



Cashmore Early Years Centre Newsletter

December 2023



During the last two weeks of term, we are celebrating the Christian festival of Christmas. During our celebration we will be cutting using scissors, sticking with glue, paint and glitter, playing with scented playdough and baking cakes/biscuits. We have been reading Peace at Last (including prop bag) and The Gruffalo's Child.

NUMERACY AND PHONICS

You are your child's first and most important educator. Below are a couple of fun games to play with your child at home to help support their numeracy and literacy skills.

Numeracy – Number/shape spotting games - See if you can spot shapes and numbers in the environment e.g. road signs, price tags, remote control, computer keyboard.

Phonics – Name that tune game - Sing simple songs that your child will know well (such as Twinkle Twinkle Little Star) using only sounds e.g. 'la, la, la' and ask your child to guess the song. See if your child would like a turn.

Christmas

We will be hosting two Christmas parties – **Tuesday 12 December (morning) and Thursday 14 December (afternoon)**. If your child does not normally attend one of these sessions, they will be able to attend one party (please let your child's key person know which one you would like them to attend).

We kindly ask if parents could contribute party food or you can donate money and we will buy the food. We have attached a list of packaged food that meets all of the children's dietary requirements and allergies.

Application for primary school

Please remember that the deadline for **applying for a Reception Class** place for your child is **15 January 2024** (if your child was born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020). The online application system is now open (www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions). If you need any help with this, please ask.

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.

Staffing and Governor changes

We would like to welcome Katherin Barg to the Governing Body as a Parent Governor.

How to prevent catching a cold

A person with a cold can start spreading it from a few days before their symptoms begin until the symptoms have finished. The best ways to avoid catching a cold are:

- washing your hands with warm water and soap;
- not sharing towels or household items (like cups) with someone who has a cold;
- not touching your eyes or nose in case you've come into contact with the virus – it can infect the body this way;
- staying fit and healthy.

The flu vaccine helps prevent the flu but not colds. **The cold virus is not caused by playing in water/playing outside.** If children do get wet during play we change them into to dry clothes as soon as they have finished playing.

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.



The Governing Body and staff at Cashmore Early Years Centre wish you and your family a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year.

Important Dates

Party – **Tuesday 12 December AM**

Menu change – festive roast dinner – **Wednesday 13 December**

Party – **Thursday 14 December PM**

Friday 15 December - Last day of term – all sessions as normal

School CLOSED for holiday – **Monday 18 December to Friday 29 December**
(inclusive)

Monday 1 January – Bank Holiday – **School CLOSED**

Tuesday 2 January – School **CLOSED** – INSET Day

Wednesday 3 January – Return to School

Monday 5 February – School **CLOSED** – INSET Day

Thursday 28 March – School **CLOSED** – INSET Day



Christmas Party Food List

We ask parents to kindly provide the Christmas party food. **Please make sure all food is shop bought, in its original packaging and contains no nuts or meat.**

Ready to eat cheese and onion rolls

Savoury snacks – Cheddars, Pringles, Hula Hoops, crisps etc.

Cucumber, carrot sticks

Cheese

Bread sticks

French stick

Fairy cakes

Biscuits - party rings, chocolate fingers

Fruit

Cheese pizzas fresh or frozen (we can cook them)