

INTOUCH

ISSUE 53 - February 2023



Foreword

February was a time for celebrations, and the children at our Childcare and Klabb 3-16 centres celebrated by taking part in related activities, including Carnival. In the next few pages you will enjoy some of the lovely and colourful costumes modelled by the children. A big well done to all our dedicated staff who curated all the activities for the children.

While these celebrations were under way, the work in our centres continued in earnest, to inform the public about the service and to make the centres more conducive to build a learning environment.

The Childcare service is being continually strengthened, with the extension of hours in the selected centres being taken up by parents requiring a longer window of service. The remaining centres are also accepting registrations, so parents are encouraged to contact FES via its FB page, or the centres directly, to enquire about possible service hours.

In the meantime we are also continuing with our pledge for ongoing training of staff. The second cohort of Childcare Centre Coordinators are currently undergoing in-house training on the development and implementation of the Emergent Curriculum. This approach guides the planning and delivery of activities by focusing on being responsive to children's interests to create meaningful learning experiences. Training was also provided to 46 staff members in the subject of Pediatric First Aid.

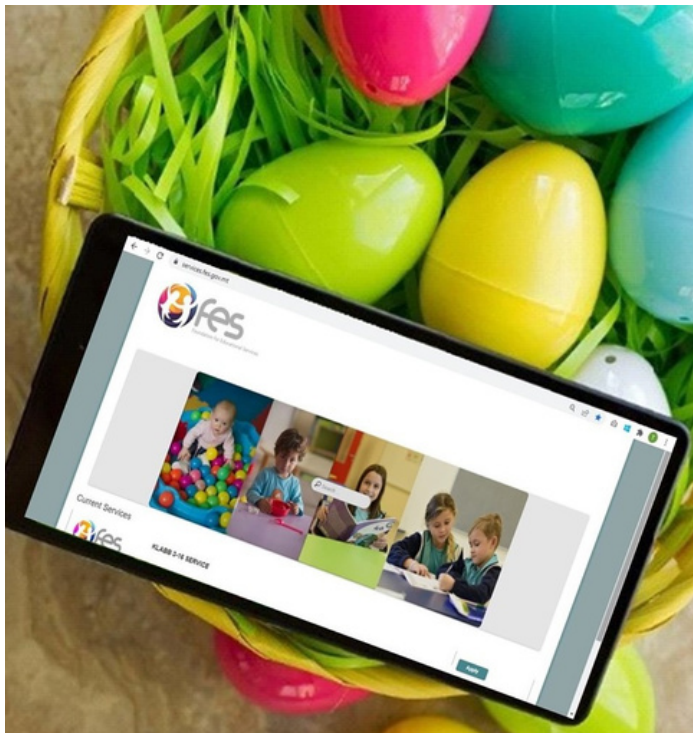
While delivering all this, it is also full speed ahead on the planning for the Skolasajf 2023 service. The Skolasajf Logo Competition came to an end and we had our hands full trying to choose the first, second and third place winners, out of all the 292 submissions. This was a very hard decision as all the artworks and ideas were remarkable. We would like to thank all the students who took part.

While all the departments at Head Office are working according to their remit, of important highlight here is the number of Calls for Application for potential employees who would like to work during Skolasajf. **More details in the pages of this newsletter.**

