



# Summer Newsletter 2010

*Katrina's Childminding Services*

## A Very Big Thank You to you All

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your kind consideration and flexibility earlier in the year with regards to Rosie requiring urgent surgery. Rosie's operation went well and she has recovered well and so much so, that she has now returned to playing her beloved football 3 times a week.

The results of the tests carried out on the football sized ovarian cyst have all come back clear and Rosie will no longer require any further treatment which is excellent news. Rosie still can't believe how flat her tummy is now and jeans that were a little too snug now fit again. So thank you once again for your understanding and flexibility during this very worrying and demanding episode .

## Care Commission & Learning Needs

My annual Care Commission inspection is due again soon and I am hoping that it will go well.

Attached to this newsletter is a learning plan for your child. What are learning plans? Learning Plans are used to identify areas that your child needs to focus and improve on be it behavioural, developmental or educational. The plans are now required by the Care Commission so that Childminders can assist in these specific areas of need.

Therefore, could you please complete and return to me by 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010. Thank you.

## Summer is Coming !



We all know what the Scottish summer is like, so here is a little reminder to provide hats, sun cream and changes of clothes for your children as they will be outside as much as possible weather permitting. Should we experience a damp summer then waterproofs and wellies should be provided.



During our excursions the children will require sturdy footwear e.g. trainers particularly for the beach and the castles.

## Summer Excursions



It is my expectation to take the children on a few trips out during the School Summer Holiday period. Any suggestions for this years destinations would be very much appreciated.

Please complete the attached.

*\*I cannot guarantee that all the destinations can be achieved and is subject to weather conditions.*

## School Holiday Cover



Please advise me as soon as possible for your requirements for childcare over the holiday periods detailed opposite so that I can arrange the summer holiday excursions.

## School Holiday Dates



**25<sup>th</sup> June 2010** – School's close for summer  
**28<sup>th</sup> June 2010** – Summer holidays begins  
**17<sup>th</sup> August 2010** – Summer holidays end  
**13<sup>th</sup> September 2010** – Schools Closed

## Your Holidays

Don't forget to let me know when you are taking your annual holidays. A kind reminder that payment for the holiday weeks are paid in advance and not in arrears. Thank you.



## Emergency Childcare

I'm now a member of Emergency Childcare. Emergency Childcare provides access to childcare spaces across the country. This service is geared towards people in desperate and urgent need for childcare for various reasons. You can find out more at :

<http://www.emergencychildcare.co.uk>

## Trampoline

Access to the trampoline for the children to use has been suspended for the time being.  
A blackbird has taken up residence very close to the trampoline and is currently incubating her eggs.  
As it's against the law to knowingly disrupt or disturb a nest, the trampoline will temporarily be unavailable for the children to use. It will come back into service once the chicks have hatched and fledged. Sorry for the inconvenience.

## Easter Holiday Period

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter! Over the Easter holidays, I took advantage of any free I had to undertake much needed maintenance. This included redecorating the living room, kitchen, utility room and toilet. All the doors received several coats of paint as did the frames and skirting boards too. Since my family were stranded in the USA due to the ash cloud I used the time to also redecorate my bedroom.

## Recycle, Recycle, Recycle



*If any parents or carers have any unwanted paper that would be suitable for children to draw pictures on, I will be more than happy to take a donation !*

*Just let me know !*

## Tooth Brushing



*If you would like your child to brush their teeth whilst in my care then please let me know so that I can put arrangements in place to do so.*

*I can provide a tooth brush and holder however, you can also provide your own for your child.*

## Katrina's Childminding Website



For Policy Statements, news, handy hints, recipes, availability, excursions, children's art and much more please visit my website.

[www.agfalkirk.co.uk](http://www.agfalkirk.co.uk)

*Know where you stand! You should check the website regularly for policy updates*

## Care Commission

The Care Commission have produced a handy leaflet on how to make a complaint and another explaining who they are and what they do, both of which are available for download from their website:

[http://www.carecommission.com/images/stories/documents/publications/leaflets/who\\_we\\_are\\_and\\_what\\_we\\_do\\_-\\_easy\\_read.pdf](http://www.carecommission.com/images/stories/documents/publications/leaflets/who_we_are_and_what_we_do_-_easy_read.pdf)

[http://www.carecommission.com/images/stories/documents/publications/leaflets/how\\_to\\_complain\\_easy\\_read.pdf](http://www.carecommission.com/images/stories/documents/publications/leaflets/how_to_complain_easy_read.pdf)

You can also call the Care Commission on 01786 406363

## Eco News

In January we installed a bug house in the back garden so that insects can take refuge in bad weather and over winter when the time comes. Hopefully it will help one of our good insects - the Ladybird!  
The box is low enough for those children interested in beasties, to go and have a look see.

Also in January we installed a second bird nesting box. We are hoping the Bluetits will enjoy their new "des res" if not their old one is close by.

## Maintenance May 2010

Now spring/summer appears to have arrived along with warmer temperatures, I have undertaken the following maintenance:  
Planted up some potted plants from last year which didn't make it into the front flower bed before the onset of the wintry weather.  
Cleared winter debris from the rear garden and have jet washed the patio and decked areas. The patio and decked areas will soon be receiving their annual treatment to reduce the influence of the algae particularly on the decking. This is still an on going battle against the slippery surface when wet.

By the end of May the front lawn will also have a treatment on to feed and weed it so I shall let you know when that will happen so that you and your kids can stay clear of it.

I have constructed a replacement gate from the patio area which blocks off the steep hill at the back of the garden where the children are not allowed to venture.

I will as soon as possible, clean the outdoor toys so that the children can get out to play on the warmer dry days.



Care 4 Vouchers accepted here

Your Child's Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to Katrina as soon as possible please

### Summer Holiday Requirements

Please advise me of the hours you require or do not require over the summer holiday period.

### Suggestions for Summer outings

Please write below your suggestions for activities during the summer holiday period.

### Parent's/Carer's Annual Holidays

Please write below details of any Annual Holiday you have booked

### Tooth Brushing

Please write below if you wish your child to brush their teeth whilst at the childminders.

*\*Please delete the statement that does **not** apply.*

1. \* I would like my child to brush their teeth
2. \* I would NOT like my child to brush their teeth.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form

Signed Parent's/Carer's : \_\_\_\_\_ Date : \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_