

Happy Memories

Flora

I have been coming to Pollokshaws HUB for 30 years. It used to be a nursery and I used to work in the kitchen. Later on, I became a volunteer when it was transformed to a Community HUB. After that, I continued coming to keep fit and socialise. I have come to the HUB for cookery classes, the storytelling group and I come here to do knitting as well. I have knitted so many items over the years, for the children at the nursery and then even knitted items for their children once they had grown up!

Some time ago, I was in the breakfast club, and a lady who came in recognised me from the nursery. She used to be one of the parents of the kids. She called out to me “Mrs. Campbell!” and gave me a big hug.

That hug brought back many old memories. It is amazing to think someone could recognise another person after so much time had passed.

I was the dinner lady at the nursery but I also liked helping with other stuff as well, like children getting lunch when the moms were busy. And I remembered her. At the time, she needed help because she suffered from anxiety after the children were born. I would speak to her when she would come in, and she knew the children were all safe in here, that she could depend on me, and that gave the kids a wee bit more of a safety net mum wasn't alone. They knew I was there and they could talk to me.

The space here in the HUB is all changed. The room next to the big kitchen was used as the main playroom where the children would also have their lunches. Now, the space is used for the gardening group. The room crossing the hall was also used as a playroom, but now is used for the knitting group. The place that used to be the laundry room is now a small kitchen. There was another space that used to be the cloak where the children used to leave their coats, it now has a beautiful mural and has books for people to enjoy. The toilet that is now open for anyone, it used to be for the headteacher's use.

In the big kitchen, there used to be a sterilising unit where you just dipped the dishes in the hot water and it would reach up to 100 degrees. I didn't have a dishwasher. It's all changed now. Same with the system for the food: The man used to come in his motor, the janitor, came for the empty bottles tin, but he used to come down from the main school to recycle the left over food and give it to the animals. They don't do that now.

Back to the encounter with the lady, it was nice to see her and to hear that the children are doing fine and have wee jobs. Whilst the space has changed hands and it is used in a different way my enjoyment in helping the people who come here has remained the same.