

**Message from Head of Centre**

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 **£1113.30**. We do hope you all enjoyed coming along, it was lovely to see so many families.

A big thank you to those parents, grandparents and carers who accompanied us on our visits to Paston Church. Without your support we would be unable to take all the children out of the Centre and they do gain such a great deal from these events.

We would also like to thank the following for their kind donations to our Fayre: Papa Luigi, Walton; Antonio Pierri; Blackledge Prints; Tamu Dessert Lounge; Edwards/Flares; Hilton Cambridge; Tiny Tales Photography; WFS Anglia; Elton Hall 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.

I am very pleased to be able to inform you that our attendance for the Autumn term was 91% overall. This time last year we were at 88% so that is a 3% improvement - well done.

Every session at Nursery is important for your child's learning and development. I understand that young children do become ill quickly and then they need to stay at home. However can you please send your child to Nursery every session when they are well and let's see if we can continue to improve our attendance figures.

As we are a Nursery School our attendance figures are reported to the Governing Body, the Local Authority and to Ofsted when they visit.

Debbie

Admission to schools

For those of you with children in their pre-school year, please do take the time to apply for your child's school place.

The closing date for your application is **15th January 2017**.

If you are not sure which school to choose for the next stage of your child's education we would advise you to visit local schools to understand what they offer. You can apply online at www.peterborough.gov.uk/admissions where you will find the application form.

If you are unsure of anything please do not hesitate to ask at Reception.

Security & Safeguarding

Mobile phones and personal cameras are **not** permitted to be used at Caverstede Early Years Centre. It is important that you do not use your phone whilst settling your child into nursery. If you need to take a call please step outside the centre gate. We thank you for your co-operation in this matter.





Ladybirds

Welcome back to Ladybirds, we hope you had a lovely Christmas break. The children are settling back in well. Our Woodland day is now Tuesday. Please remember wellies if you have them, a warm coat, hat, scarf etc. Our core story this term will be 'Dear Zoo'. The children really enjoy this story and there are lots of flaps to lift and animals to find. We have also enjoyed playing in our cornflour and water dinosaur swamp and plan to have lots more opportunities for messy play this half term.

Butterflies

Our core story is now 'The Gingerbread Man' and we will be reading this story as a class. We will be acting out the story with puppets, props and storyboards, using it in our Maths work and we will have a go at baking some of our own Gingerbread men. This term we will be working on name writing and we will be sending home some ideas to support this at home. We will also continue our 1:1 counting work and number recognition to 10. Our woodland day will be on a Friday - please remember wellies and warm clothes.

Buzzy Bees

Welcome back and Happy New Year! The children seem to be settling back into the class well, and are telling us all about their Christmas break. Following several of the children's interest in construction toys our core story is going to be the Three Little Pigs. We plan on having lots of activities and play based around the story, such as using real materials to build their own versions of the three pigs' houses. Our Woodland days are changing to Thursdays, so please remember wellington boots and warm coats etc. for these days. We plan on doing lots of Den building using a variety of materials, again linked to the Three Little Pigs story.

The parking bay directly to the front of the nursery is for those with a valid disabled badge. Please do not abuse this facility and park here if you do not hold a disabled parking badge.

We have families who come to nursery who do need to park here and have a valid parking permit.

Traffic and parking enforcement officers from Peterborough City Council do often patrol the area and you will receive a parking violation ticket if you park illegally.

Thank you for your help



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.

Sainsburys Vouchers

Thank you to those parents who kindly collected the Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers last year. As you can see in the picture we were able to select a range of items including a set of resources for the egg and spoon races that we hold at our annual Sports Day event in the summer.

If we could ask that when Sainsbury's hold the event again you collect the vouchers and bring them into school we would appreciate it.



Governing Board

Our governors recently sent out their first newsletter. This aims to keep you informed of the work the governing board do and what they are involved in.

We have a vacancy for a Parent Governor at Caverstede. If you are interested or would like to know what a Governor does, please ask.

