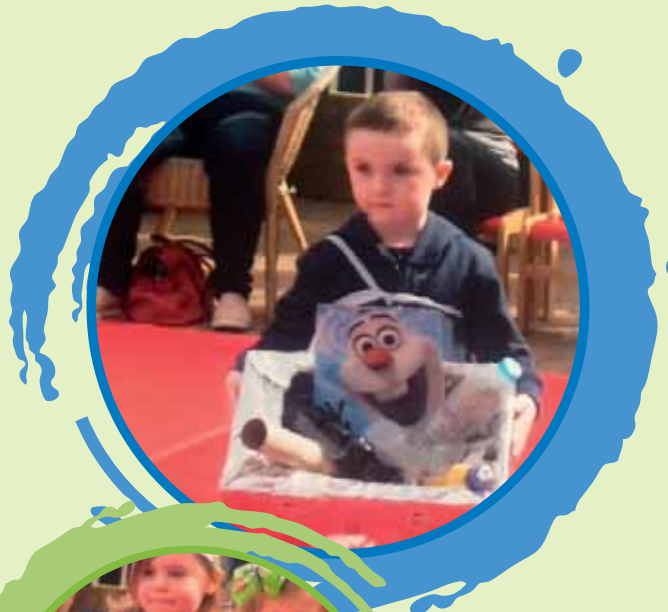
# Hollytree Nursery

Hollytree Nursery of Drumsagard, Cambuslang recently celebrated achieving their Echo Schools Green Flag award with another fantastic Eco initiative – A Recycle Fashion show!

The busy nursery were awarded their green flag last month with strong eco projects such as, bring your bike to school day, walk to nursery programme and caring for our own nursery pet hamster Poppy, all forming part of the nursery eco school plan.

Our Eco co-ordinator Stephanie Miller invited all parents and children along on the day, dressing up in recycled clothes and accessories. There was a huge response with lots of parents, brothers and sisters and other family members coming to watch the children take part in the outdoor event held at the nursery. Children had modelled their own clothes on a red 'cat walk' to music and celebrated their achievements with big garden party. The nursery raised over £600 selling tickets for the show and the manager Donna Brown contacted local businesses for raffle prizes and donations. Hollytree were overwhelmed by the support from the local community and the effort parents had put in to designing the costumes. The nursery plans to further develop their outdoor space with funds raised and children are being involved in making choices of resources.

For further information, please contact Hollytree Nursery at [enquiries@hollytreenurseryttd.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@hollytreenurseryttd.co.uk) or 0141 642 0094





## Setting the Table

Earlier this year we brought you some information on 'Setting the Table', the new nutritional guidance and food standards document that is relevant for all early years childcare providers in Scotland.

The Care Inspectorate are inspecting services against the implementation of this guidance, so it is important that you are familiar with the content and are implementing the parts that are appropriate to your service. The guidance isn't just about the nutritional aspect of providing snacks and meals to children in your care, it also provides guidance on the environment, working with parents, learning experiences for children and a holistic approach to health and wellbeing, so if you think that the document isn't relevant to your service because you only provide a small snack during the session that the children are in attendance, it is still important that the staff working with the children are all familiar with the guidance.

If you haven't received a copy of the guidance you can access it at [www.healthscotland.com/documents/21130.aspx](http://www.healthscotland.com/documents/21130.aspx)



## Scottish Learning Festival...

The Scottish Learning Festival (SLF) is the key education event in Scotland welcoming thousands of educational professionals.

SLF 2015 takes place on Wednesday 23 and Thursday 24 September in the SECC, Glasgow.

The theme of this year's event focuses on raising achievement and attainment for all by maximising educational outcomes through:

- Local partnerships and collaboration – to share approaches that lead to better outcomes
- Self-evaluation – to ensure creative and innovative approaches to sustained improvement
- Work-related learning – to improve transitions into sustainable productive employment.

SLF 2015 is free for everyone to attend and gives you access to:

- Inspirational keynotes
- Over 100 professional development seminars where you can engage in activities and learn from practitioners and young people
- Lively debate at the professional discussions focusing on 'How good is our school?', closing the gap and developing the young workforce
- Scotland's largest education exhibition with over 100 exhibitors showcasing educational resources
- Opportunities for discussion and professional networking with peers and colleagues from across Scotland.

A number of new features have been added to the SLF line-up, including a Food for Thought Showcase, the Healthier Scotland Cooking Bus and the Developing the Young Workforce showcase.