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



Klabb 3-16 Easter Holidays

Applications Open
24th February – 8th March 2023

Service will be offered on
5th, 6th, 11th, 12th, 13th and
14th April 2023

Apply online at services.fes.gov.mt
or at the
servizz.gov.hubs



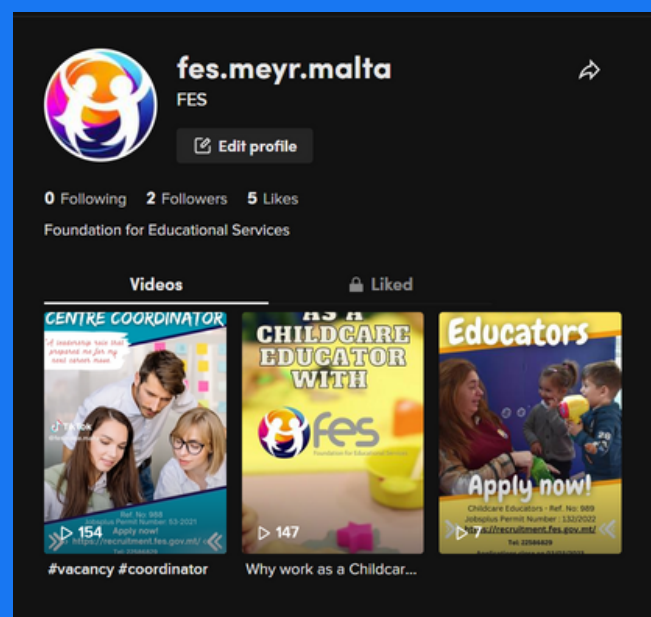
Easter Holidays Applications are Now Open!

Applications are received at <https://services.fes.gov.mt/MyProfile/Login>

Follow us on Instagram and TikTok!

Instagram: **Foundation for Educational Services (@fes.meyr.malta)**

TikTok: **FES (@fes.meyr.malta)**



CHILDCARE

REGISTRATIONS AND EXTENDED HOURS

Extended Childcare Hours

Monday - Friday
06:00-18:00

Birgu	Tel: +356 2180 9285
Birkirkara	Tel: +356 2598 5561
Naxxar	Tel: +356 2598 6820
Pembroke	Tel: +356 2137 6644
Haż-Żebbuġ	Tel: +356 2598 7681
Qawra	Tel: +356 2598 6996

FES Head Office TEL: +356 22586829



The FES Childcare Centres are offering the service **over a longer period of hours** in six centres.

The centers at **Birgu, Birkirkara, Naxxar, Pembroke, Haż-Żebbuġ** and **Qawra**, are now accepting children between **6am and 6pm, from Monday to Friday**.

Parents interested in using this service are encouraged to contact FES, or any of the chosen centres, or visit the **service.gov hubs**, for more information.

Registrations are also open for the remaining FES Childcare Centres at:
Bormla, Siggiewi, St Venera, San Gwann, Marsa, and Floriana.

A full list of the FES centres with all the contact details can be found at
https://fes.gov.mt/en/Pages/Centres/centres_child_care.aspx

Queries to FES can be asked on telephone **22586829** or via email to **fes@gov.mt**

HOW TO APPLY FOR OUR CHILDCARE SERVICES

1. Choose your preferred centre from the list found at:

https://fes.gov.mt/en/Pages/Centres/centres_child_care.aspx.

You can also have a look inside of the centres, by watching the videos at:

<https://fes.gov.mt/en/Pages/Child%20Care/Videos.aspx>.

2. You can download an application form from:

<https://fes.gov.mt/en/Pages/registrations.aspx>.

You can also contact the chosen centre directly, ask for a tour of the place, and get the application directly from there.



Children can be registered at the centre by handing over to the Centre Coordinator, the filled-in application form together with the necessary documents. Only one application per child is to be submitted.

The Centre Coordinators and the FES FB Messenger service are always available to answer your queries. The Centre Coordinators will also be available to help you fill in the application form.

The childcare service is offered to children until they are eligible to move on to the government Kindergarten on the 1st of February, while children who are three years of age by the end of December are eligible for Kindergarten on the 1st of October, of that same calendar year.

COMMENTS OF APPRECIATION



**THANKS TO OUR DEDICATED
STAFF IN ALL OUR CHILDCARE
CENTRES.**

HARD WORK PAYS OFF!

██████████'s 2 years would not have been NEARLY as fun and full of love without the children and staff of **Il-Kuluri Childcare Centre**. We honestly couldn't be more blessed for ██████████'s second family xxxx

proset ta lhin takom u dedikazzjoni li ghandkom ghal uliedna xxx

So cute ❤️ xi hlew daw it tfal thanks for everything

Prosit Tghanniqā Childcare. Keep up your excellent work!!!

Well done for this initiative and keep up the good work to all the carers especially Ms.Joanna ❤️❤️

Cannot thank all the staff at Sardinella enough. We had both our daughters attending at Sardinella and we have only words of praise and we highly recommend the child care centre. Our kids and us as parents will miss you lots. We appreciate every single thing you did with our daughters. Best of luck 😊

Love Reply Hide 3w Edited

Hi Jasmine,

I would like to thank you for everything that you have done with ██████████ and with us during the past year and a half. ██████████ has grown so much and learnt so much as well. She really enjoyed coming to your centre, which was more of joy and relief to us. We were very lucky, thanks to all of your team.

