



# Cashmore Early Years Centre Newsletter

## March 2024



Recently we learnt about the celebration of Lunar/Chinese New Year. This year was the Year of the Dragon. We explored how the texture of noodles changed from hard to soft after cooking, looked at Chinese writing and created our own using paint, read stories, used tweezers, tongs and chopsticks in the home area and tasted prawn crackers and noodles with soy sauce (yum!). We also explored flowers in the water tray (flowers represent new growth after a long winter and are important signifiers of life and good fortune), coloured rice and made and decorated money wallets (each had a coin inside and are given as symbol of good luck).

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.

**The School will be CLOSED for the following INSET day: Thursday 28 March 2024**

## 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.

### Clothes and wellies

Children play outside in all weathers. This is very important for their development and learning. During Winter children must stay warm and dry. Your child needs a **warm, waterproof coat, gloves, hat and welly boots every day. PLEASE WRITE YOUR CHILD'S NAME IN ALL CLOTHES/WELLY BOOTS.**



## Returning in September

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

## Your child's bag

Please put enough **nappies and wipes** for the session (if they are in nappies/pull-ups) and **spare clothes (including socks)** in case we have to change children after toileting accidents or from water play. **PLEASE WRITE YOUR CHILD'S NAME IN ALL CLOTHES.**

## Nursery clothes

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

## Toys brought into nursery

Please help your child to **KEEP THEIR TOYS AT HOME!** Toys from home are very likely to get lost, broken or cause conflict. We know that this causes huge upset to children and can be frustrating for families. Please check your child's pockets and bags daily to ensure that their own toys are kept safely at home and to return any school toys that might accidentally find their way home! Please note that staff are not responsible for the whereabouts of toys brought in from home.



## Family display board

We are making a family display board. We would love it if you could please bring in a photo of your child with their family or people, pets or toys that are special to them. The children can often be found talking to each other about these photos and take great pride in pointing out their special people/item. If it is easier, you can email a copy of the photo to [charlotte.carter@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:charlotte.carter@bristol-schools.uk)

## 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).**

## 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.

## 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 £11. To find out where your donation goes, click on the link <https://www.worldbookday.com/>.

### Surplus food from M&S

On a Monday and Thursday evening, staff pick up surplus food from M&S which would otherwise go to waste. Anything we can't use for snack for the children, we put outside on Tuesday Friday for parents to take. Please help yourself to save food waste.

### Snack donation

Thank you to the parents who continue to donate to the children's snack time. The school provides cow's 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.



Happy Easter to our families celebrating later this month.



We wish Ramadan Mubarak to everyone who will be observing this month.



### Important Dates

**Thursday 28 March** - School CLOSED INSET day  
**Friday 29 March** – School CLOSED – Bank Holiday  
**1-12 April** (inclusive) – Easter holidays – School CLOSED  
**Monday 6 May** – Bank Holiday – School CLOSED  
**27-31 May** (inclusive) – Half term holiday – School CLOSED

## St Philip's Marsh/Cashmore are part of the My School Fund initiative to help boost our budget

We're pleased to announce that St Philip's Marsh Nursery School/Cashmore Early Years Centre is part of the My School Fund initiative. This innovative scheme allows for us to be able to boost our school's budget with your help.

### How does it work?

Parents, guardians and carers can sign up to the scheme for free and start earning cashback on the things they buy in participating retail stores, including Sainsbury's and Argos. As you spend you'll receive 2% cashback in the form of eGift vouchers that can be redeemed in participating stores. By linking your spend to our school on the My School Fund website we'll also earn 1% cashback on your spend.

Add that all up across our school's network of families and together we can all make a big difference!

### How to get involved

Visit [myschoolfund.org](https://myschoolfund.org) to register for free and link to St Philip's Marsh Nursery School BS2 0SU. From there, everything you spend in participating stores will go towards helping boost our budget, plus your own!

Sign up today at [myschoolfund.org](https://myschoolfund.org)

**Cashback for you and your school**

In association with

Sainsbury's Argos ESPO

1% 2%

Your chosen school You

**We're part of My School Fund**

Find out more