To guarantee your place at SLF 2015 browse the full conference programme and book your place today go to [www.educationscotland.gov.uk/slf/slf2015/index.asp](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/slf/slf2015/index.asp) and click on the link



## Greenspace in autumn

As autumn looms it's time to make the most of the dry weather before the winter months set in. Getting out and about has numerous benefits and is the perfect way to increase your physical activity, health and well-being. On top of that it allows your child to run out their energy, explore the outdoors and grow and develop.

Being out in greenspaces as a family gives natural ways to educate your child with the wonders of nature and helps create bonds and relationships together.

Not sure where to go? Go to the website below to the Greenspace web portal for both North and South Lanarkshire to find out where to visit in your area and what Greenspaces are available. The site gives straightforward links to parks and recreation grounds, play parks and different groups and activities available in each locality.

So don't delay, get out and utilise your Greenspaces before they turn into white snowy spaces!

[www.elament.org.uk/greenspace.aspx](http://www.elament.org.uk/greenspace.aspx)



## Baby/Toddler Yoga

From August South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture's baby / toddler yoga will now sit under the ACE membership, therefore expanding the range of classes available to your little ones. The classes will be run out of Blantyre Leisure Centre, Cambuslang Institute, Hamilton Water Palace, Carluke Leisure Centre and Stewartfield Community centre.

Go to the website below to find out days and times of your nearest class; [www.slleisureandculture.co.uk/SLLC/info/466/early\\_years\\_activities](http://www.slleisureandculture.co.uk/SLLC/info/466/early_years_activities)



# Cathkin Community Nursery

## Outdoor Learning in our Eco Garden

Over the last two years Cathkin Community Nursery, Cambuslang have been working hard to create an Eco garden using up-cycled and recycled resources. We have achieved this with the help of children, parents and local businesses. Our garden is utilised as an extension of the playroom. It gives the children a rich and inviting space which provides them with the opportunity to develop in all areas of the curriculum.

We have found that outdoor education broadens the child as a whole physically, emotionally, socially and morally. All staff have a responsibility to make the most of the outdoor environment where children can benefit from as many quality experiences as possible.

It is our vision to help our children create a greener Scotland and ultimately pursue greener living and we are proud to say that the nursery's efforts to pursue this have been rewarded with our second green flag. We are also excited to be taking part in the Scottish Education Health and Well-being Conference in September 2015 where educationalists from around the world will be in attendance and will visit this establishment.

Our eco gardens include a sensory area, music area, a bug house, mud kitchen and water features which were built using materials sourced from the local area and a reclamation yard. The areas are designed to develop awareness of the environment while promoting literacy, numeracy, health and wellbeing as well as science, expressive arts and technologies. Children are encouraged to measure rainwater and use it to water our vegetables and flowers.

Our parents and carers have been collecting and bringing empty plastic bottles to the nursery to help us reach our target of 500. We intend to use these to repair the eco greenhouse and build a fence in the under three garden. Other features include wheel trim flowers and wind chimes

made from metal tubing which we have used imaginatively to decorate the perimeter fence.

A simple abacus and chalkboard allow children to explore numbers and mark making.

There are ample opportunities for problem solving, creativity and discovery at the science and technology board.

Our garden is an ongoing project and our aim is to use it in all seasons to meet the needs of our children. Helping them become healthy, happy children who are successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors.

For further information, please contact Cathkin Community Nursery at [gw14cathkinnuroffice@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14cathkinnuroffice@glow.sch.uk) or 0141 643 3484



# Building the Ambition

The Scottish Government published, “Building the Ambition, National Practice Guidance on Early Learning and Childcare”.

The guidance was written to support the measures in the “Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014. The Act defines the new concept of “early learning and childcare”, replacing the notion of pre-school education. The term seeks to emphasise the holistic and seamless provision of nurture, care and learning. It recognises that learning cannot take place without a nurturing and a caring environment.

It is written for all practitioners working in early learning and childcare settings, childminders, voluntary, private and public sectors; all local authorities and training providers; regulatory and inspection bodies.

The aim of ‘Building the Ambition’ is to support all practitioners who are delivering early learning and childcare in different settings and areas of Scotland. To build confidence and capability for those working with young children from birth to starting school

The guidance makes links between practice, theory and policy guidance to reinforce aspects of high quality provision and the critical role played by early years practitioners. It clarifies some aspects of current practice and provides a reference that practitioners can easily use. It supports improvement and quality by encouraging discussion and reflective questioning about practice relevant to each setting, and it provides advice on achieving the highest quality Early Learning and Childcare possible to allow our youngest children to play their part in the Scottish Government’s ambition of Scotland being the best place in the world to grow up.

