



# Cashmore Early Years Centre

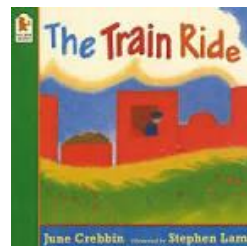
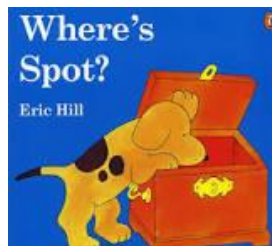
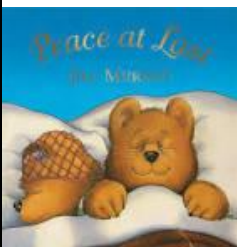
## Newsletter January 2025

**Happy New Year!**  
Welcome back to the new term



### Hippo and Giraffe Groups (2-year-olds)

The 2-year-olds have been mark making using whiteboards and pens and developing their fine motor skills by using tweezers to pick up small objects, using scissors to cut paper and their fingers to pinch and mould clay. The children have been very interested in rolling vehicles and balls down guttering pipes, "Wheeee!" Our core books are *Peace at Last*, *Where's Spot?* and *The Train Ride*.

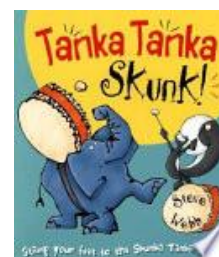
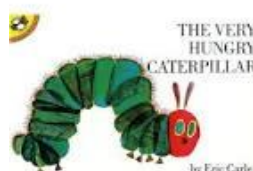
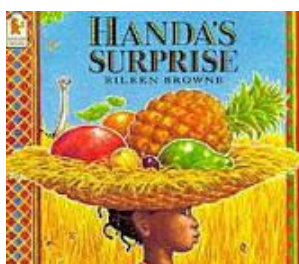


Following our interest in vehicles/trains we have been singing *Down at the Station* ([Down At The Station | Train song for toddlers | Toddler Fun Learning](#)) and *This Little Train* ([THIS LITTLE TRAIN | New Nursery Rhymes | English Songs For Kids | Nursery Rhymes TV](#)). We have also been singing number rhymes to help them to become familiar with numbers and the patterns, such as *Five little ducks* ([Five little ducks went swimming one day - BBC Teach](#)) and *Five little monkeys* ([Five little monkeys jumping on the bed - BBC Teach](#)).

### Zebra and Tiger Groups (3-year-olds)

The 3-year-olds have been exploring different ways to print. They have been printing using their fingers and hands, rolling cars through paint to make tyre tracks and making dinosaur footprints with our toy dinosaurs! They have also been developing their scissor skills by cutting up magazines and paper to create collages. The children are particularly interested in dinosaurs and creating worlds for them using sticks, leaves and building bricks.

Our core books are *Handa's Surprise*, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and *Tanka, Tanka, Skunk!*.



To tie in with the caterpillar book we have been singing *There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf* [BBC Two - Watch, The Songcatcher - Tiny Caterpillar, A song about a tiny caterpillar](#) . We have also been learning about the mathematical concept of subtracting, by taking one away each time with the song *There were ten in the bed* [Ten in the bed - BBC Teach](#). Perhaps you can sing this at home using ten cuddly toys?

## SENSORY PLAY

Sensory play - play that stimulates any of a child's senses - builds thinking, learning and problem-solving skills. Sensory play includes touch, smell, sight, sound and taste, in addition to movement, balance, and spatial awareness. Children need these experiences for brain development, and they actively seek sensory experiences. This is why messy play and outdoor play are important for children and why they are motivated by it. Please help us to support children's developmental needs by sending them to nursery in old clothes that can get dirty with paint, mud, clay, playdough, flour, glue and anything else children can get their hands on. Keep your child's best clothes for wearing at home!

Here are some recipes to try sensory play at home. Did you know if you **mix cornflour with water**, it makes a gloopy mixture that is amazing to explore? It is sometimes solid and sometimes liquid! You can add a little food colouring, if you like.



**Playdough recipe** (no cooking involved) – mix 1 cup of flour, ½ cup of salt, 1 tablespoon of cream of tartar, 1 tablespoon of oil and ¾ cup of warm water.