We cannot come to terms that we will not see you anymore for now, but that is how it is! ██████████ felt really prepared this morning for Kindergarten and did not shed a tear (despite she looked worried)!

Hope to see you again soon and good luck with all you do everyday,

The children flourish so much more when they are truly loved and cared for with passion. My ██████████ is a testimony to this. Thanks to all those who have contributed to her learning growth most especially Ms **Paulette Farrugia**, Ms Marilyn, Ms Maria and Ms **Christabel Formosa Pascucci** who despite being mostly in the nursery always lent a helping hand when the need arose. ██████████ loves you all very much ❤️❤️❤️❤️



Like Reply 14h



CHILDCARE ACTIVITIES

Valentine's Day is all about spending time with the people you love.

The little ones at **Il-Bejta Childcare Centre** had the opportunity to celebrate Valentine's Day by exploring sensory items related to the occasion. They were provided with different fabric textures, boiled pasta, and bottle shakers, amongst other items. All the objects were red in colour to represent love.

Our toddlers also celebrated Valentine's Day by making Lamingtons. The little bakers soaked pieces of sponge cake in pink jelly and covered them in coconut flakes. Once they were done, they enjoyed this sweet treat together.

A very big well done to all the children at Il-Bejta Childcare Centre and a big thank you to all the members of staff for preparing these activities.



KLABB 3-16 ACTIVITIES

The hype and the marketing surrounding the St Valentine celebration has come and gone, but the binding love between parents and their children is an all year bond.

A bond which was celebrated at the **Gharghur Klabb 3-16 Centre**, when parents joined their children to create mementos of the day together, and to take them home with them as a reminder of the fun activity at the centre.



Thank you to all the staff at the **Gharghur Klabb 3-16 Centre**, and to the parents who support the Klabb 3-16 work to make their children's stay an enjoyable one.

CARNIVAL AT OUR CENTRES



Il-Ferrovija Childcare Centre



It-Tghanniqa Childcare Centre



Is-Sardinella Childcare Centre



Id-Denfil Childcare Centre



Mellieha Klabb 3-16



ONGOING REFURBISHMENT



FES has 12 Childcare Centres and we are just proud to offer our service. Which is why we want to showcase them to the general public, also by highlighting their location to passing pedestrians and drivers alike. Signs have in fact recently been set up at the centres of **Pizzi Pizzi Kanna (Naxxar)**, **Il-Kuluri (Birgu)**, and at **Id-Denfil (Siggiewi)**.



The signs, inspired by the names of each centre, not only serve as an indication of the centres' locations, but also offer a colourful welcome to the little children who attend daily in our centres. The vibrant colours and the design motif of happy and active children, are sure to attract attention and enhance the façades of the centres.

New signs were also installed at our Head Office entrance.



MEET OUR EMPLOYEES



Name: **Joanne Mifsud**

Role: **Childcare Educator at Il-Merill
Childcare Centre**

1. What do you think is the impact of the influence that you have as an educator on the children in your care?

As an educator I do my utmost to help the children in learning new skills and also helping them improve their abilities through social, physical, language, emotional and cognitive skills. And of course all this happens through the learning through play approach

2. What differences do you see between your childhood and that of the children in your care?

In the early years of my childhood, they used to teach us how to write and read. However, nowadays children have the opportunity to learn while they play. By presenting different toys and props, the children will use their imagination and creativity. Playtime is also exploration time, and what they discover helps them to not only adapt the structure of their brains, but also strengthen the skills they need to continue being engaged, flexible learners for their whole lives.

3. If you could trade places with any other person for a week, famous or not, living or dead, real or fictional, with whom would it be?

I think I will pass on this trading offer. I'd rather be myself because I am happy the way I am.

4. What line of work would you choose if money were not an issue?

The most important thing in life is for everyone to have good health, and not having lots of money. My heart is in my job, and I do it with lots of dedication and also lots of love towards the children we teach. So I probably would have still chosen the same job. However, there could be more appreciation for our job.

