

Message from Head of Centre



Welcome to our second newsletter of this term. In this newsletter there is a parent/carer's guide to Understanding the world, hopefully these guides are helping you to gain an understanding of how you can help your child at home. These are also on our website in the Parents section under the heading of 'Homework!'

I do hope that you and your child/ren are enjoying taking part in our Library Explorers scheme. This involves you borrowing at least one book a week from our Library which is situated from Reception. Please do take part in this if you can—it is not too late, gaining a love of books is so important to all children.

After the Easter holiday children are due back on Tuesday 12th April. This is because on Monday 11th we will be in the Centre on an INSET day. For those of you who are not aware this stands for In Service Training day. On this day all the staff who work with your children in the classrooms will be meeting together and the teachers and Senior Management will be feeding back from training courses that they have been on during the year. It is so important that the information that has been gained is shared among all staff. The topics that will be covered include: Early Years Pupil Premium, Early Words Together, Messy Play, E-Safety and eCadets,.

I have had a few people mentioning to me that some parents/carers are smoking just outside the Nursery gate. As you can imagine it is not pleasant for children to have to walk through smoke on their way into nursery. If you do need to smoke could you please move away from the gate, thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Debbie

Sainsbury's Vouchers

We have a collecting box in reception for the vouchers being issued for the Sainsbury's Active Kids promotion. If you get any of these when you do your shopping, we will be very grateful to receive them. In the past we have been able to obtain outdoor equipment - such as the floor surfers which the children love to use down the hill in the nursery garden!

Thank you!



Lucky Easter Squares

Our Easter fund raiser is out in reception. Write your name in a square and it may be picked out for you to win an Easter Egg.

40p a square or 3 for £1.

We will be drawing the winners on Monday 21st March.



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

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



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Email: earlyyears@caverstede.peterborough.sch.uk
Website: www.caverstede.peterborough.sch.uk



Ladybirds;

In Ladybirds, we are busy making Easter crowns and our older children are decorating a Pisanki egg. We are looking forward to making some yummy Easter nests and having an Easter egg hunt. This half term, we have really enjoyed our Woodland days, where we have especially liked digging for worms and playing in the puddles and mud kitchen. After Easter, our core stories will change to 'Pants' and 'Socks'! We will be doing lots of sorting, matching and counting linked to the story

Pisanki eggs - these are traditional Polish decorations for the home at Easter time. The eggs can be wooden, glass or real and are ornately decorated.

Butterfly class;

Our core topic is now 'growing' and we will be reading stories such as 'Jack and the Beanstalk', 'Oliver's Vegetables' and 'Jaspers Beanstalk'. We will be planting our own seeds and plants on Woodland days and learning what they need to grow. We will also learn different ways to keep healthy and why it is important to do so.

Buzzy Bees;

Currently we are looking at the story Chicken Licken. The children are really enjoying retelling the story using the props, especially the dressing up outfits! On our Woodland days we have been creating splatter paintings of Chicken Licken. We have been busy making Mother's Day cards and magnetic pegboards, and now we are making our traditional Polish Pisanki eggs for Easter and look forward to making some yummy Easter nests and having an Easter egg hunt.

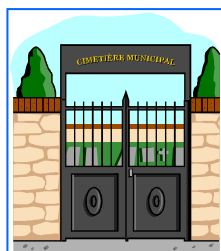
During the wet weather the children have enjoyed some wonderful puddle play! This has meant that some of the children have needed to get changed as even with wearing our wetsuits and wellies some of their clothing has got wet, can I take this moment to ask you to provide a spare change of clothes for your child on their peg. Thank you

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 gate**.

Thank you.



Visit to Paston Church

On Tuesday 22nd March, we will be visiting Paston Church at 2pm. If any parents are able to join us, please let your child's class know. All extra adults very welcome and will also help when we walk to the church.

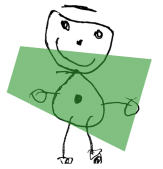
Dad's Group; this group runs every other Saturday, 10 - 11.30am. The cost is £2 per family and is for children aged 0 - 7 years old and their dad's, granddad, uncle or other male carer.