It is written to answer some big questions and highlights best practice. It includes case studies, sections on putting policy into practice and links to find out more about specific interest areas. Other sections look specifically at what children need and what makes the difference to their experience in an early learning and childcare setting. For example, there is a focus on the developmental stages of the baby, toddler and young child and what they need at different times in terms of the experiences offered, what high quality adult interaction should be like and what their environment should contain.

“Building the Ambition” is not a document to read and then put away. It is a document that should encourage all practitioners to reflect on their practice; on the environment they create for young children to learn in, the experiences they offer to support children’s learning and development and most importantly their relationships and interactions with children.

We all strive to offer the highest quality of service and experiences to children and families, we need to be professionally reflective practitioners, always seeking to do better, increase our knowledge and expertise with the aim of improve outcomes for them. “Building the Ambition” supports us on our journey.

For further information please contact the Early Learning and Childcare Support Team on **01698 455675**





## Maxwellton Nursery Class

Here at Maxwellton Nursery Class, we observed our children to be lacking in calm quiet time, so after consultation with staff, children and parents, we introduced a short 10 minutes yoga session to the children and staff. After only a few sessions we quickly realised the children and staff were fully on board, quite relaxed and looking for new moves. We then looked into further training opportunities to enhance the relaxation experiences we were offering. The training took place on an in-service day, and this supported our technique and understanding of Yoga, working with small children. To enable us to continue this programme more fully we needed to provide quiet music, a range of discs, a CD player and the all essential child sized Yoga mats. Again much discussion took place and a sponsored yogathon took place in the hope that we might raise enough money to buy our children good quality resources and equipment. To date we have collect in £750.00 enabling us to buy 19 yoga mats, a cd player, cd's , and storage .

The children are so keen with many asking if it's their day for yoga when they arrive. They are also very eager to display their talents to their families and visitors. We have had excellent consultation feedback from children and families with a little boy who can be reluctant to chat telling us how much he enjoys his class through words and gestures. There are obvious health benefits from yoga not only for the children but also for the staff, including being more focused, calm, confident individuals. Feedback from parents and carers continues to be positive, clearly evident in the massive amount of funds raised, with one family so impressed with the impact on calming her daughter at bed time she has opted to seek a yoga class outwith the nursery.

For further information, please contact Janice Burns, Early Years Worker, Maxwellton Nursery Class on **01355 222521**



## Blind Cord Safety

The Care Inspectorate has provided updated guidance on the safe installation and use of blinds with cords attached. This updated information is following a number of fatal accidents involving young children. The legal requirement for manufacturers of blinds has also changed, however given that many blinds will have been installed prior to the change in law, it is advised that you check any blinds you have within your service and take appropriate action. For further information on this guidance, please go to <http://hub.careinspectorate.com/media/213261/estates-and-facilities-alert-cords-and-chains-on-blinds.pdf>



# St Brides Nursery Class, Bothwell

## Mud Kitchen

In autumn 2014 St. Bride's Nursery recognised a need for children to get back to nature and explore and discover the outdoor environment as children now spend more and more time with new technologies indoors.

The nursery staff decided to create a mud kitchen for children to use natural resources such as pine cones, leaves and conkers to make soups and other inventive concoctions. They invited parents to donate recycled pots and pans, kitchen utensils, wooden planks and old sinks. New all in one outdoor play suits were purchased to enable the children to use the kitchen in all weathers.

Being outdoors helps develop children's communication and language skills, creates problem solving opportunities and helps children to relax. The children now look forward to their experiences within the mud kitchen on a regular basis.

## St. Bride's Nursery Best Bites Cookbook

Start cooking in the early years! This year St. Bride's Nursery decided to provide preparing and cooking experiences for the children on a regular basis. The usual snack area was extended to provide real life cooking experiences for all the children. They made many healthy recipes: chopping vegetables for soups, making pizzas, wraps, smoothies, flapjacks and many more. They prepared the occasional sweet treats too!

Due to the success of the activities nursery staff decided to put a selection of the recipes together in the 'St. Bride's Nursery Best Bites' cookbook. Children designed and created the front cover and added their own special memories and recommendations.