Soon we will be celebrating Chinese/Lunar New Year "Year of the Snake". It is always an exciting celebration for the children and an opportunity to learn about a different culture and language. We will be tasting food, and the children will also be learning different ways of expressing themselves through music and dance. You can find out more about Lunar New Year by visiting [Chinese and Lunar New Year - CBeebies - BBC](#). You can also find local celebrations by clicking on the link [Lunar \(Chinese\) New Year 2025, Bristol - Wai Yee Hong Chinese Supermarket!](#)

### Prompt pick up

**Please remember that the morning session finishes at 12.00pm (gates open at 11.50am).** Staff have lunch 12.00-12.30pm to ensure they are ready and available for all the children during the afternoon session. **The afternoon session finishes at 3.30pm (gates open at 3.20pm).** We open the gate 10 minutes beforehand to allow time to talk with you at handover/collection.

### School meals

**School meals must be paid for IN ADVANCE via ParentPay.** The school cannot keep arrears, and it is likely to lead to meals being stopped.

If your child is 3 and you are in receipt of certain benefits, you may well be entitled to free school meals. If you think you may be entitled, please ask at Reception.

### 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.



### Parking

Please **DO NOT BLOCK THE ROAD, DOUBLE PARK OR BLOCK OTHER VEHICLES IN** (even for a short period of time) when dropping off/picking up outside the Centre as it is causing frustration to the residents and there will not be enough room for emergency vehicles to get down the road. **We understand drop off/pick up is a busy time of day outside the Centre, but we encourage everyone to always be tolerant and respectful. Abusive behaviour is not acceptable.**

### Clothes and wellies

As the weather is cold, children will need appropriate clothing and footwear. We go into the garden in all weathers! Please could you provide your child with a **pair of wellies** if possible. Please also put lots of **spare clothes** in their bag in case of getting wet/toileting accidents and a **coat** as the weather is changeable. Please **write your child's name in their clothes/wellies**. Wet weather gear and 'all weather' suits are also a very good way to keep children dry and can be purchased quite reasonably.



### Reception library

**Please borrow a book** to share with your child! We have library shelves in Reception and by the door where you drop off your child. Let your child choose a book to enjoy at home, then return it and choose another book. Reading with your child is great for their listening and attention skills, language development, brain development and a lovely bonding time for you and your child. You don't always need to read the words, it's also good to talk about the pictures.



### Closure due to bad weather

We always try to keep the school open and plan carefully for all eventualities. However, on occasions we have had to close because of severe conditions. This is usually snow related and because of health and safety or staff shortages. If we are in a situation where we cannot open the Centre, it will be announced on local radio stations (Radio Bristol 95.5FM) and published on the Local Authority website and Centre website and Facebook page. We will also send an email to you via ParentPay.



[www.bristolcity.gov.uk](http://www.bristolcity.gov.uk)

<https://cashmoreearlyyearscentre.co.uk/>

### World Book Day

World Book Day is 6 March 2025 and we are celebrating it on **Wednesday 5 March**. Your child is invited to dress up in pyjamas, bring a teddy, their favourite book and £1 donation. To find out where your donation goes, click on the link <https://www.worldbookday.com/>.

Please remember that children will still be playing outside so ensure that they have warm clothes to put over/under their pyjamas.

### Travelling Light

We are lucky to be joined every week by Rebecca from the [Travelling Light Theatre Company](#). She is working with Naznin to develop the children's communication and language skills in creative ways. Every week, Rebecca brings interesting fabrics and items that the children use to make up stories and games together. They have a lot of fun together!



### Yoga

This term, we are inviting the children to join in with weekly Yoga sessions. Linda from Active Kids is a qualified yoga teacher who guides the adults and children to try out different yoga poses. At nursery, we like the way that yoga helps children learn to control their bodies, find new ways of moving and to feel a sense of calm.



### Contacting the Police

A message from our local Police Community Support Officer (PCSO), Louise. She is reminding everyone that there are lots of different ways to contact the police if you have a concern:

Call 999 if you need help right away, or you are scared about something that is happening

Call 101 if you have a concern but it is not an emergency

Report a concern on the police website: <https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/report/>



## **NHS Supervised Tooth Brushing Programme**

Over the next few months, we plan to introduce daily supervised toothbrushing for our children during the school day. This NHS scheme is brought to us by Big Brush Club (see website <https://bigbrushclub.co.uk/>) and the aim is to help children in Reception and Nursery/Pre-schools brushing their teeth during school time to help tackle tooth decay. Children will be supervised during the brushing sessions every day. Each child will receive their own toothbrush to use at nursery, which will be easily identifiable and will be stored in a safe storage system. Brushing at home is just as, if not more, important than brushing at school. As part of the supervised toothbrushing programme, we will provide your child with their own home kit.

Please see the information below. Before we start, the scheme will be asking you to give written consent.

