



# Cashmore Early Years Centre

## Newsletter December 2025

The staff and governors of St Philip's Marsh Nursery School/Cashmore Early Years Centre wish you and your family a very Happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful New Year.



### 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 maths and literacy skills:

Number/shape spotting games - See if you can spot shapes and numbers in the environment e.g. on road signs, price tags, remote controls, computer keyboards, door numbers.

Name that tune game - Sing simple songs that your child knows 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 to sing, too.

### It's Christmas!

For the last two weeks of term, we will be celebrating the Christian festival of Christmas. We will be hosting two Christmas parties, on **Tuesday 9 December (morning)** and **Thursday 11 December (afternoon)**. If your child does not normally attend one of these sessions, please speak to your child's key person.

For the parties, we would be very grateful for **donations of party food** (please see attached list). If you would prefer, you are welcome to make a money donation and food items will be bought prior to the parties.



### 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.

### 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 local residents and there will not be enough room for emergency vehicles to get down the road.

### Application for primary school

Please remember that the **deadline for applying for a Reception Class place for your child is 15 January 2026** (if your child was born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022). The online application system is now open ([www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/schooladmissions)). Some primary schools may be arranging open mornings/evenings or have virtual tours available on their websites. If you require any help with this, please ask. Please let us know when you have applied.



### Family photo boards



We have a family photo display of the children in our setting to help with their sense of belonging and community. Please could you give us some photos of your child with their family which you are happy to have displayed in school (no more than 3). If you do not have access to a printer, you are very welcome to email photos to us at [clare.morton@bristol-schools.uk](mailto:clare.morton@bristol-schools.uk)



### Clothes and wellies

As the weather is getting colder, 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.



### 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 a new parent governor.** 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 are 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 contact Maggie on Reception.

### 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's website (<https://cashmoreearlyyearscentre.co.uk/>) and Facebook page. We will also send an email to you via ParentPay.



### INSET Days

The school will be closed on the following days for staff training: **13 February, 2 April, 1 June 2026**



### Important Dates

**Every Wednesday 10.00-11.30am** (term time only) – coffee morning at Wellspring Settlement with member of Cashmore staff

Christmas party – **Tuesday 9 December, morning only**

Christmas party – **Thursday 11 December, afternoon only**

Menu change – festive roast dinner – **Wednesday 10 December**

Christmas holidays – School **CLOSED** – **Monday 22 December to Friday 2 January (inclusive)**

**Return to School – Monday 5 January**

**INSET Days** (School closed) – **13 February, 2 April, 1 June 2026**

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



## 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, meat or egg products (egg in cake is allowed)**

Cheese and tomato pizza (this will be cooked on site)

Cooked vegetarian sausage rolls

Cooked vegetarian cocktail sausages

Cooked cheese and onion rolls

Savoury snacks – e.g. Pringles, Hula Hoops, crisps

Savoury biscuits – e.g. Cheddars, Ritz, cream crackers

Cucumber and carrot sticks

Cheese

Bread sticks

Fairy cakes

Biscuits - party rings, chocolate fingers

Fruit

If you would prefer, you are welcome to **make a money donation** and food items will be bought prior to the parties.





# Winter Clothing



Now the weather has changed, please remember to provide appropriate outdoor clothing for your child as we experience lots of learning when we go outside in all types of weather.

Also, please don't forget to label your child's clothes.

Thank you

Rainy Day



Wellington boots



Waterproof Coat & Trousers

Wintery day



Coat



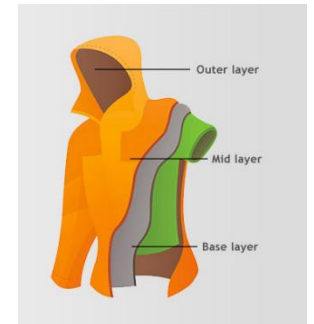
Hat



Gloves



Scarf



Layers of clothes