The cookbook was then published and sold to parents to allow the children to produce the recipes at home with their parents and carers. This initiative formed part of St. Bride's Nursery Home Partnership programme enabling families in the community to become involved in their children's lifelong learning skills.

Getting involved in cooking helps children try different types of foods including fruits and vegetables and encourages healthy food options required for good nutrition. It helps children to develop their hand eye coordination, fine motor skills, learn early numeracy and science concepts (e.g. counting, measuring) and encourages early literacy skills (e.g. talking, listening and reading).



For further information, please contact Angela Tierney, Nursery Teacher on 01698 853709





# *St Mary's Nursery Centre enjoy Wheelie Wednesdays*

Balanceability is the UK's first and only accredited 'learn to cycle' programme for children aged 2½ to 6 years old.

Balanceability develops confidence, spatial awareness, dynamic balance and the skills to ride a bicycle without stabilisers.

Using balance bikes and other equipment sessions are constructed around games, challenges and new experiences proven to achieve desired objectives.

St Mary's Nursery Centre in Lanark has been offering children the opportunity to take part in the 'Balanceability' programme since August 2014. The children progress through two levels of training and receive a certificate as they pass each stage.

We were successful in receiving a lottery grant to fund the programme which enabled us to purchase the self-training and delivery pack for staff, 8 balance bikes, 8 helmets and a balanceability equipment bag with cones, signs and bean bags e.t.c.

The introduction of the balance bikes has increased the all round physical development of our children; Core stability, balance, spatial awareness, motor skills and sensory motor development have all been developed through the programme.

The children have also been developing their social skills through the balance ability group sessions. Practising and learning together as a group.

It has given the children and parents the confidence and motivation to try balance biking at home and to continue the skills learned at nursery.

Our aim is to encourage and support the children and their parents through the cycling process and to be able to experience the joys and fitness of riding a bike through their childhood years and beyond.

For further information, please contact St Mary's Nursery Centre at [nursery1@st-marys-lanark-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk](mailto:nursery1@st-marys-lanark-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk) or 01555 678013



# Family Man Fun Day

Sunday 21st June 2015 –  
Hamiltonpark Racecourse

Over 2,000 people from across South Lanarkshire and beyond joined us to celebrate Father's Day on Sunday 15th June at this fantastic partnership event.

This year we were 'wheelie' excited to once again join forces with the organisers of South Lanarkshire's 'Big Bike Day', complete with a free, secure bike parking zone. Families particularly loved the opportunity to try out their skills at the G72 Tri Club static bike challenge!

Billed as 'The fun way to spend father's day', the event offered something for every member of the family, from the Tots and Toddlers Zone with Bookbug and Gymboree; Teens and Tweenies Zone where you could enjoy tasters and demos of various types of activities available from the Guides; local Sports clubs and Scouts; not to mention the Go Outdoor Zone with inflatables and Climbing Wall; Scottish Fire and Rescue and much more.

A firm favourite is the Mascot Race, where local mascots battle it out for the title of Mascot Marvel! This year we were delighted that Hamiltonpark Racecourse opted to unveil their brand new Mascot 'The Duke' at the event. As a first time contender The Duke came a respectable third place in the Mascot Race with the National Autistic Society's Bounce the Bunny romping home to reclaim his title for the second year running.

As a free event with most activities also being free of charge, families fed back positively on the ability to have a stress free, family fun time. Mums and dads were also very impressed with the amount of information about local services and clubs that they could engage with, year round.

Full details; photographs and video from previous events can be found on 'Family Man Fun Day' Facebook page [www.facebook.com/familymanfunday](http://www.facebook.com/familymanfunday).

For further information, please contact Fiona Robertson at [fiona.robertson@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:fiona.robertson@southlanarkshire.gov.uk) or 01698 452214



## Now Move

South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture (SLLC) are affiliated members of the International Sport and Culture Association (ISCA) and act as the lead link organisation for Scotland. ISCA heads up Europe's largest physical activity campaign, NowWeMove and the pinnacle event of this is the annual Move Week which is celebrated throughout Europe. Move Week 2015 will take place between 21st-27th September. For the first time, Scotland is taking a themed approach to this initiative by focusing on engaging with older adults (60+) and promoting intergenerational activity. The reasons for this more targeted approach are multiple however one of the aims is to increase more enjoyable and novel opportunities for grandparents and older adults within the community to share learning, engage with and take part in appropriate physical activity along with younger generations. One of the ways SLLC plans to do this is through introducing 'Old School Games' themed week to the current 'Go Play' sessions which run within leisure centres. During these sessions, children will be introduced to games and activities traditionally played by older generations such as Hop-Scotch, elastics and skipping and grandparents and older family friends will also be invited to spectate and of course participate if they wish! SLLC is dedicated to providing opportunities to enrich peoples' lives – facilitating families of all ages to participate in health enhancing physical activity, have fun and share experiences through Move Week 2015 is one way this can be achieved.

