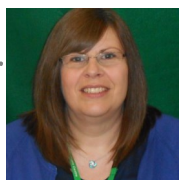


**Message from Head of Centre**

Dear Parents I hope your child/ren have settled into Caverstede and are enjoying their sessions. We realise that for new parents to Caverstede there is a great deal to learn about! If you are not sure about anything please do not hesitate to ask a member of the team or you may like to look at our website. We try to have everything that you may need to know about us on there and it is regularly updated.

Our In Service training day on 21st October was an opportunity for classroom staff and the leadership team to undertake training called 'I Can Early Talk Boost' which is a targeted intervention aimed at 3-4 year old children with delayed language development helping to boost their language skills to help narrow the gap between them and their peers. Research has shown that after this intervention, children make statistically significant progress in their early language. On average they make 6 months progress after a nine week intervention helping them to catch up with other children their age. This is twice the amount of progress of children not having the intervention. We will inform you if your child receives this support during the year.

Thank you for your support with Children in Need, we raised a grand total of £344. The Scholastic Book Fayre was successful with the school being able to select books of our choice to a value of £100.

Thank you to those of you who have already completed your Tapestry Online Learning Journal form so that we can activate your accounts. We are already receiving positive comments from parents who have started to use the Journals.

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! We hope you had a lovely half term break. The children are settling back into nursery really well. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your valued support in settling your children into Ladybirds this year.

This half term, we will be learning about Autumn and taking part in a variety of activities linked to this, including Autumn walks to find leaves and conkers. You could also do this with your child at home. Our core story will be 'Walking through the Jungle' where we can be nice and active acting out and retelling the story. There will also be other books for the children to enjoy, such as 'Dear Zoo'.

Please remember now that the weather is getting colder to provide a named warm coat, and, when necessary, gloves, hat and scarf as we do access the outdoor area every day. Our Woodland day is on a Wednesday.

Butterflies

This half term our core story is The Three Little Pigs. We shall be acting out the story with costumes and props. We shall be developing our fine motor skills through drawing pigs and our language skills through talking about them.

We will also celebrate Christmas and we shall be singing songs, learning about the Christmas story and making decorations. We shall also be visiting the church and having a Christmas party!

Buzzy Bees

In the Buzzy Bees we have been reading the stories Shark in the Park and Shark in the Dark. The children have been joining in with the telling of the story and using telescopes and binoculars to look for shark in the classroom and garden! Following their interest in animals we have created a 'pets' board alongside our family photo boards, and the children have been using the Vets role play area.

We are now getting ready for Christmas by singing our Christmas songs for the sing-a-long, creating Christmas crafts and decorations as well as learning about the Christmas story.

Diary Dates

Christmas Fayre 2nd December
Church Visits 12th December

Christmas Sing-a-longs:

Butterflies 14th December 9.30 am & 2.30 pm
Buzzy Bees 15th December 9.30 am & 2.30 pm
Ladybirds 16th December 9.30 am & 2.30 pm

Last day of Term Wednesday 21st December 2016

School closed for Inset day 3rd January 2017
Classes start Wednesday 4th January 2017

School closed for Inset day 24th April 2017



Term Dates 2016-2017

Autumn Term

Classes close

Wednesday 21st December 2016

Spring Term

Classes start

Half Term

Classes close

Wednesday 4th January 2017

20th – 24th February 2017

Friday 7th April 2017

Summer Term

Classes start

May Day

Half Term

Classes close

Tuesday 25th April 2017

Monday 1st May 2017

29th May – 2nd June 2017

Thursday 20th July 2017

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 SEN and Family Support Service

Caverstede Special Educational Needs and Family Support Service provides a friendly 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



Thank you to those parents/carers who took part in the Library Explorers scheme this term. We will be giving out the books for your children to keep when we return after the Christmas holiday. If you could give your completed cards to Reception please.

We will be running the scheme again later in the year.

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!



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.

