

T.A.S.C



NEWSLETTER **January 2020**

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Welcome back, we hope you all enjoyed the Christmas break. The staff would like to thank you all, for the kind gifts they received during the festive period.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY

The schools will be closed February 7th to 12th inclusive for mid-term break. If there is enough demand by Friday 31st January we will be offering the full day service at our St Ninians Units from 8am to 5.45pm for the February break. The cost of this service is £25.00 per day. If you require a place, please see your unit manager as soon as possible to book this. Trips for Easter will soon be available on our website.

CELEBRATIONS

This term, we look forward to celebrating Burns Day, Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day and LGBT History Month. A full list

of celebrations and dates, including Mother's Day and Easter are displayed within the unit. The children look forward to enjoying the food provided to celebrate some of these occasions.

AGM

This will take place at the end of February. Your unit manager will keep you informed when the date and time has been confirmed. We welcome all parents to attend our AGM. Refreshments will be served. The AGM is a chance to find out about the service, ask questions and meet the management committee.

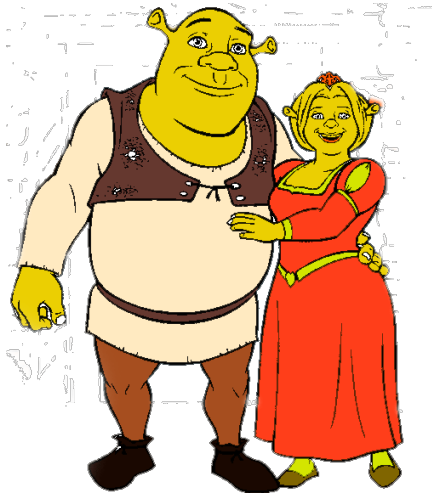
ST NINIANS

Exciting times! The children are really looking forward to the revamp of their school playground. Whilst this work is being completed, they are enjoying their visits to Gorget Park. Remember, when we are at the park, the children will have their belongings with them and we will display a notice at the entrance gate.

To make outside play more enjoyable, can we ask parents to encourage your child to wear their hat, scarf and gloves throughout the winter period.

This term, we are focusing on the SHANARRI Indicator ACHIEVING. Children thrive when they feel the satisfaction of achieving. This can be a small, personal goal or something they have worked alongside others, as a team, to achieve. To get the children to

feel personal achievement, we are offering them the chance to learn new skills and build their confidence by encouraging them to take part in something that they may never have considered or had the opportunity to do before. We have made a block booking for Wicked Productions, for Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Their aim, after each block, is to put on a show demonstrating the children's talents and achievements.



Parents are most welcome to attend. Other units will benefit from the production team as they will be moving after each block to another unit.

KNIGHTSWOOD

Firstly, we would like to say a big thanks for all the parental support at our Christmas disco.

This term, we are looking at protecting our environment. We will be recycling all our daily rubbish and food waste in the correct bins. Some children have been looking after their play area by helping our janitor with litter picking, and

disposing of the waste in the recycle bins.



Focusing on the environment, we recently reacquired the key to the back gate of the school playground so we now have been taking regular trips to the park.

We would like to ask our parents to remind their children to bring all their belongings along at 3pm, as we can no



longer allow access to the classroom after this time.

ST CLARE'S

Now we've said goodbye to 2019 and welcomed in 2020, we have also decided to say goodbye to our 'Rocket' and have welcomed in the New positive behavioural chart which we have named 'Positive Emoji's'. The rules remain the same as with the Rocket - in order for the children to move along the board, they simply need to follow and enact one of the key principles of SHANARRI, for example by a 'simple act of kindness', 'being respectful', 'good manners' or 'including

others within play' etc...



The children had lots of fun when they were asked to design and make their own 'Emoji Character' to use and manoeuvre round the board, some of these are REALLY quite creative. Why not try and guess which one belongs to your child the next time you're in.

Our main SHANNARI Indicator that we shall be focusing on this term will be 'Healthy', and have already had consultations with the children, with regards to the type of 'Healthy Snacks' they would like to have or try. We shall also be managing more physical group exercises and games and bringing back the dreaded assault course with personal best times to beat and improve upon. This will also include Maria and Myself Kerry, so please wish us luck with this forthcoming challenge...!

ANTONINE

We have been working alongside the children to come up with new



ideas and activities to keep us busy during term three. We

have agreed on bringing in a tasty Tuesday

for the duration of this term, allowing the children to put SHANARRI indicators "healthy" and "nurturing" into practice as they explore their taste buds with different and unusual types of fruits/vegetables.

We would like to ask any parent/carer and their children to keep a look out for materials around the house to bring in for the children to use for junk modelling i.e. cardboard boxes (any sizes) plastic bottles, bottle caps, rinsed milk cartons etc. It is lovely to watch the children get so creative with such materials. A group of children have already used their artistic skills, to make a cooker that they use in the house/shop area and have a whole list of other ideas that they would like to add to complete their restaurant services :).

STAFF

We would like to welcome Jack to our Knightswood unit. Jack is settling in and enjoying his time with the children. We would also like to welcome Mary to St Ninians and Knightswood. Mary has specialist knowledge in supporting children with additional needs and we hope she will guide staff and share her wealth of knowledge.

Training

All current and new staff have updated their basic training and will continue with personal development throughout the year. Currently, staff are

accessing training on autism, first aid, infection control, excel and Duty of Candour. Jacqueline, Lynda and Kerry Anne are applying to start their BA Childhood Practice this September. Ciaran is completing his SVQ3 Social Services, Children and Young People. Lynne has completed this and Nicola completed her SVQ4 Social Services Children and Young People.

Fees

Despite requests and reminders, we are now finding that there are an increasing number of parents not adhering to our fee policy. This policy states fees are kept up-to-date and are paid 2 weeks in advance. Having to remind parents about their fees, is becoming increasingly uncomfortable for staff. It also takes away from what is important, providing the children with the care and attention that they deserve. The service is solely dependant of fees to pay for the running of the service. We understand that these are difficult times and we will, where possible, signpost parents to additional agencies that may help with childcare costs. This is part of our improvement plan. Unfortunately, although we will do our best to support parents to find funding, we will still need to enforce our fee policy. Bad debts will now be passed to outside agencies, when the service is unable to collect unpaid fees. Please do not hesitate to speak to the unit manager should you have any

queries regarding fees.

LUNCH CLUB SPONSORED BY GCC

The lunch club will be running in the February holidays between 12-2pm. Lunches are free and there are activities on offer for children to enjoy. All children must be supervised by parents at all times.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Children's ceilidh/disco. There will be a family ceilidh in St Ninians Parish Church on Friday 5th March. Family tickets are available. Please contact the St Ninians unit for more information.

FACEBOOK  **under T.A.S.C.**

TASCAFTERSCHOOL

Log on to these on our website www.tascafterschoolcare.org.uk where you can be kept up to date with all the latest information and dates for your diary.

Christina