For more information on NowWeMove and MoveWeek please visit [www.nowwemove.com](http://www.nowwemove.com). Keep checking [www.slleisureandculture.co.uk](http://www.slleisureandculture.co.uk) for more information and a timetable of events on the lead up to Move Week 2015.



# Post registration training and Learning

Everyone registered with the SSSC has to meet post registration training and learning (PRTL) requirements. Undertaking PRTL, writing about it and submitting it to us makes sure you continue to be suitable for registration.

## What is PRTL and why is it important?

PRTL is about on-going learning and development. It's important because it makes you take responsibility for your own learning and development. Maintaining and developing effective knowledge, skills and values will help you inform good practice when working with people who use social service and their families.

## How much do I need to do and in what timescale?

### PRTL activities can include:

- training – SVQ units, courses such as child/adult protection and first aid.
- reading – books, Scottish Government policy information, journal articles, newspapers, online publications.
- job shadowing – another member of staff in your own organisation or another organisation.
- independent research – as part of a qualification or in order to further develop an area of your practice
- mentoring – another worker going through a qualification, a student within your setting.

We've kept the type of activity general because there are a variety of ways for you to continue to learn and develop. Training and learning does not have to be formally certified.

## How do I write about PRTL?

You can record your PRTL online through MySSSC if you open an account.

There's also form you can use to record your PRTL.

**Post Registration Training and Learning Record of Achievement**

Name			
Address			
Registration number			
Registration period from			
Registration period to			

Date	Duration in hours or days (1 Day = 6 Hours)	Details of training and learning activity (including where appropriate name of provider of training or learning activity)	Please state how the recorded training and learning has contributed to your professional development and informed your practice.

Total training and learning for period of registration  
Hours: \_\_\_\_\_ Days: \_\_\_\_\_

**Declaration**  
I confirm that the information I have provided on this form is accurate. I understand that failure to meet Post Registration Training and Learning requirements, or the provision of false information in relation to meeting these requirements, may be considered by the Scottish Social Services Council as misconduct.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

If for any reason you have failed to meet PRTL requirements, you must provide an explanation for this failure, in writing, to the SSSC and submit it with this form. Managers, practitioners and support workers must complete a minimum of 10 days or 60 hours PRTL over their five year registration period. It should be recorded and kept on file.



# Learning and Development

*Are you thinking about doing a qualification?*

*Do you need funding to help you achieve this?*

*Then the student award agency scotland (saas) may be able to help!*

To qualify for support, you will need to meet the eligibility criteria on income, courses and qualifications, other funding, course providers and residence. To qualify for this support, you must have an individual income of £25,000 a year or less.

You must be studying an eligible course of Higher Education or Continuing Professional Development at levels 7-10 of the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF)

You must be doing between 30-119 (up to 120 credits for non-campus based universities) SCQF credits in each year of your course.

Examples of eligible qualifications include a degree, HNC, HND, Professional Graduate Diploma in Education, some Professional Development Awards, SVQ3 and SVQ4.

If you are attending a publicly funded college you may be eligible to apply for tuition fee support through a fee waiver scheme, which your college administers. Check with your college to find out if you are eligible. If you are, you must apply to the college for help with your tuition fees and not from SAAS.

If you are eligible to apply for the part-time fee grant from SAAS then they will take into account any help you are getting from an employer (towards the cost of fees) before deciding how much they can pay.

The part-time fee grant gives help each year towards the cost of your tuition fees.

The level of tuition fee they can pay will depend on the number of credits you do and the qualification you are studying.