Big Brush Club are hosting several live oral health improvement webinars for parents/guardians. These sessions will provide valuable information on how to support children aged 0-11 years to have the best oral health start. During each session there will be two dental care professionals presenting and on hand to answer any questions you might have throughout the webinar. Cameras or microphones are not required to be used, however there will be a chat box to ask any questions you might have throughout.

### **Parent Oral health improvement webinars:**

**Wednesday 19th February at 7.30pm** - <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/d80297b4-a4eb-4736-9819-4f10f6c16a14@11f187f2-a328-4d92-a1f2-a711ff09055d>

**Thursday 20th March at 7pm** - <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/fc918f1d-1937-4dd6-8caf-876b2e17c4da@11f187f2-a328-4d92-a1f2-a711ff09055d>

Hello Parents/Carers

Your child is currently taking part in or due to start brushing their teeth in the classroom setting, which has been provided externally by the Big Brush Club.

Can I kindly ask for you to complete a short survey, using the link provided [Parent Survey - The Big Brush Club](#)

By completing this survey this will help the team at Big Brush Club to identify any barriers the children may face when brushing their teeth currently, it will also give an insight on their current brushing routines and how much support the children are receiving with their brushing at home.

Your support in providing this information is a key factor to help improve the oral health of young children across the Southwest.



### **Important Dates**

**Every Wednesday 9.00-11.00am** (term time only) – coffee morning at Wellspring Settlement with member of Cashmore staff

Half term holiday (school CLOSED) – **17-21 February (inclusive)**

**Wednesday 5 March** – celebration of Word Book Day

Easter holiday (school CLOSED) – **7-21 April (inclusive)**

Full details of all Bristol City Council term dates until Jul 2026 can be accessed [HERE](#)

Service provided by:



### RE: NHS Supervised Tooth Brushing Programme

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Good news – Your school has been enrolled to provide daily supervised toothbrushing for your children during the school day.

This NHS scheme is brought to us by Big Brush Club and our aim is to get children in Reception and Nursery/ Pre-schools brushing during school time to help tackle tooth decay.

Developmentally, this is such an important age and we can really make a difference to children's long term oral health by committing to this simple and effective programme. Tooth decay is the most common disease in children and an average of 3 days of school per year are missed due to dental problems causing parents and carers to have time off work for appointments. This is easily preventable through the use of fluoride toothpaste and regular brushing.

Children will be supervised during the brushing sessions every day and will be under the guidance of trained 'Oral Health Champions'. Each child will receive their own toothbrush, which will be easily identifiable and will be stored in a safe storage system.

It is important children continue to brush their teeth at home, with a fluoride toothpaste. To support this, we are sending children home with their own pack which includes a toothbrush, toothpaste and information leaflet. We would greatly appreciate your support to encourage your children with their brushing in a positive way.

Visit our website ([www.bigbrushclub.co.uk](http://www.bigbrushclub.co.uk)) to learn more and view videos and apps that are useful in engaging your children and timing their brushing for 2 minutes.

**Allergies:** Please ensure you let the nursery or school know of any allergies or health issues your child may have which could mean they are unable to take part in the scheme.

**Consent:** to consent for your child to take part in the scheme, please fill in the attached form and return this to your child's school / teacher.

If you wish to discuss the scheme further or would like to know more about how to improve your child's oral hygiene, your Big Brush Club Facilitator can answer all your questions. Please get in touch via [info@bigbrushclub.co.uk](mailto:info@bigbrushclub.co.uk).

Yours Sincerely,

Justin Marney  
Managing Director



# Parents & Carers




**Come for a coffee, play  
and chat at**



**Wednesdays  
9.00 – 11.00am**

Join Tracey and  
the Cashmore  
team!





Travelling Light presents

# Winter Lights

*Celebrating moments of joy and light*

A community event for the whole family

**Sunday 26 January, 1 – 5.30pm**

**Lantern parade, 5.30 – 6pm**

Wellspring Settlement,  
43 Ducie Road, Barton Hill, BS5 0AX.

**Free  
entry**

**Theatre performances & games**

**Crafts**

**Storytelling**

**Lantern making  
& parade!**

At St Philip's Marsh Nursery School/Cashmore Early Years Centre we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. This is our safeguarding team.



**Charlotte Carter**  
**Headteacher**  
**Designated Safeguarding Lead**



**Clare Morton**  
**Deputy Headteacher**  
**Deputy Safeguarding Lead**



**Sharon Cutler**  
**School Business Manager**  
**Deputy Safeguarding Lead**



**Emmeline James**  
**Inclusion Lead**  
**Deputy Safeguarding Lead**



**Heidi Taylor**  
**Governor**  
**Named Safeguarding Governor**