Diary Dates



Term Dates 2016-2017

Spring Term

Classes start Wednesday 4th January 2017
Half Term 20th – 24th February 2017
Classes close Friday 7th April 2017

School closed for Inset day 24th April 2017

Summer Term

Classes start Tuesday 25th April 2017
May Day Monday 1st May 2017
Half Term 29th May – 2nd June 2017
Classes close Thursday 20th July 2017

7th February Safer internet day
14th February Visit to Paston Church
28th February Pancake day
2nd March World Book day
26th March Mothering Sunday

ParentMail;

Please activate your ParentMail account so that messages can be sent to you quickly and efficiently. Please ask if you are unsure of this facility. Thank you

MISSING SCHOOL IS MISSING OUT - EVERY DAY COUNTS!!

Attending school **every day** is very important. Even a short time of absence from school can mean that a child misses out on a significant part of the curriculum, which can impact on their learning. Ofsted always ask for the school's attendance data. We monitor each child's attendance and absence record and you will receive copies of this information. **If your child is ill and will not be attending school please telephone the school on the day of absence to inform us.** Thank you.

Keeping safe and considerate parking

If you drive to the centre, could we please ask that you park with care and **avoid double parking or parking on yellow lines**. This is illegal and makes the road dangerous for all the children and families who are using it. There is also a disabled parking bay at the front of the nursery which is there for the use of those who need this facility so please do not park here. Please also consider our neighbours along Caverstede Road and avoid parking across driveways or on the grass verges.

We work closely with the local Police and Peterborough City Council road safety team to keep Caverstede Road safe for all so please do help us in this aim.

Payment of nursery sessions and lunches; Nursery fees for sessions and lunches can be paid by cash, cheque or via your bank by the BACs method. Please make sure payments are up to date. If you have any query on payments, please ask at reception to speak to Helen, our Finance Administrator.

Lunches

Please let us know if your child will be absent from nursery and therefore not be in for lunch by 9.15am as this helps to prevent waste.

You will be charged for the lunch if we do not receive notice in time.



Caverstede Special Educational Needs and Family Support Service provides a friendly

Family Services

and relaxed environment for young children and their families. It is a place where you can make friends, get advice and join in organised activities to help your child's learning and development. We offer groups for parents/carers and their pre school children to learn together through play, singing and exploring, specialist services for children with additional needs, home visiting and summer holiday respite care.

We and our partner agencies offer a variety of services to support families with young children. Parents/carers can benefit from attending Baby Clinics and informal chat time.

For more information on what is available, please speak to Caroline, our Family Services Manager. To find out more about our Universal Groups that run throughout the school year, please pick up leaflets at reception or visit our website.

Dropping off and collecting your children.

You may have noticed that at the start and end of our session times, the reception area can get very busy. To avoid this and to keep the area safe, if you do arrive earlier than the session times, could we ask that you **please wait in the café area wherever possible**.

If you do need to collect your child earlier, please let the classroom know. If reception has not been advised, we will check with the class before letting you through into the nursery. This is for safety and security. It's also useful for the classes to know as the end of session time is when the children have their group time and you may not want your child to miss this.

Thank you

Library Explorers



We are pleased to announce that 88 children took part in our 'Library Explorers' scheme before Christmas, this is 22 children more than this time last year. Thank you to those parents and carers who took the time to take your child into the Library to choose books, we hope you all enjoyed sharing books together.

You should have received your book 'to keep' by now. If not please check with your child's Key Person. We will be running this scheme again next half term.

As you are aware we do go outside with the children every day so please remember to send them with warm outdoor clothing. Please label your child's coat, scarves, hats and gloves .



IMPORTANT!

We realise that the beginning and end of the sessions are very busy. Please make sure you keep hold of your child once you have collected them and before you leave the Centre.

For your child's safety and the safety of others, please make sure that you **close the main gate after you**.

And whilst we know the garden and equipment is very inviting, PLEASE do not allow your child and siblings play on them when you collect after the sessions.



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

