



Message from the Headteacher

Welcome back to Nursery! I hope you all had a good break and are not too exhausted!

Thank you to all of you who supported our Christmas Fayre, thanks to everyone's hard work and generosity we managed to raise an amazing £1003.85.

We would also like to thank the following for their kind donations to our Fayre: The Barn Garden Centre; Sainsburys Oxney Rd; Marks & Spencers; The Beehive restaurant; One Stop, Paston Lane were amongst the local companies who helped. We also had many of our parents and families donate items for our raffle, tombola and cake stalls - it is all very much appreciated.

We have had some instances of inconsiderate parking over the last half term. Both neighbours of the school and parents have reported instances of cars parking illegally or inconsiderately. When talking to those involved it would seem that some people feel they can park in the wrong place 'as it is only for a few minutes'. Please park considerately and legally at **all** times. I know I do not like it when I am blocked in at home by a thoughtless driver and that happens very rarely, if it was happening to me daily I too would become angry and upset. We have had drivers who have received parking tickets and fines, please think of others and park responsibly at all times. Thank you.

Unfortunately I have to inform you that our attendance for the Autumn term was only 88% overall. This time last year we were at 90%, please can you send your child to Nursery every session when they are well, I understand that young child do become ill quickly and then they need to stay at home. It is those children who do not attend when there is not a good reason that I am concerned about. Every session at Nursery is important for your child's learning and development. As we are a Nursery School our attendance figures are reported to the Governing Body, the Local Authority and to Ofsted when they visit.

If any of you have you have, or know of families with, younger children we will soon be looking at admissions for the next academic year, please register children through reception

Debbie

Child Protection and Safeguarding for Schools

We take child protection issues extremely seriously; at all times we consider the protection and safety of the child in our care. Child protection issues are always dealt with in the appropriate ways. All staff have attended child protection training and are familiar with the correct procedures.

At Caverstede Nursery School we follow the Child Protection procedures for the Peterborough Safeguarding Board.

"It may be helpful for you to know that the law (Children Act 1989) requires all school staff to pass on information which gives rise to a concern about a child's welfare, including risk from non-accidental injury, neglect, emotional or sexual abuse. Schools are encouraged to take the attitude that where there are grounds for concern they should be over- cautious, and seek advice, rather than to risk a child's safety. Occasionally, this duty on staff means that a concern is passed on which is later shown to be unfounded. It is hoped that parents/ carers will appreciate how difficult it is for schools to carry out this delicate responsibility, and accept that the staff member was acting in good faith and in the best interests of all children."

We have named people for child protection they are Debbie Hayes, Katy Coles, Caroline Day and Hannah Pilling. The Governor responsible for overseeing Child protection is Fiona Beveridge.

If you have concerns regarding children's safety and protection, it is essential that you contact your child's key person, class teacher or the Headteacher.



Butterflies

Butterfly class will be looking at and sharing the traditional tale of 'The Gingerbread Man' as our core story this half term. We hope to make some gingerbread men using the cutters, make some simple puppets so we can retell the story and making different sized gingerbread men from play dough so we can practise using the correct language. We are looking forward to starting our Woodland days again this term. Our new day is Wednesday so please remember to bring your child's wellington boots. We will be playing in the mud kitchen, looking at the trees, digging in the digging area, bird watching, making bird cakes, looking for signs of Winter and possibly Spring

Ladybirds

This term Ladybirds will be looking at the core stories of "Dear Zoo" and "Walking Through the Jungle". We shall be going on animal hunt adventures and talking about the different animals and habitats in the stories. We shall continue to practice our counting skills through these stories through a variety of activities. This term we shall also learn about Chinese New Year and Shrove Tuesday, looking at others cultures and traditions. Our new Woodland day is Thursday so please remember to bring your child's wellies, a warm, waterproof coat and hat and gloves. We will be exploring the change of seasons and using the mud kitchen in our learning.

Buzzy Bees

Our Woodland day has changed to a Tuesday this term. This term it is really important the children are sent with warm coats, hats, gloves, scarves and wellington boots so the children can get involved with all the activities on offer to them, such as using the mud kitchen, digging, planting, den building, making birdseed cakes, taking part in treasure hunts. We are starting with the theme of Pirates this half term, and intend on looking at different Pirate books and songs, creating treasure maps and looking at different maps of where we live, using the metal detectors, developing role play, treasure hunting, looking at floating and sinking objects, and much more Pirate fun ARRGH!

