

Thank you to all parents/Carers for your support and understanding this term. COVID-19 has meant that some things are currently very different at Caverstede, however it is good to know that children are extremely resilient and continue to be making the most of their time at Nursery. We do appreciate that the majority of you are wearing face coverings during drop off/pick up times and are standing back from staff where possible, thank you for helping to make Caverstede safe for us all. If your child has to stay at home due to COVID-19, for example while waiting for test results, we will be offering activities, stories and rhymes for you to complete together. These will be activated on your Tapestry account when your child is off, instructions will be emailed to you at the time.

I wanted to mention to those of you who have children mainly in the Buzzy Bee or Butterfly classes that you need to be thinking about where you would like your child to go to school next September. It seems early but you need to have made your decision and applied for a school place by January 15th 2021. For some of you this will be the first time that you will have had to go through the process. My advice would be to do your research! Look at the schools websites you are thinking of and talk to other parents. Some schools are arranging visits to their schools, usually when the children are not there. You are the ones who know your children best and by contacting potential schools and asking questions you will make the right decision for you and your child.

Once you have made your decision apply online at www.peterborough.gov.uk/admissions. The website is already open and is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week. It will close on 15th January. On this website there is a booklet entitled 'Primary School Admission' which gives the admission criteria of all the schools in Peterborough. You will be asked to put down three schools in your order of choice. You will be informed which school you have been allocated on Primary National Offer day which is 16th April 2021.

Debbie

Settling in Reports

We hope that you have all now received and read your child's report - these were sent by Parent Mail and a link was also provided giving you the option of commenting on this report which will then be passed on to the class teacher.

If you have any problems in accessing your account and unable to read the report, please let your child's teacher know or ask at reception/office.

Now that the weather is becoming much cooler, many of you are sending in hats, gloves and scarves. To help us keep track of these, its really helpful to have your child's name in them.

Don't forget we go out in all weathers, so warm coats/layers of clothing is really important. We are keeping windows and (doors when possible) open to help with ventilation, so rooms are cooler, so having warm layers will be really important over the coming months to help keep your child warm whilst playing both inside and outside.

Term Dates for the rest of the school year

Autumn term	
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 4th January; Monday 12th April



'Virtual Christmas Fayre' 2020; 8th- 17th December

This year due to COVID regulations we will be holding a 'virtual' Christmas Fayre at Caverstede, to raise funds for the school. Some of our favourite fayre activities will still be taking place.

We shall be offering the following:

- * 'Christmas raffle', with the chance to win one of 3 hamper prizes - £1 per ticket.
- * 'Make your own Christmas Crown' - £1 per crown, decoration packs 20p
- * 'Make your own Christmas wreath' - £1 per wreath, decoration packs 20p
- * 'Reindeer Food' – 50p per pack
- * 'Christmas Playdough' – 50p per pack
- * 'Temporary Tattoos' – 50p for 10 (assorted pack)
- * 'Fun stickers' – 20p per pack

All items will be 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.

Look out for our advertising boards in the classrooms!



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.

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.

Borrowing library books from the Caverstede library

We are pleased that children have started to borrow books from our library and appreciate your understanding with the new system. If you have not yet borrowed any books, why not take a look at what there is available. We will be changing and adding new books to the selection for next term so keep checking.

You also have a couple of weeks to become a Library Explorer and get to keep your own book at the end of this terms scheme. There will also be a selection of winter and Christmas library books available to choose over the next few weeks.

Classrooms



In the Buzzy Bees we have had a busy half term already, looking at several different events from continuing the Autumn theme with a Pumpkin patch in the garden, to looking at Remembrance Day (Armistice Day) with the children, which included looking at a short CBeebies video, and creating our own display of Poppies on the wall in the garden. We have celebrated Bonfire night, by eating hot dogs around a pretend bonfire, and watching fireworks on the large screen, the children had a go at a variety of painting techniques to represent fireworks, from using a vegetable spinner on a small scale, to large scale splatter painting. The children used their feet to pop some bubble wrap, making the sounds of fireworks in the sky. We all sung our Bonfire songs, and used different instruments to represent the different firework sounds in the song. We have celebrated Children in Need, the children participated in a ramble through the outdoor areas of the nursery, and made lots of spotty pictures including using finger paints.

Over the coming weeks in the Buzzy Bees our Core Story is going to be the Gingerbread Man. We will read the story regularly so that the children become really familiar with the text, looking at different ways of telling the story, using props, watching a short animation and looking at different versions of the story. We will do many different activities linked with this story, including art and creative activities, our playdough will smell and look like Gingerbread so the children can create their own Gingerbread man, they will have opportunities to retell the story themselves, using a story board, small world props, or even dressing up props to re-create the story with their friends.

The Gingerbread man will lead us nicely into Christmas, where we will have lots of activities linked to this, such as making their own Christmas decorations, wrapping 'presents' creating their own Christmas cards, and of course singing a wide range of Christmas songs- which we will send a booklet home for you to join in with at home! We will read Stories of the Nativity, and many other stories related to Christmas too.

Another exciting and busy half term which we are all enjoying already.

Ladybird class; The children have settled well into our daily routines now and we would like to thank all our parents for their help, support and understanding over the last few months as the children have started nursery.

Our Core Story is now "The Snowman" which is a wonderful picture book by Raymond Briggs. This story allows us to explore the themes of Winter, Friendship and Emotions with the children. It also offers the opportunity to learn new words which is very important at this age as it will help them to be confident in reading and writing later. We shall also read a variety of other stories and rhymes along the theme of snow and learn about the weather at this time of year.

This term in Butterfly class we have been busy learning about Poppies, Bonfire night and Diwali as well as the season of Autumn. The children have made firework pictures using several different methods including flicking paint using paint brushes and printing using various sizes of cardboard tubes. We have watched fireworks on a video clip and made a pretend fire with Autumn leaves with battery operated tea lights. The children have tried some different foods associated with these celebrations including hot dogs, hot chocolate, rice, naan bread and poppadums.

Our core story is 'It was a Cold Dark Night' by Tim Hopgood which is about Ned the hedgehog who is looking for a home. We will be making hedgehogs using sticks, paint and clay. As well as learning facts about them and saying some rhymes about hedgehogs.

We will be continuing to practise putting on our own coats, wellies, hats as well as practising doing up fastenings on our clothes and shoes.

Tapestry

Don't forget to look at what we have been doing at Caverstede. On your child's Tapestry Online Journal you will find photographs and observations of your child. You can comment on what we have posted and also have the opportunity to add to Tapestry. We look forward to seeing what you have been doing at home! If you need any help with accessing Tapestry please telephone Reception.