

## Message from Headteacher

*We hope that your child is enjoying the Summer term, we always look forward to this part of the year as the children are so confident and independent within the environment. It was so lovely to see Ellie Sandall, author of 'Every Bunny Dance' working outside with the children recently, I do hope that you heard all about it from your child.*

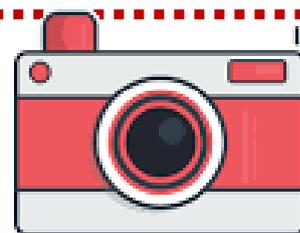
*After half term a local artist is going to be working with each class outside on some exciting projects linked to our Woodland Garden.*

*Thank you all for your ongoing support, we all really appreciate you supporting us in keeping everyone safe.*

*Debbie*

May Half Term - 31st May - 4th June 2021.  
Classes close for the summer on Thursday 22nd July 2021

Classroom group photographs will be taken on Thursday 27th May. This will be during the session times in the nursery garden. If you do not usually attend on a Thursday but would like to be in the class photo, please speak to your child's key person or class teacher as they will be shortly working out what times each class will be in the garden for their photo. We will receive proofs of these after a week and orders will be taken.



**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.

**Butterfly class:**

We have been reading our core story 'A Squash and a Squeeze' by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler. This is a rhyming story so we have been looking for words that rhyme and listening for initial sounds in words. The children have been retelling the story and learning about the different characters. The characters are the little old lady, wise old man, hen, goat, pig and cow. We have been making lots of hand print animals for a display in the classroom and practising drawing people. We have read lots of rhyming stories and looking at information books about farm animals to learn more about them. We've also had plastic farm animals and Duplo people for the children to play with.

We have been looking for signs of Spring in the garden and the Woodland garden. The children have found lots of different flowers and are noticing different types of weather. We have been planting lots of seeds including pumpkins and lots of different wild flowers in the both gardens for the bees and butterflies.

The children have been looking at some frog spawn and tadpoles that I found in my pond at home so have been learning about the lifecycle of a frog. We have looked at some books about frogs and butterflies. Also we have been really lucky and we have had some tiny little black caterpillars that have very recently made their cocoons so we are watching and waiting until the butterflies appear! We have read the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' by Eric Carle a lot as this is story the children really enjoy looking at and listening to.

Thank you very much for your continued support!

**Ladybird class:**

This half term our new core story is "Chuffa chuffa choo choo" by Emma Garcia, a story all about a train journey. This story will allow us to explore the world around us as social distancing measures are starting to be relaxed and children start to experience more places and environments. If you have any photos of trips that you make please could you share them with us on Tapestry so that we can discuss them in class.

This half term we shall continue to support the children in their growing independence. Thank you to all of the parents who have been practising putting coats on at home. The children are always very proud to show us their accomplishments! We shall also continue to use our brand new climbing equipment to develop the children's gross motor skills and support them around using new equipment safely.

As a team we would like to thank all of our parents for your continued support at change over times and thank you for your patience at these times. Thank you for keeping us all safe!

**Buzzy Bee class:**

Our theme of minibeasts has really been capturing the children's imaginations. The children have learnt all sorts about different insects and bugs, for example snails have one foot, insects have 6 legs, and spiders have 8! We have learnt about habitats, lifecycles, and looking after our environment and the benefits of having bugs/insects. The children absolutely loved watching up close and even holding some of the different insects. We made a snailery, which fascinated the children, as have the caterpillars! The children have been eager to come in and find out how much the caterpillars have grown each day, and what stage they were at. Each morning we have been asked "How big are the caterpillars now? Are they cocoons yet? When will they be butterflies?"

We have read a variety of stories linked to each bug/insect, including: Snail and the Whale, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Aargh Spider, Superworm. Alongside these stories we have looked at many other stories and factual books which we have learnt all sorts of amazing facts - did you know a group of ladybirds is called a 'Loveliness of Ladybirds'! The children have embraced a wide range of tactile experiences linked with the minibeasts, as well as a wide variety of art, role play, mathematical, drawing and writing activities linked with the various mini-beasts.