Please remember to send your child with warm clothes, hat, gloves and scarves so that they can enjoy playing outside during the winter months. If possible please try to name all clothing as it makes it so much easier to return items of clothing to the correct child!



In the classrooms, **each child has their own pigeonhole for information**, letters etc. so please remember to check these every day that your child attends nursery as there may be something important in there for you.

Security & Safeguarding; Mobile phones and personal cameras are only permitted to be used at in the school reception and parent café. It is important that you do not use your phone whilst settling your child into nursery or when dropping off and collecting your child. We thank you for your co-operation in this matter.



Diary Dates

Dates for your diary

6th February - Safer Internet day

12th - 16th February; Half Term - school closed

1st March - World Book day

30th March - 16th April - Easter Holiday



We will be holding a week of activities to promote and fundraise for Sports Relief.

Starting on Monday 19th March right through to Friday 23rd March.

Look out for details around nursery of what we will be doing!

Details of how we will be supporting this and how we can help you, as parents, be safer on the internet will be available around the school soon.



Spring Term

Classes start
Half Term
Classes close

Term Dates
2017-2018

Thursday 4th January 2018
12th – 16th February 2018
Thursday 29th March 2018

Summer Term

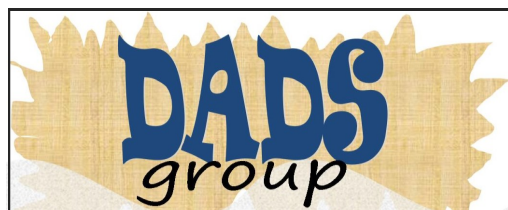
Classes start
May Day
Half Term
Classes close

Tuesday 17th April 2018
Monday 7th May 2018
28th May – 1st June 2018
Tuesday 24th July 2018



Library Explorers will be starting again after the February Half Term. You will be able to pick up your collecting card from reception and get it stamped each time you borrow a book. If you've not yet borrowed any books from the library, why not start after half term

SEN and Family Services groups



10 - 11.30am
£2 per family

Dates for the Spring Term 2018

13th & 27th January

10th & 24th February

10th & 24th March

Monday

Creative Explorers

9.45 - 11am

for children who are walking up to 3 or 4 years old

£1.50 per family

Tuesday

Jump and Jiggle

(story & sing-a-long)

11.00-11.45am

for children aged 1 to 3 years old

£1.50 per family

wednesday

Multiple Miracles

9.45-11.00am

A group

for families with twins or more!

£1.50 per family

wednesday

Sensory Explorers

1.30 - 2.30pm

for children from birth to walking

£1.50 per family

Tuesday

Messy Play

1.15 - 2.15pm

Monthly

Explore different tactile activities

(see flyer for details)

£2.00 per family

Messy Play Dates for 2018

20th February - 13th March - 24th April 8th May - 12th June - 10th July

We have a Facebook page - Official Caverstede Early Years Centre. Please request to be added.





A parent's guide to.....

Mathematics - Part 1



Counting is a key skill for young children to learn, and there is much that you can do at home to help your child grasp some of the mathematical ideas that they will use for the rest of their lives. The Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage 2014, states :

'Mathematics involves providing children with opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, spaces, and measures.'

Within the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum, Mathematics is sub divided into the following specific areas of learning and development:

- Numbers
- Shape, space and measures

Supporting maths at home

Here are some suggestions of activities that you can do with your child at home to develop their early mathematical skills.

Routines:

Use routine times such as bedtime and bath time to develop mathematical ideas. For example,

- Count the buttons on shirts or blouses as you fasten or unfasten them on your child's clothes.
- Count the number of Velcro straps on your child's shoes as they put them on and take them off.
- Compare the size and shape of different containers in the bath and the heaviness of containers when filled with water.
- Use tidy up time to sort items e.g. 'put the trains in the green tub, put the cars in the red box.'

Mealtimes:

Encourage your child to help prepare meals. For example, let them:

- Help you weigh ingredients.
- Find the best size of pot for cooking potatoes.
- Ensure that everyone has a knife, fork and spoon or cup and plate.



Outdoors:

Look out for ways to talk about mathematics when you are outdoors, such as going to the park or to the supermarket. For example,

- Draw their attention to numbers and shapes in shops, on packaging, on houses, or on road signs and buses.
- Count trees, cars or recycling bins.

Other activities:

- Play board games with your child .
- If your child goes upstairs count the steps together.