**The maximum fee grant they can award is:**

£1,805 for publicly funded degree level courses,

£1,820 for 120 credit degree level courses at non-campus based universities,

£1,274 for publicly funded Higher National awards (HNC, HND),

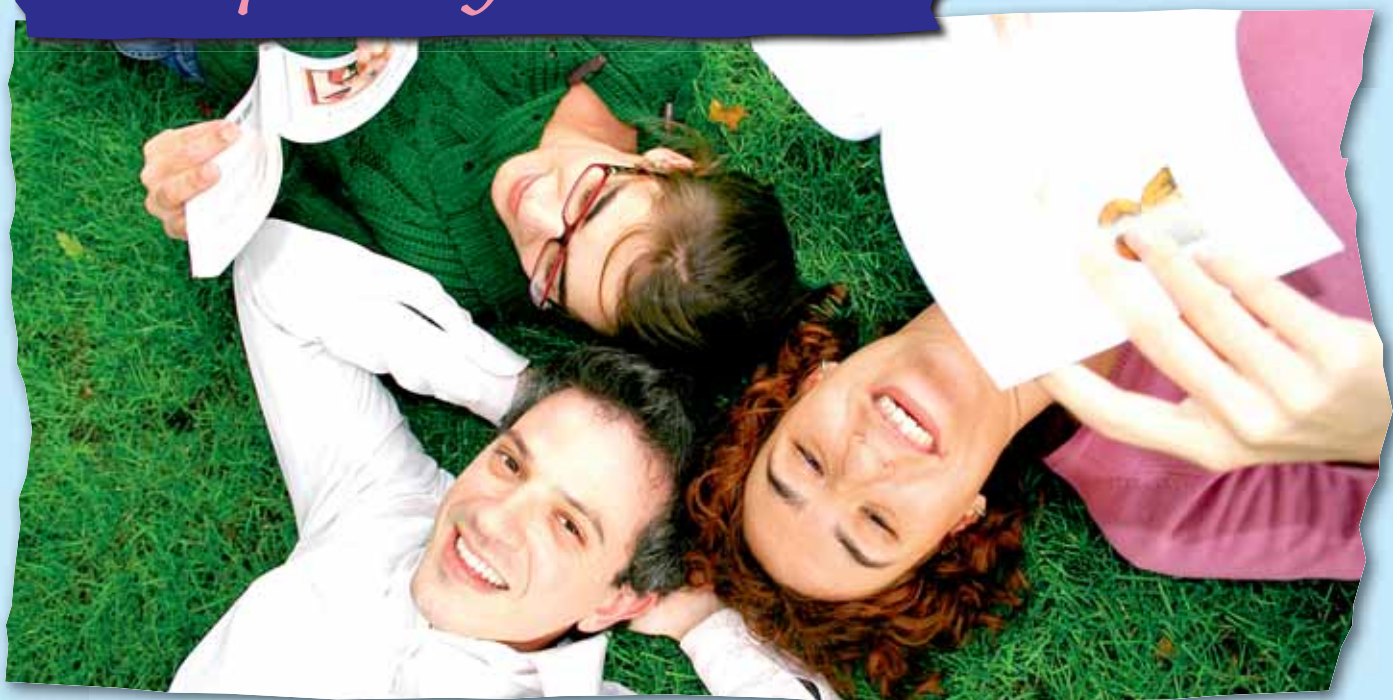
£1,195 for all courses at private providers.

For more information log on to [www.saas.gov.uk](http://www.saas.gov.uk)





*More funding available!*



## *SDS Individual Learning Accounts*

Did you know you could be eligible for up to £200 towards the cost of learning with an SDS Individual Learning Account?

### *What is an SDS Individual Learning Account?*

Individual Learning Accounts (ILAs) are for people who are 16 or over and living in Scotland and are for individuals who will benefit most from this support.

You can apply for an ILA if do NOT have a degree or above, are not undertaking any secondary, further or higher education, training through the Employability Fund or Modern Apprenticeship, or participating on the Community Jobs Scotland programme.

You must also have an income of £22,000 a year or less, or be on benefits to be eligible to get up to £200 towards the costs of learning or training. This can be for a variety of training courses and does not have to be childcare related.

It's a great way to pay for learning new skills and because the money isn't a loan, you don't need to worry about paying it back.

ILA learning providers, – including learning centre, local colleges, universities and private training companies – offer a wide range of courses. So whether you need to improve your computer skills or learn something new, we're sure you'll find a course to suit you.

Please note: If your application for ILA funding is successful, you will be unable to apply for a Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS) Part-Time Fee Grant for the duration of your ILA learner year. If you would like any further information about Individual Learning Accounts before you apply please contact us on **0800 917 8000** or log on to [www.myworldofwork.co.uk](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk)





# Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) Childminding Day 2015



Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) Childminding Day 2015 was another fantastic success this year. More than 1500 people made their way to M&D's Theme Park on Sunday 17 May to spend the day as a VIP.

