

THE EARLY YEARS ECHO

Discovering our world, one day at a time...

September 2019

We believe children are powerful, competent and rich in potential.

We provide an environment that promotes creativity and playfulness encompassed in awe and wonder.

We empower our children to become curious and confident individuals who are co-constructors of their own journey, and researchers in their own right.

We advocate resilience and independence through a challenging and inspiring environment.

Welcome to the first edition of The Early Years Echo 2019-2020!

The purpose of our editions are to inform you about all of the exciting things that we get up to in Early Years and important dates for your diary!

It has been wonderful to see our children and families after their summer break and also to welcome our new children and families into our Early Years. All children have settled well and have enjoyed making new friends! We have loved hearing all about the children's adventures; don't forget to add pictures, comments and mementos to your child's; Me, My Family, My World book. These will be shared during family group time every **Monday** and they are a fabulous way of letting the children share 'their world' with their friends.

Children's First Week!



Children have had a very exciting first week and have enjoyed exploring their new learning environment. Children have enjoyed making herb dough, exploring and transporting water, role play with dinosaurs, making footprints and kites to mention a few. We're looking forward to watching children's interest emerge!

Save the date!

Dates for this Half Term

Beach school - Please see dates in parents entrance

Monday 16th September – Individual School Photos

Thursday 26th September – 3.45pm – 4.45pm Please join us for ‘Stay and Bake’. This will be a lovely opportunity for children and families to get to know each other. All cakes will go towards raising money during our Macmillan Coffee morning (Friday 27th September from 9.00am in the Learning Centre).

Week Commencing Monday 21st October – EYFS Open Week – Please watch out for appointment slots!

Friday 25th October – School Closes for Half Term

There will be some instances, when following the children’s interests, that we may plan a visit to Morrison’s or Doxford Park for that coming week, where prior notice is not always possible. In this case, we have placed a sign-up sheet in the entrance for you to let us know if there are any times where you would be available to join us. We can then look at this list and get in touch with parents and extended families directly to arrange this.

Any other pre-planned events will have a specific sign-up sheet and you will be informed about these via the blog and text message.

The Facebook logo is displayed in white lowercase letters on a solid blue rectangular background.

**Please add us on Facebook to keep up to date with what children have been up to!
Please ensure all permission slips for social media have been completed and returned to the school office.**

Beach School

(Full time Reception children)

Children who attend full time Reception will have the opportunity to visit the beach on a regular basis as part of our Beach School. Children will go to the beach with staff and parent helpers on our school minibus (1 group per week). Here, we will learn about our coastline, tides, natural and found objects and take part in a range of activities such as hunting for treasure, map making and rock pooling. Beach School was a huge success last year and we can't wait to get started this year with our new cohort of children. Please ensure when it is your child's session, they come to school



Our Beach Hut

After the children's morning session at the beach, the children will continue their learning in our 'Beach Hut'. Here, children may wish to make sculptures with drift wood, make artwork with sea glass, create observational drawing from photographs of our beach or explore their findings from rock pools.

If you have any beach or nautical themed items hiding away in your loft or garage- our Beach Schoolers would be very grateful. This could be shells, interesting rocks, beach decor etc.



Early Years Visitors

Any visitors coming into Early Years are kindly asked to go to the main school office, sign in there and will then be brought round by the office staff. May we also remind you that mobile phones are not permitted in our Early Years; either inside or in our outdoor area. We thank you for your support with this and we are sure you understand that the protection and safety of our children is paramount.



Hidden Treasures?



Please keep an eye out for our 'Hidden Treasures' board in our EY entrance, where we are regularly asking for donations of things that you may have laying around and unused. We are currently looking for:

- Pots and pans
- Dolls, baby bottles, baby clothing, prams etc
- Real musical instruments (guitar, wooden or unusual instruments)

This changes regularly as we follow the children's interests and fascinations- so keep a look out!

Thank You!

The support that we receive in Early Years; from parents, carers and extended family members does not go unnoticed. We are so grateful and more importantly, so are the children!

**Many thanks,
Mrs Whelam-Tate and the Early Years Team.**