

Welcome to our last newsletter of this term, within it you will find information about our ‘Virtual Christmas Fayre’ and other notices and information. This year we are raising money to update our woodland garden. The wooden house in the garden has seen better days and we are looking to replace it, so if you are able to help us by supporting our Christmas Fayre we would appreciate it.

Thank you all for your support with Children in Need, this year we raised a grand total of £99.65.

I wanted to remind those of you who have children in the Buzzy Bee or Butterfly classes that you need to have made your decision about where you would like your child to go to school next September and applied for a place by January 15th 2022. Once you have made your decision you apply online, the website is open and is available 24 hours. The link is available on page two of this newsletter. You will be informed which school you have been allocated on Primary National Offer day which is 19th April 2021.

On page four of this newsletter we have included, ‘Top Talking Tips for Parents/ Carers’ which I hope you will find useful. You may want to share these ideas with other family members who spend time with your child/ren. Talking with your child can help their language and communication development. When children hear more words and lots of different words, it improves their understanding of language. It also increases the number and variety of words that they understand and use. Talk is important in order for children to access the curriculum during their time at school, but it is also vital for their social and emotional development as well.

I wish you all a happy holiday and look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Debbie



Our **VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS FAYRE** has now started and will run until 15th December.

Items are being sold through the classrooms and money envelopes will be available for you to write what you would like and enclose the money. Items are subject to availability and will be available to collect at the end of your child’s session.

‘**Christmas raffle**’ A chance to win one of 9 hamper prizes - £1 per ticket. 1st prize is a Christmas Food Hamper (contains alcohol): 2nd Prize is a chocolate hamper: 3rd prize is a breakfast in bed hamper! We also have a number of other hampers as prizes containing beauty items, food and alcohol.

Christmas Craft Bag - £2.50

Christmas Family Quiz - £1

Virtual Father Christmas Visit.

Father Christmas will be visiting us virtually and has sent us a message. Would your child like a seasonal message from Father Christmas?

£2 per message, which will be uploaded to your child’s tapestry account by the end of Thursday 16th December.

Please note; we are not able to personalise messages



Security & Safeguarding; Mobile phones and personal cameras are only permitted to be used at in the school reception and parent café and NOT in the Nursery garden. 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.



Keeping safe and considerate parking

If you drive to Caverstede, 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.



TERM DATES 2021 - 2022

Autumn Term

Classes close Friday 17th December 2021

Spring Term

Classes start Wednesday 5th January 2022

Half Term 14th – 18th February 2022

Classes close Friday 1st April 2022

Summer Term

Classes start Wednesday 20th April 2022

May Day Monday 2nd May 2022

Classes close Thursday 26th May 2022

Half Term 27th May – 3rd June 2022

Classes close Friday 22nd July 2022

Please note that the school will be closed on the following days for INSET/Staff Training days:

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Tuesday 19th April 2022

Starting school in September 2022

If you live in Peterborough and your child was born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018, you need to apply for a Reception school place by 15th January 2022.

For more information and details of how to apply online, please visit www.peterborough.gov.uk/admissions

Telephone; 01733 864007:

email; admissions@peterborough.gov.uk



Easyfundraising

We've registered Caverstede Nursery School with #easyfundraising, which means over 4,000 shops and sites will now donate to us for FREE every time you use #easyfundraising to shop with them.

These donations will help SO MUCH, so please sign up to support us – it's completely FREE and doesn't take long. Thank you!

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/caverstedenursery/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=fb2&fbclid=IwAR1R0haexYo4TV7jZHwXVtGKArs7LCtDcJSuPci3wQdTtZkl3YaymP4fns



There are a couple of weeks left for you to borrow books before Christmas and become a Library Explorer.

For those children who have already become a Library explorer, you will receive your new book in the New Year. We will start our new Library Explorer scheme after the February Half Term break. You will have more chances to start borrowing books over the rest of the school year and can start using the library at any time. You can use the plastic bags we gave out a few weeks ago, use a book bag you may have at home or buy one from us at reception.

“Children are made readers on the laps of their parents” - Emilie Buch-

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.



Ladybird class

Our core story is now “The Wheels on the Bus” with our supporting story of “The Whales on the Bus” running alongside. The children are really enjoying role playing going on a bus and singing the song as we do this. We have also themed our activities around these stories both indoors and out, with the children using the small world bus to make up stories and sing songs. If you go on any bus journeys maybe you would like to share some photos with us via Tapestry to share with the children to encourage lots of lovely talk. Over the coming weeks we shall also be learning about Christmas. We have lots of stories about the festive season and we shall have our advent calendar each day with a small surprise for each child! The children have really enjoyed putting up and decorating our tree and classroom this week. Finally we would like to wish all our families a happy and restful festive season, and a big thank you for your ongoing support.

Butterfly class

We have had a busy few weeks and we are starting to talk about Christmas. We have decorated our tree and started making some decorations. Lots of the children have talked about their Christmas trees at home and about Father Christmas coming. We have been learning some Christmas songs and using some instruments to accompany them. Also, we are finding out about the season of Winter and the children are hoping it will snow! Our core story for the next few weeks is ‘It Was a Cold Dark Night’ by Tim Hopgood. We will be reading the story and looking at the pictures to help us to start learning about hedgehogs and other nocturnal animals including owls, bats, rabbits and foxes. The children are learning the signs for the different animals when they join in with retelling the story.