5. The teacher you most remember and cherish, and why?

I remember one of my teachers when I was in primary school. She was very dedicated and a good listener to our social problems, which helped us grow stronger in our skills and abilities. I think that I am doing my best to have the same impact on all the children I teach through the love and care that I give them.

MEET OUR EMPLOYEES



Name: **Maria Abdilla**

Role: **Childcare Centre Coordinator at Il-Kuluri Childcare Centre**

1.What do you think is the impact of the influence that you have as an educator on the children in your care?

I am the centre coordinator so I do not spend as much time as I would like with the children. However, I keep the welfare of the children at the centre of the decisions that I take with respect to the running of the centre. Therefore, through the work of the Childcare Educators, I believe that I am having a positive impact on the happiness and development of the children attending.

2.What differences do you see between your childhood and that of the children in your care?

I remember my childhood being more free than of the children nowadays. We used to play outside for hours on end and enjoyed being kids. Today's children are ushered from one thing to another and their use of technological devices is taking over their social life and physical playtime.

3.If you could trade places with any other person for a week, famous or not, living or dead, real or fictional, with whom would it be?

I guess I would choose the Queen of England, responsibilities aside, for who doesn't like being treated as a queen wearing crown jewels and the lot? On a more serious note, her position allowed her to influence politics and make improvements, not only in her country but across the globe.

4.What line of work would you choose if money were not an issue?

If money were not an issue, I would still like to work/volunteer in the Early Years sector as I do love working with children. I think I would love to expand more my studies as this sector is always changing with new research and development. Having no money problems would let me focus more and be more flexible with life/work balance.

5.The teacher you most remember and cherish, and why?

I have fond memories of multiple teachers during my time at school, but if I had to choose just one, I would probably choose my Kinder 2 teacher Ms Dorianne. Though I only remember snapshots of my time with her, they are full of love and laughter. I was incredibly lucky as well that she was my kid's teacher as well when it was their time to attend Kinder 2. So I also have an adult's perspective of seeing her work, her dedication and love towards her students and her work ethic, when I worked with her closely while being involved with the parent association.

SKOLASAJF VACANCIES



SKOLASAJF VACANCIES

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PLAYWORKER SKOLASAJF 2023
Jobsplus Permit Number:- 73/2023

SPORTS PLAYWORKER SKOLASAJF 2023
Jobsplus Permit Number:- 65/2023

CHILD SUPPORT WORKER SKOLASAJF 2023
Jobsplus Permit Number:- 75/2023

CHILD SUPPORT WORKER (RESOURCE CENTRE) SKOLASAJF 2023
Jobsplus Permit Number:- 76/2023

Apply now: <https://recruitment.fes.gov.mt/>
Applications close on 23/03/2023



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Jobsplus Permit Number:- 66/2023

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CENTRE COORDINATOR SKOLASAJF 2023
Jobsplus Permit Number:- 77/2023

CENTRE COORDINATOR (RESOURCE CENTRE) SKOLASAJF 2023
Jobsplus Permit Number:- 78/2023

Apply now: <https://recruitment.fes.gov.mt/>
Applications close on 23/03/2023



TRAIN AND WORK WITH FES

Child Support Worker Course - REF NO: 967

Expires on 14/03/23

Playworker Development Course - REF NO: 968

Expires on 14/03/23

PER Course - Playworker with extra responsibilities - REF NO: 972

Expires on 14/03/23

Playworkers Klabb 3-16 (Part-time) - REF NO: 970

Jobsplus Permit Number: 451-2021

Expires on 14/03/23

Tutors Klabb 3-16 (Part-time) - REF NO: 971

JobsPlus Permit Number: 248/2022

Expires on 14/03/23

Child Support Workers Klabb 3-16 (Part-time) - REF NO: 986

JobsPlus Permit Number: 251/2022

Expires on 14/03/23



Click on <https://recruitment.fes.gov.mt/> to apply, and get more information, including salary rates, eligibility criteria and job descriptions. For any queries, call **22586830/35**, or write to hr.fes@gov.mt.