The children were also fascinated with the tadpoles that we had from Emily's pond. They spent a long time looking closely at the tadpoles, hoping each day they would have grown legs, so we have had to talk about how long this process can take. We used various books to look at the different stages from frogspawn to frogs.

We also had Ellie Sandall come to join us for a session on her book 'Every Bunny dance' which the children thoroughly enjoyed. This was a session, where she read the book, engaged them with physical activities, created a bunny band and all the children made their own bunny ears. The children have a real passion for books, and were highly excited a real-life author was coming to visit, so prior to her arrival, they created their own books/stories and shared them with her, telling Ellie "I'm an Author too!"

We have also celebrated Caverstede's 75th Birthday with a party snack in the garden and lots of party music and games!

We look forward to their final half term with us before moving on to their new schools, we shall be starting to look at the transition to school with them as the term moves on.



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.

[Join for free](#) - it's really quick to do.

Just start your shopping at [easyfundraising.org.uk](#) or download the app. Once you've made your purchase, we will receive a small donation - and it's surprising how the amounts can add up!

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



### Summer's here!

Now the weather is starting to get warmer, we would like to remind parents/carers of how we can enjoy the sun safely.

At Caverstede Nursery School we plan activities to help reduce the impact of heat - such as ice in water play or the use of fans. We also use more shaded areas of the outdoor environment in extreme heat, provide drinking water throughout the day and encourage children to stay hydrated. We are mindful that the sun is particularly damaging between the hours of 11am and 3pm.

We ask that parents;

- provide sunscreen of Factor 15 and above for their child.
- sign a label giving staff permission to apply sunscreen to their child and this will be fixed to the bottle/container. Please apply sunscreen at home before coming to nursery. Staff will apply sunscreen or support children to apply their own and will re-apply if children are in nursery all day.
- provide their child with a sun hat - named, to wear in the nursery garden. We do have some Legionnaires hats available to buy at reception. These cost £2 each.

To ensure that your child stays safe in the sun whilst at Caverstede, they will unfortunately remain inside if sunscreen is not provided by parents/carers.

If you have any concerns or queries, please speak to your child's class teacher or key person.

Thank you.



Thank you to everyone who has bought a sunflower growing kit. Don't forget to let us know how your sunflower is growing and perhaps add some pictures to your Tapestry online journal.

We have raised £50.50 for the nursery to buy more plants and seeds, your support is very much appreciated.

## Nursery Places

We are currently allocating nursery spaces ready for the new school year starting in September. We do still have some spaces available so if you know anyone who is looking for nursery provision for their child, please ask them to register as soon as possible. We accommodate 2, 3 and 4 year olds, either funded or paying for sessions.

Information and a registration form are available on our website:- [www.caverstede.peterborough.sch.uk](http://www.caverstede.peterborough.sch.uk)



You must apply for the 30 hour funding before 31st August if this is to be accessed anytime from 1st September to 31st December 2021. This is for both new applications and to renew your existing entitlement. If you have not received your code or renewed your code before 31st August 2021, you will only be able to access this additional funding for the whole of the Autumn Term (September-December).

Please visit the Peterborough City Council site at <https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/residents/nurseries-and-childcare/30-hours-free-childcare-for-working-families> which will give all the details of who and when you are eligible and how to apply.

## Library Explorer



It's wonderful to see so many of you borrowing books from our library and we hope that you are enjoying them together at home. Our Library Explorer scheme has another week to run and books will be given out when we return after the half term break.

If you haven't yet borrowed any books from our library, why not start now.

We will add some new titles to the selections outside each classroom ready for the next half term so there should be something that you will enjoy.

We have also been enjoying seeing some of the book reviews you have been completing. There have been some amazing drawings and comments about the books that have been read and we will check with you soon as we would like to add some to our website.

We will continue to add the book review sheets to the books, so if you find one in a book you have borrowed, why not let us know what you think! Everyone who completes a book review will receive a sticker to say thank you!



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

Thank you for wearing face coverings, keeping socially distanced and for using hand sanitiser provided when dropping off and collecting your children.