SCMA's Childminding Day is all about fun - and the team behind the event were chuffed to see so many childminders with your minded families and friends enjoying the attractions.

Despite a few heavy showers on the day - nobody's spirits were dampened. Everyone had the same attitude - it's the Scottish weather, and there's nothing we can do about it.

SCMA's Communications Manager, Leigh Irvine said: "We're delighted that so many of our members and their minded families have turned out at Childminding Day today.

"Once again the team at M&D's have done us proud - they make Childminding Day possible and the VIP events area is always a success and I'm glad to everyone enjoyed it.

Childminding Day VIPs enjoyed a fun-packed day with lots of activities, including Amazonia taster sessions, bouncy castles, decorating cakes, face painting, discounted Ride All Day wristbands, and much more.

To find out more about SCMA, visit [childminding.org](http://childminding.org).

To find out more about M&D's Theme Park visit [www.scotlandsthemepark.com](http://www.scotlandsthemepark.com)

## Fancy building a career in childcare?

### SCMA and Making it Work could provide the help you need!

#### Joanne's story:

When my youngest child started primary one, I decided it was time to go back to work. I needed a career that would fit around my family so arranged to meet with the Making it Work service to explore my options.

They considered my needs and suggested an ideal career...childminding!

Childminding appealed to me as I could work and still be there for my own children. I would be based in my home providing a fun, stimulating, loving childcare service for other people's children.

Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) provided me with lots of information about becoming a childminder. I enrolled on the Induction Training course which taught me all about care plans, contracts and the registration process. Best of all, I met some lovely ladies all going through the same training.

As well as the training from SCMA I was given a grant for £500. This was a great help and helped me buy the basics I needed for my new business.

I am so grateful to be given the opportunity to become a childminder and be part of children's lives. My minded children have become lovely and confident individuals who I see as part of my extended family.

Without the support and guidance from SCMA and Making it Work I don't think I would be doing the job I love for the past 6 years.

**If you would like to work with children; gain new skills and qualifications;  
and, be your own boss give SCMA a call:**

Jacqueline Spence, Childminding Co-ordinator, 01355 238593, email: [jacqueline.spence@childminding.org](mailto:jacqueline.spence@childminding.org)  
Lorna Carlyle, Childminding Development Officer, 01698 832076, email: [lorna.carlyle@childminding.org](mailto:lorna.carlyle@childminding.org)





# 30 THINGS TO DO IN THE KITCHEN BEFORE YOU'RE 3



- 1) Have a go at making playdough – it's easy, cheap and heaps of fun!
- 2) Get squishy and make some playdough pets – what's yours called?
- 3) Decorate a wooden spoon as a storybook character and tell a funny story
- 4) Make some awesome green gloop with this easy recipe, 1, 2, 3...eww!
- 5) Make a slimy sensory bag using hair gel and a sandwich bag
- 6) Take the plunge and have a go at water play – all you need are some plastic toys and water
- 7) Have a go at finding different colours in your kitchen. Can you see anything red?
- 8) Make waves and waterfalls in your washing up bowl using bubbles and plastic cups
- 9) Get your heart racing with a plastic cup race. Ready, steady...blow!
- 10) Cook some alphabetti spaghetti and spell out your name
- 11) Get goopy and try painting with yoghurt – it's great fun and really tasty!
- 12) Cook some spaghetti for lunch then dip the leftovers in paint and make a worm picture
- 13) Imagine you're a sea creature and create your own underwater adventure in a plastic bottle
- 14) Get a piece of string and some dry pasta and make a beautiful necklace
- 15) Play 'guess the smell' with different foods in the kitchen
- 16) Explore what's in the cupboards and read out the labels
- 17) Take a look at a cookery book and choose a yummy recipe to make
- 18) Have a shot at potato printing with some halved raw potatoes and colourful paint
- 19) Take an old empty jar, fill it with rice and shake along to a song
- 20) Wash some vegetables in the sink before dinner
- 21) Decorate a box with paint, pipecleaners, spare buttons and anything else you can find
- 22) Wobble wobble! Have a shot at making some jelly with Mum or Dad
- 23) What do you like in your sandwich? Find your favourite filling and have a go at making your own
- 24) Make some funky fruit kebabs – all you need is some tasty fruit, a skewer and a grown up helper
- 25) Use your muscles and give the chef a hand mashing the tatties for dinner
- 26) Put the radio on in the kitchen and have a dance-off
- 27) Pull out some pots and pans and make a drum kit
- 28) Make some soapy bubbles and grow a funny bubble beard
- 29) Have you tried cracking an egg? Get someone to show you how
- 30) Be a wee helper and set the table at dinner time



# Directory of contacts

Here is a list, of people, services and organisations that may be useful to your service. The list is by no means exhaustive!

