

Welcome back! It is lovely to see everyone again, after what has been a very long time for some children. We would like to extend a warm welcome to the parents and children who are new to the school. The children have been just great, they are adapting really well to new routines and it has been a joy watching them play in their bubbles. We are having to rely on our wonderful staff to go the extra mile with all the extra efforts to keep everyone safe and get back to learning. This sometimes requires our staff to give even more than they already give, and often this is in their own free time.

I would also like to thank you as parents and carers for being patient and respectful of the changes we have made. I know the entry and exits have taken a few tweaks to get right, but it is with your help and understanding that we are getting children into their classrooms safely and quickly. The staff really appreciate the fact that you are wearing face coverings when dropping off and collecting your children, please do continue to do this, and remember to remain socially distanced from each other.

We will soon be starting to lend out our Library books again, but in a Covid safe way, you will find more information about this later in this newsletter, please do take part if you can

Again thank you for your continued support. Kind regards, Debbie



A reminder to those parents that are eligible and claiming the 30 hours Free Childcare. If this is your first time of claiming, please ensure you have applied and received your code. You need to do this BEFORE the term you are claiming for. Therefore, ensure you claim NOW to be eligible and in time for January. If you already have a code for the Autumn term, don't forget you MUST confirm your details every 3 months and therefore this needs doing again now. To do this, sign into your childcare account. If you do not do this again before January, you will NOT be eligible. We do not want any disappointed children or parents that cannot have the free funding. All details for applying/eligibility and signing into your childcare account can be found here;

www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare

Please ensure payments for sessions, lunch, early and late club (where applicable) are paid by the end of this half term or as soon as possible when we return on 3rd November. Please speak to our finance administrator, Helen, if you have any queries regarding this. Thank you.

Term Dates for the rest of the school year

Autumn term	
Half Term;	26th - 30th October 2020
Classes start ;	Tuesday 3rd November 2020
Classes close;	Friday 18th December 2020
Spring term	
Classes start;	Tuesday 5th January 2021
Half Term;	15th - 19th February 2021
Classes close;	Friday 26th March 2021
Summer term	
Classes start;	Tuesday 13th April 2021
May Day;	Monday 3rd May 2021
Half Term;	31st May - 4th June 2021
Classes close;	Thursday 22nd July 2021

INSET days (staff training days - nursery closed)

Monday 2nd November; Monday 4th January;
Monday 12th April

School photos: Monday 9th November

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, Hannah Haigh and Emily Wiseman.

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.



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.



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.

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.



Borrowing library books from the Caverstede library

We will soon be ready for you to borrow books from our library again! This will run a little differently than before due to the changes that are currently in place. Each class will have their own selection of books to choose from and all children will receive details of how the new system will work. Books will need to be quarantined when they are returned and we won't have as many to choose from initially. Therefore, children will only be able to borrow one book at a time and this will need to be returned before another can be borrowed. We still have a lot to choose from! We are also asking that if any children have books that they borrowed last year that these be returned before choosing new ones please. Library Explorers will also start after the half term break.

Classrooms



Welcome to the Buzzy Bee class; the children have returned back to nursery really well. They have soon settled in and are getting used to new routines throughout the day. The children are beginning to develop friendships, playing alongside or with their peers, involved in the same interests and activities.

We are focusing at the moment on the story 'Owl Babies'. The children have made various owl crafts and pictures, begun to draw the different characters, and retell the story independently using props. The story has led us on to talk and explore the differences between day and night, we've been discussing the term 'nocturnal' and what this means. It has also led us to look at size, feathers, birds, nests and most importantly at this time of year the story reinforces that the Mother owl comes back to the owl babies. Which we hope supports those that are still a little worried when left at nursery, that a loved one will return to pick them up.

Alongside our core story we are looking at the changes in the environment. Autumn is a great time of year for this, the children are noticing the changing colours of leaves, and the falling of leaves and seeds from the trees. We will begin to talk about hibernation, looking at the different animals that do this.

Welcome to the Ladybird class; The whole team would like to welcome all of our new and returning children and parents. The children have settled in well and are beginning to build bonds with the adults in the class. We would like to say a big thank you to all of our parents for being very understanding and brave with our new settling in process. Your support has really helped the children to settle in quickly. Key workers have been decided and you will receive a slip about this in the coming week.

Our focus this half term is around stories about starting nursery. We will be reading a variety of them during the session and talking with the children about starting a new nursery. Look out for staff reading them on Tapestry to share with your child at home. Through these stories we will discuss feelings and emotions. We will also talk about the routines of the day and get children familiar with these.

We shall also be focusing on the weather and autumn this half term, looking at the changes in the season.

Welcome to the Butterfly class: The children have settled in really quickly into their new Butterfly class and it has been great to have them back. We have had some new children start and welcomed back lots of returning children.

Our core story for the next few weeks is 'Owl Babies' by Martin Waddell and Patrick Benson. We will be reading the story and looking at the pictures to help us to start learning about owls. We have started finding out facts about owls using some non-fiction books and drawing and painting owls. We have been finding feathers in the woodland garden and looking at different birds using the binoculars.

Also we are learning about the season of Autumn through finding lots of fallen leaves, seeds, pine cones and conkers in the woodland garden. The children have been enjoying playing with conkers, putting them down tubes and the guttering outside.

Please could the children bring some named wellie boots and a warm waterproof coat as the weather is getting colder and wetter as the term is progressing. The children love playing in the woodland garden and it can get very muddy!

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 school.

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



ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

NOTICE TO ALL PARENTS AND VISITORS TO OUR SCHOOL

Caverstede Nursery School is a ZERO TOLERANCE ZONE. Inappropriate language, threats or acts of aggression towards staff, visitors or other parents will not be tolerated on these premises. Anyone behaving in such a way will be asked to leave; they may receive a ban from the premises and their behaviour may be reported to the police.