Welcome to the winter edition of our Newsletter, we will use this to keep you up to date with what’s happening at Peep, sharing best practice and celebrating success.

This term we welcomed Jennifer Henderson to our team, she has developed confidence in using the Peep LTP to offer virtual Peep sessions to our families whilst joining our team amidst our new normal. Congratulations to Sarah O’Flaherty on the birth of Oscar, we wish her well on her maternity leave and look forward to her return in June 2021.

Sadly we say goodbye to Kirsty McDonald, a Peep parent who progressed on from the Peep Pathway course to join our Peep team, Kirsty will be missed by leaders and families and we wish her well for the future.

**Celebrating Virtual Peep**

The Peep team have shown resilience and enthusiasm in supporting families virtually with Peep throughout the challenging times we have all faced over the past 10 months. During this time 23 Peep groups have ran per week on Microsoft Teams, one of which is a new Peep group for local Polish families along with 2 twelve week Peep Progression Pathway courses and 4 Peep to be antenatal groups.

Thanks to our Leaders for their hard work and dedication and to our families for taking part albeit in a different way than what we are all used to. We are all grateful that we have been able to offer Peep virtually to families whilst unable to meet in groups. Although the venue has changed the quality of our sessions and the interaction between families and their children has shone through and offered hope to us all.

“Parental engagement is about parent and families interaction with their child’s learning. Where it takes place is not important. The important thing is the quality of the parents engagement with their child’s learning and the positive impact it can have” (Realising the Ambition, 2020).

**Feedback from our Peep Families**

“Thank you, was a lovely session today, and although it was different from ‘normal’ peep, it still felt like peep.”

“I enjoyed the songs and story time and it was nice taking part in a baby class, albeit in a slightly different way.”

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Supporting parents and children to learn together.
"I do read and sing always but Peep prompted me to try more things such as the sound box."

"Peep classes gave us something to look forward to! Thank you for trying your very best in these difficult times!"

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Coronavirus update

Following the latest advice from the Government and the local authority, with the health and well-being of our families in mind, we have made the decision to continue virtually with Microsoft Teams for our eight week block in January 2021. These sessions will commence on the week beginning Monday 18th January 2021. Our 12 week Peep Progression Pathway will also continue to be delivered virtually, commencing Wednesday 20th January 2021 for an eight week block and then four weeks of the second block after the Easter break. Our Peep to be antenatal groups will have rolling three week blocks, also delivered on Microsoft Teams.

Follow us on Facebook @ Peeple Mid

Peep Learning Together Programme Training for Practitioners

These sessions will be offered virtually via Zoom

2nd/9th/16th/23rd March 2021 4pm-7:15pm

Must attend all 4 sessions.

Email sharyn.mckenzie@midlothian.gov.uk to book a space.

Things to do at home

Read to your child. It is never to early to start; your child will love the sound of your voice.

Cuddle, Kiss & make lots of eye contact with your child.

Sing songs & rhymes together often.

Spend time playing and talking to your child.

Try playing a game of peek a boo!

A winter sensory play tray using ice and some of your child’s favourite small toys and objects can create great fun and supports their sensory development.

Nature walks together and talking about the changing seasons.

Peep Enquiries

Please direct all Peep enquiries to the website, families can join groups directly from here:

Email Louise: peepenquiries@midlothian.gov.uk