## Early Years Service

### South Lanarkshire Council Early Years Service

01698 454470

[earlyyears@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:earlyyears@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

### South Lanarkshire Childcare Information Service

01698 454470

[earlyyears@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:earlyyears@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

### Morag McDonald, Early Years Strategic Manager

01698 454474

[morag.mcdonald@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:morag.mcdonald@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

### Allan McRitchie, Early Years Manager (Curriculum)

01698 454285

[allan.mcritchie@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:allan.mcritchie@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

### Helen Hodge, OOSC Development Officer

01698 455675

[helen.hodge@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:helen.hodge@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

### Early Learning and Childcare Support Team

01698 455675 (Marion, Vivienne, Ruth, Liz, Elaine, Janice, Andrea, Helen)

## Integrating Children's Services

### Kathleen Colvan, Service Manager, ICS & CCLD

01698 454517

[kathleen.colvan@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:kathleen.colvan@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

### Debra Lindsay, Hamilton ICS Area Manager

01698 452370

[debra.lindsay@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:debra.lindsay@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

### Val McIntyre, East Kilbride ICS Area Manager

01355 235702

[val.mcintyre@ics.s-lanark.org.uk](mailto:val.mcintyre@ics.s-lanark.org.uk)

### Kevin Mullarkey, Clydesdale ICS Area Manager

01555 895192

[kevin.mullarkey@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:kevin.mullarkey@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

### Elaine Walker, Cambuslang/Rutherglen (ICS Area Manager)

0141 630 2520

[elaine.walker@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:elaine.walker@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

### Jennifer McCormick, Early Years Manager (Development)

01698 454973

[jennifer.mccormick@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:jennifer.mccormick@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

### Ellen Ward, Training and Development Officer

01698 455660

[ellen.ward@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:ellen.ward@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

### Pauline Stanton, SVQ Lead Assessor

01698 455660

[pauline.stanton@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:pauline.stanton@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

## Early Years and Childcare Training and Development Team

01698 455660 (Ellen, Pauline, Janice, Lesley)

## Community Learning/Home School Partnership/ Cultural Co-ordinators/Mobile Crèche

### Fiona Robertson, Senior CLHS Worker

01698 452214

[fiona.robertson@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:fiona.robertson@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

### Doreen Jenkins, Senior CLHS Worker

01698 452395

[doreen.jenkins@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:doreen.jenkins@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

### Susan Sandilands, Senior CLHS Worker

01357 528719

[susan.sandilands@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:susan.sandilands@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

### Lianne Grieve, Senior CLHS Worker

0141 630 2520

[lianne.grieve@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:lianne.grieve@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

## Cultural Co-ordinator Team

0141 630 2520 (Claire, Kimberly, Louise)

[stephanie.toms@ics.s-lanark.org.uk](mailto:stephanie.toms@ics.s-lanark.org.uk)

## Anne Brodie, Creche Officer

## South Lanarkshire Mobile Crèche

01698 452180

[ann.brodie@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:ann.brodie@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

## Other Useful Contacts

### Support for Play and Early Learning in Lanarkshire (SPELL)

01698 768933

[spell.org@btopenworld.com](mailto:spell.org@btopenworld.com)

### Lorna Carlyle, Childminding Development Officer

01698 832076

[lorna.carlyle@childminding.org](mailto:lorna.carlyle@childminding.org)

### Hazel Rankine, National Day Nurseries Association

(NDNA representative for South Lanarkshire)

01698 306090

[office@bigbirdlarkhall.co.uk](mailto:office@bigbirdlarkhall.co.uk)

### Kim Kilgannon, Play Development Officer, Leisure

01698 476195

[kim.kilgannon@southlanarkshireleisure.co.uk](mailto:kim.kilgannon@southlanarkshireleisure.co.uk)

## Care Inspectorate, Hamilton Office

01698 208150

[enquiries@careinspectorate.com](mailto:enquiries@careinspectorate.com)

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

## Scottish Social Services Council

0845 603 0891

[enquiries@sssc.uk.com](mailto:enquiries@sssc.uk.com)

[www.sssc.uk.com](http://www.sssc.uk.com)

