



Cashmore Early Years Centre Newsletter

March 2023

Recently, we learnt about the celebration of Lunar/Chinese New Year. We explored how the texture of noodles changed from hard to soft after cooking, decorated lanterns, looked at Chinese writing and created our own using paint, read stories and did dragon dancing. We made observational drawings of flowers, explored tweezers, tongs and chopsticks in the home area and tasted noodles with soy sauce, prawn crackers and spring rolls (yum!)



This term we will begin to explore things that live or grow in the garden. We will explore how beans and seeds change and start to grow – and we will plant some in the garden. We will also discover the small animals that start to come out with warmer weather, like the snail or the woodlouse.

OUTDOOR PLAY

Did you know? Playing and learning outdoors improves confidence, self-esteem, social skills, communication, co-operative working, motivation, physical skills, knowledge and understanding.

Our outdoor area at Cashmore is planned so that all the things children learn inside can also be learned outside – and there are even more learning opportunities outside.

Being outside more often allows your child to develop a stronger immune system and a resistance to allergies. Studies have shown that children who are active outside have the best overall health. You do need to be properly dressed outside, so please make sure that your child has waterproof boots and a real waterproof coat.

The Children's Kitchen

We have been exploring food and simple cooking techniques with The Children's Kitchen in cooking sessions at Nursery. We have used our senses to feel, taste and smell a variety of fruit and vegetables.

Would you like to join in with food activities with your child? Sessions will be at The Learning Kitchen (upstairs in the Wellspring Healthy Living Centre) on Thursday 16 March, Monday 17 April and Monday 24 April 1.30-2.30pm.

Spaces are limited so please sign up at Nursery.

Absence/illness

If your child has sickness and/or diarrhoea, please remember that they must stay off school for **at least 48 hours** from the last time that they were ill. Also, it is the time of year for coughs and colds. **If your child is unwell keep them at home and phone Cashmore (0117 3534295) to report the absence.** We can only give prescribed medication at school that has a pharmacist sticker on the bottle/box with your child's name on it – we cannot give any medicines that you have bought over the counter.

Snack donation

Thank you to the parents who continue to donate to the children's snack time. The school provides milk but we rely on donations from parents for snack times during the morning and afternoon sessions. The children eat **fresh fruit** (e.g. apples, bananas, oranges, pears) or **vegetables** (e.g. carrots, cucumbers). We would be grateful if you could **donate fruit weekly OR you can make a small money donation** in the tin provided in the garden/Reception at drop-off times.



Clothes and wellies

Children play outside in all weathers. This is very important for their development and learning. Still, children must stay warm and dry with **waterproof coat** and **welly boots**. PLEASE WRITE YOUR CHILD'S NAME IN THE COAT AND BOOTS.



Your child's bag

Please put enough **nappies, wipes and spare clothes** in your child's bag. Remember that children may need changing two times.

Nursery clothes

If your child comes home in **nursery clothes, please return** as soon as possible.

Pick-up

Please remember that the morning session **finishes at 12.00pm** and the afternoon session **finishes at 3.30pm**. We open the gate 10 minutes beforehand, to allow time to talk with you at handover/collection. It is important that you pick up on time as if you are late this impacts on staff breaks and pre-arranged meetings.

If you want to pick your child up before the end of the session, please pick up before 11.30am (morning session) and before 3.00 pm (afternoon session) as the last part of the session is story time or group activity and it is important that this is not disturbed **(it is an important part of their phonics and numeracy learning which needs to take place in a quiet atmosphere to develop listening and attention skills).**

Cold weather

Please can we remind parents to provide **hats, gloves, scarves, wellies, waterproofs and warm coats** during this cold, wet weather (**labelled with your child's name**).



World Book Day

We recently celebrated World Book Day when the children (and even the grown-ups) wore costumes or their pyjamas to school. We raised £9 which will be sent to fund books in Africa.

Returning in September

For those children returning to us in September, please let the office know if you wish to change your sessions.

New parent governors needed

Our Governing Body is made up of community, parent, staff and Local Authority Governors. Our Governors come from a range of different backgrounds, skills and experiences, but they are all volunteers who work together for the benefit of the School and are the link between the School and the community it serves. **We are currently looking for new parent governors.** Being a Governor can be enjoyable, stimulating and rewarding. Please don't be put off by thinking that you have to have specialist expertise or knowledge. Enthusiasm and interest is much more important to start with and there is training and support available to help you. Please remember you will be joining a long-established Governing Body and will be supported by fellow Governors with many years of experience. If you would like more information, please ask Maggie on Reception.

Best wishes for a good Easter break.



FAMILY WORKER



one-to-one sessions

Cashmore Nursery
Wednesdays 12.30-1.30pm
Thursdays 9.00-10.00am

Supporting families to:

- Access groups,
- Access training and adult learning
- Apply for nursery/school places
- Apply for healthy start vouchers
- Access money and housing support
- Improve your family's health and wellbeing



Settlement Site, 43 Dudge Road, Barkon Hill, BS5 6AZ - 0117 955 4771 | Wellspring Site, Bacon Street, Barkon Hill, BS5 9DT - 0117 204 1800
www.wellspringsettlement.org.uk info@wsb.org.uk
Wellspring Settlement is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales under number 08221499 and is a charity, number 1101120

Important Dates

Friday 31 March – INSET day – School CLOSED

Monday 3 to Friday 14 April (inclusive) - Easter holidays – School CLOSED

Monday 17 April – INSET day – School CLOSED

Monday 1 May – Bank Holiday – School CLOSED

Monday 8 May – Bank Holiday – School CLOSED (King's Coronation)

Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June (inclusive) – half term holiday – School CLOSED