



Cashmore Early Years Centre Newsletter

May 2023

This term we will be learning about life cycles, especially caterpillars turning into butterflies. We have caterpillars at nursery and are watching them grow bigger and bigger each day before they spin their cocoons. We are also reading *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and learning the song 'Tiny Caterpillar' (a copy of the lyrics is attached). We will also be planting seeds in the garden to water and watch grow before picking and eating them. Yum Yum!

We are celebrating the Islamic festival of Eid al-Fitr and we would like to wish our families "Eid Mubarak".



OUTDOOR LEARNING

Did you know? The national curriculum for the Early Years makes it clear that children must have access to an outside play area. Our gardens are an important place for children to learn through play. Research has shown that **outdoor learning is important for children's development of communication skills, social skills, confidence, motivation, and physical skills.** These are all essential to help children to learn more specific skills like reading, writing and maths. **The children often use maths and mark-making (early writing) in their play in the garden. They also play out the stories that we read – they remember and invent new stories and work together.** Children explore social skills and develop fine finger strength and control when "cooking" together in the mud kitchen. They also explore water play, paint and craft materials. They help to tidy, sweep and clean and look after the plants.

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, colds and other viruses. **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.

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.

Returning in September

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

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

Our Practitioners work to support and extend children's learning in the garden, not just keeping the children safe. Learning outside happens in all weathers and can be messy – children will need **welly boots, waterproofs and warm coats**. As a result of heavy rain, the garden can be muddy. We would be grateful if parents could bear this in mind when dressing their children. Please **do not dress your child in their best clothes for nursery**. Children will get some paint on clothes even when they wear an apron. Please ensure you **write your child's name in their clothes and coats** as many children have the same clothes, the same size and from the same shop. If your child comes home in **nursery clothes, please return** them as soon as possible.



Staff and Governor changes

We would like to welcome Natalie who will be working as a School Meals Supervisory Assistant. We would also like to welcome Helen Giles (Community Governor) to the Governing Body.

New parent governor 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.

The Children's Kitchen cookery sessions

Thank you to all the parents who attended the cooking sessions with The Children's Kitchen at The Wellspring. It was a great success and the children are keen to continue exploring cooking!

Library

The children recently had a trip to the micro library for a story telling session. It's just a short walk from us and is open every Tuesday. Please drop in to read or borrow books (for more information see below).

مكتبة
biblioteca
کتاب خانه
laybareeri
library

**New Little Library
service in Barton Hill**

Everyone is welcome to use a new multi-lingual book collection at the University of Bristol's Barton Hill Micro-Campus.

Open every Tuesday
from 10am – 5.30pm

Join us every Tuesday in the shipping containers at Wellspring Settlement. Drop in for a cup of tea, a chat and to read or borrow books!

University of BRISTOL

Wellspring Settlement

Drop In, No Need to Book in Advance!

Important Dates

Monday 1 May – School CLOSED – May Day Bank Holiday

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

School Photographer – **Wednesday 24 May PM and Thursday 25 May AM**

29 May – 2 June inclusive – School CLOSED (half term)

Return to school - **Monday 5 June**



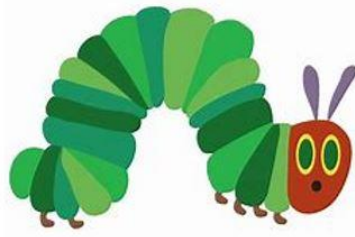
School Photographs

Wednesday 24 (PM) and Thursday 25 May (AM)

On Wednesday 24 (PM) and Thursday 25 May (AM), Concept Photography will be taking individual photographs of all children in the school and family photographs with siblings, if requested. If you would like a photograph of your child with their brother or sister, you will need to stay with them. This service will be available from **3.30-4.00pm on Wednesday and 8.45-9.15 am on Thursday.**

For those children that do not normally attend on a Wednesday or Thursday, you are more than welcome to bring them into school for a **'drop in' session between 11.30-12.00pm on Thursday.** You will need to stay with your child. Please be aware this is not by appointment and so you may have to wait.





There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf

There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf (wiggle, wiggle)
There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf (wiggle, wiggle)
There's a tiny caterpillar, a tiny caterpillar,
There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf (wiggle, wiggle)



He will eat the leaves around him 'til he's full (munch, munch)
He will eat the leaves around him 'til he's full (munch, munch)
He will eat the leaves around him, he will eat the leaves around him
He will eat the leaves around him 'til he's full (munch, munch)



A cocoon is what he's spinning for his home (spin, spin)
A cocoon is what he's spinning for his home (spin, spin)
A cocoon is what he's spinning, a cocoon is what he's spinning,
A cocoon is what he's spinning for his home (spin, spin)



Then he'll be a butterfly and fly away (flap, flap)
Then he'll be a butterfly and fly away (flap, flap)
Then he'll be a butterfly, be a butterfly,
Then he'll be a butterfly and fly away (flap, flap)