Next dates are;

27th February; 12th March; 23rd April; 7th & 21st May



A parent/carer's guide to..... 'Understanding the World'



Ways to help your child ...

Make sense of the world,
Learn about people and places,

Look at things around them,
Use technology

Understanding the world... is made up of the following aspects:

- **People and Communities**
- **The World**
- **Technology**



This area of Learning and Development involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community through opportunities to explore, observe and find out about people, places, technology and the environment.

You can help your child by asking open ended questions, for example:

How do you think that works?

Why do you think that happens?

What would happen if we...?

How can we...?

Try to use correct terms / names for things for example names of birds, trees, dinosaurs etc. if you know them!

People and Communities

Children talk about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members. They know that other children don't always enjoy the same things and are sensitive to this. They know about similarities and differences between themselves and others plus among families, communities and traditions.

- Take an interest in the way other people live and eat around you e.g. if you go to the Chinese or Indian restaurant/takeaway talk about the food and why you like eating it. Look at the pictures and writing in the restaurant.
- Try out different foods and tastes with your child. What does it taste like? Salty? Sweet/sour? This is really good to try with fruits. Ask your child if they liked the taste.
- Talk about the different occupations people have



The World

Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another. They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur and talk about changes.

- Visit places together e.g. Itter Park to feed the ducks, the Cathedral to see a huge building.
- Talk with your child about how you got there and what you passed on the way. Afterwards talk about what you did while you were there and what else you could have done.

Technology

Children recognise that a range of technology is used in places such as homes and schools. They select and use technology for particular purposes.

This aspect includes using computers, remote control toys and everyday technology, for example, pressing the button on the pedestrian crossing, using the remote control to change channels on the television.

- Encourage them to use technology, for example, a digital camera.
- Try taking a technology walk, identifying, for example, a cash point, traffic lights, automatic doors, ticket machines.
- Encourage your child to speculate on the reasons why things happen or how things work.
- Introduce vocabulary to enable your child to talk about their observations and to ask questions.



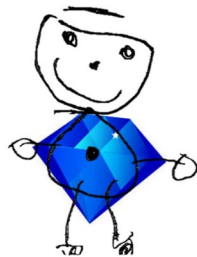


Library Explorer

Our new scheme has started and runs until we finish for the Easter holidays. Please remember to get your Library Explorer card stamped each week so that you can receive your new book to keep.



Caverstede 70th birthday celebrations - Saturday 14th May 2016 - 10am - 1pm



Caverstede opened in 1946 and we will be celebrating this occasion on 14th May this year!

There will be a display of Caverstede photos and information through the years plus other activities for you to help us mark this special birthday. Entertainment will be provided by Dusty Millar, children's magician; African Drummers; Rhapsody Chorus. You can have a look around the nursery, take part in an activity to create a piece of artwork and, of course, enjoy tea and cake!

We will also be producing special bags with the children in each class that can be bought as a memento and also commemorative tea towels with vintage photo's of Caverstede.

If you know of anyone who came to Caverstede either in recent years or many years ago, please let them know of this special day and we hope that you will be able to join us.



Friday

18th March

We will be helping to support this cause on Friday with games, activities and lots of running around and we will have a chance to



Shimmy with Timmy!

Come along to nursery in your sports wear, wear something red, white or be like Timmy!

There will be collecting buckets in reception or the classrooms for any spare coins you may wish to donate and a big Timmy to cover too.

Cakes & Bakes



We will also be selling cakes at reception so bring in your money to treat yourself - it is Friday after all!

If you would like to donate any cakes then all gratefully received.

Diary Dates

Sports Relief; 18th March

Classes close for Easter; Weds 23rd March

Inset Day; Monday 11th April

Children return; Tuesday 12th April

May Day; Monday 2nd May

Last day of half term; Friday 27th May

Children return; Monday 6th June

Mobile phone numbers;

Please make sure that we have your up to date mobile number on contact details held in the classroom and on your ParentMail account. This is important so that we can contact you regarding your child immediately and also advise you of any urgent message by ParentMail.

Change of contact detail forms are available at reception.

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.