TRAINING IN THE EMERGENT CURRICULUM



The second round of training in the launching of the Emergent Curriculum in all the FES Childcare Centres is currently underway. The Programme Coordinator from the Programmes Department at Head Office **Ms Kathryn Xuereb**, is leading the training with six Centre Coordinators, who are benefitting from an immersive experience, pairing the theoretical aspect of the training with hands-on work with the children in a childcare care setting. This two week training is part of the train the trainer approach, with the aim of guiding the respective centre's staff in the launching of the emergent curriculum with the children in their centres.

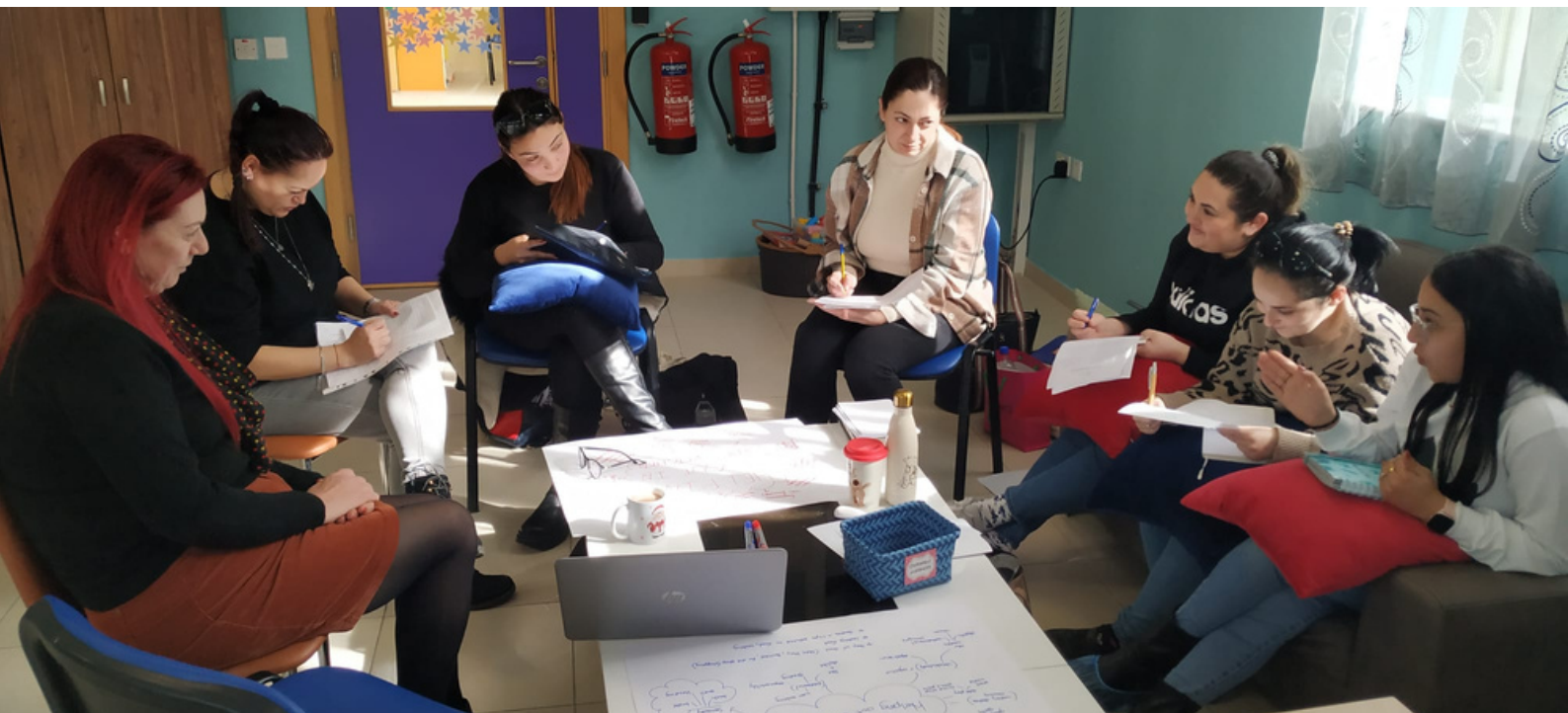


Photo of the month



Photo by: Therese Ellul





Zentrum Business Centre
Level 1, Mdina Road
Qormi

Opening hours: 8:00am - 3:15 pm



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