The children have been enjoying several Woodland sessions with Woodland Julie. They have been hammering nails in with hammers to make hedgehogs and made some clay hedgehogs and added spines using sticks they have found in the Woodland garden. They have dug for worms in the digging pod, made ‘pizzas’ in the mud kitchen, swept and collected leaves to name a few experiences!

The children have been enjoying a wide variety of books including traditional tales, stories about owls, spiders and hedgehogs. We have been continuing to sing some familiar songs as well as learning some new songs about Winter and hedgehogs.

Please could the children bring some named wellie boots, a warm waterproof coat, hat and gloves/mittens as weather is getting colder and wetter as the term is progressing.

Buzzy Bee class

The focus on pets, has been a real success, and the children have been learning about how to handle and care for pets and have been role playing being pets, vets, nurses and receptionists. We have watched some shows on looking after animals, looked at lots of different books, both story and factual. The children have discussed their own pets or animals that they know through family and friends.

We have been having a wonderful time in the Woodland garden. We have had snack around the fire, creating Damper bread which the children toasted over the fire, or heated water in the Kelly kettle for our hot chocolate. The children have been using a range of tools including hammers, bow and hack saws to create varied crafts, from models to jewellery. Popular in the woodland garden has been the digging pod, where the children are using spades to dig, and in wet weather have been getting stuck in the mud, and find ways of helping each other out without losing their wellies!! Keeping with the mucky and messy theme many children enjoy the Mud kitchen where they have been creating everything from mud pizzas, mud Christmas puddings, and mud milkshakes.

In the classroom we have been doing lots of pre-writing activities, to help strengthen the children’s hands and arm muscles ready for writing. This is everything from obstacles courses in the garden that encourage them to crawl, or hang from the balloon swing, to using a wide variety of tools in the playdough, or manipulating clay and playdough using their hands. We provide lots of different surfaces, small, large, on the floor, table, wall, rough, smooth, permanent or non-permanent for them to practice their marks on. This could be using paintbrushes with water outside, large chinks on the floor, or using old wallpaper to make marks on. We have noticed that using the whiteboards (big and small) seems to be a very popular surface to use too.

We are excited for Christmas, and have begun singing our Christmas songs and rhymes. The children have decorated the tree in the classroom beautifully, and have begun to make their own decorations for the class or take home. Over the coming weeks the children will have opportunities to write cards, wrap presents, make decorations and be involved in lots of Christmas activities, and of course hear the story of the Nativity.

Top Talking Tips for Parents / Carers

- ◆ Allow your child to take the lead when you play together – this will keep them motivated and they'll develop crucial thinking and language skills through their play.
- ◆ Give your child time – they might need more time than you think to answer questions or follow instructions, so give them an extra few seconds to do this.
- ◆ Share books together – interactive books with flaps or different textures are really great.
- ◆ Younger children might find it difficult to tell you about their day at school. To support them, try giving choices like 'did you paint a picture or play in the sand?' or ask 'tell me one good thing that happened today; You could say one good thing about your day too, just to get the conversation going.
- ◆ Use repetition; children need to hear words several times in different situations before they can understand them and use them.



- ◆ Try setting aside some specific time talking time, with the TV off, just for talking and playing together.



- ◆ Repeat and expand on what your child says – e.g. if your child says 'mummy car' you could say 'mummy's driving the car' this helps children learn how to put words together to make sentences they can understand and use them.

- ◆ Think out loud – talk to your child about what you're doing and when you're doing it, that way they will begin to match what they hear to the object or the action that you're talking about.
- ◆ Encourage turn taking during games; you can make it clear what you're doing by explaining 'my turn now' and telling your child when they've done well at waiting for their turn.
- ◆ Demonstrate rather than correct. If your child says something incorrectly, repeat what they've said, but in the correct way and try to keep it in the conversation. You can do this with individual words, e.g. if they say 'tat' you can repeat 'yes you saw a cat', or sentences e.g. if they say 'the dog runned' you can say, 'yes the dog ran, didn't it.'
- ◆ Think about your non-verbal communication -your facial expressions, body language and tone of voice are great ways of showing your child that you are interested in what they say as well as helping them to keep their interest.
- ◆ Use rhymes and singing - sing your child's favourite nursery rhyme with them. Try to sing it slowly to help your child listen to the words of the rhyme. If you can use actions too, this will help your child to understand the words better.



Tapestry

- ◆ Don't forget to add to and read your child's Tapestry online learning journal.
- ◆ We look forward to seeing what you have been doing at home!



Online book fair

Thank you to all parents who bought books from the book fair - run with My Story Tree. We hope that you managed to find some lovely new books! As a result of your purchases, we have been able to select some new books for our school library. You may be able to borrow these over the next few months as we change the variety of books that can be borrowed by each classroom. We will be looking to run another book fair later in the school year.