

Welcome to Caverstede Nursery School I hope your child/ren are settling well into the nursery routine. Please do not worry if your child is taking a little time to fully settle, this is quite normal.

We will be sending out newsletters on a regular basis to keep you up to date with the events and activities that are taking place at Caverstede, please do look out for them. If you are not sure where to find information please ask your child's Key Person and they will direct you.

If there is anything you want to know about the School or your child's progress, please do talk to the staff or you can speak to me. If you ever want to talk to me about any issues or concerns please do ask at reception and we can arrange a convenient time to meet. I look forward to getting to know you and your children over the course of the year.

I wanted to mention to those of you who have children in the Butterfly class or the older children in the Buzzy Bee class that you need to be thinking about where you would like your child to go to school next September. It seems early but you need to have made your decision and applied for a school place by January 15th 2023. For some of you this will be the first time that you will have had to go through the process. My advice would be to do your research! Go and look at the schools you are thinking of and talk to other parents. You are the ones who know your children best and by going to look round potential schools and asking questions will help you to make the right decision for you and your child.

Once you have made your decision apply online at www.peterborough.gov.uk/admissions The website is already open and is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week. It will close on 15th January 2023. On this website there is a booklet entitled 'Primary School Admission' which gives the admission criteria of all the schools in Peterborough.

You will be asked to put down three schools in your order of choice.

You will be informed which school you have been allocated on Primary National Offer day which is 17th April 2023.

If you would like any help with completing the online application please do not hesitate to ask at reception.

Debbie

Caverstede Governing Board has a range of duties and responsibilities, which ensure that the school operates efficiently and effectively.

We currently have a vacancy for a Parent Governor and are inviting nominations. Details of the role, who is eligible and what is involved will be sent out on ParentMail. Please check this or ask for more information if you are interested.

Nominations should be received by Friday 4th November, after which time an election may be held. Further details of this process will be sent as needed.

Please either speak to Debbie or to the Clerk to the Governing Board, Jackie Lowe.

Child Protection and Safeguarding for Schools

We take child protection issues extremely seriously; at all times we consider the protection and safety of the child in our care. Child protection issues are always dealt with in the appropriate ways. All staff have attended child protection training and are familiar with the correct procedures.

At Caverstede Nursery School we follow the Child Protection procedures for the Peterborough Safeguarding Board.

"It may be helpful for you to know that the law (Children Act 1989) requires all school staff to pass on information which gives rise to a concern about a child's welfare, including risk from non-accidental injury, neglect, emotional or sexual abuse. Schools are encouraged to take the attitude that where there are grounds for concern they should be over-cautious, and seek advice, rather than to risk a child's safety. Occasionally, this duty on staff means that a concern is passed on which is later shown to be unfounded. It is hoped that parents/carers will appreciate how difficult it is for schools to carry out this delicate responsibility, and accept that the staff member was acting in good faith and in the best interests of all children."

We have named people for child protection they are Debbie Hayes, Katy Coles, Hannah Haigh and Emily Wiseman.

If you have concerns regarding children's safety and protection, it is essential that you contact your child's key person, class teacher or the Headteacher.



Security & Safeguarding; Mobile phones and personal cameras are only permitted to be used at in the school reception and parent café and NOT in the Nursery garden. It is important that you do not use your phone whilst settling your child into nursery or when dropping off and collecting your child. We thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

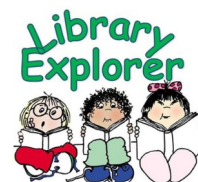


Keeping safe and considerate parking

If you drive to Caverstede, could we please ask that you park with care and **avoid double parking or parking on yellow lines**. This is illegal and makes the road dangerous for all the children and families who are using it. There is also a disabled parking bay at the front of the nursery which is there for the use of those who need this facility so please do not park here. Please also consider our neighbours along Caverstede Road and avoid parking across driveways or on the grass verges.

Borrowing library books from the Caverstede library

All classes have boards outside with pictures of books that can be borrowed. If you haven't yet started to borrow books, why not start! There are lots to choose from. Select a card from the board, pop it into your book bag and put the book bag into the box near the boards. Your book will then be ready to take home later in the day. You will need a book bag so that you can take books home and keep them clean, dry and safe. You will have all been given a plastic bag when you started which you can use or we have material book bags available from reception and cost £4. Or you may have a suitable bag at home that you would like to use. Please check our [website](#) for details on how to use the library.



After the October Half Term, we will also be starting Library Explorers. This is a scheme to encourage reading and as a reward at the end of the period, all children who have borrowed books will receive their very own book to keep and enjoy. More details will be sent nearer the time.



NOTICE TO ALL PARENTS AND VISITORS TO OUR SCHOOL

Caverstede Nursery School is a ZERO TOLERANCE ZONE. Inappropriate language, threats or acts of aggression towards staff, visitors or other parents will not be tolerated on these premises. Anyone behaving in such a way will be asked to leave; they may receive a ban from the premises and their behaviour may be reported to the police.

IMPORTANT!

We realise that the beginning and end of the sessions are very busy. Please make sure you keep hold of your child once you have collected them and before you leave the school.

MISSING SCHOOL IS MISSING OUT - EVERY DAY COUNTS!!

Attending school **every day** is very important. Even a short time of absence from school can mean that a child misses out on a significant part of the curriculum, which can impact on their learning. Ofsted always ask for the school's attendance data. We monitor each child's attendance and absence record and you will receive copies of this information. **If your child is ill and will not be attending school please telephone the school on the day of absence to inform us.** Thank you.

Term Dates 2022 - 2023

Autumn Term

Classes close: Friday 21st October 2022
Half Term; 24th - 28th October
INSET/Staff Training - Monday 31st Oct - **NURSERY CLOSED**
Classes start; Tuesday 1st November
Classes close; Wednesday 21st December

Spring Term

INSET/Staff Training - Weds 4th Jan 2023 - **NURSERY CLOSED**
Classes start; Thursday 5th January
Classes close; Friday 10th February
Half Term; 13th - 17th February 2023
Classes start; Monday 20th February
Classes close; Friday 31st March

Summer Term

INSET/Staff Training - Monday 17th April - **NURSERY CLOSED**
Classes start; Tuesday 18th April
May Day; Monday 1st May
Classes close; Friday 26th May
Half Term; 29th May - 2nd June 2023
Classes start; Monday 5th June
Classes close; Wednesday 19th July

Bertie the School Dog

Bertie is a Labrador, who has been visiting Caverstede and meeting the children for over 6 years now. Bertie visits the classrooms throughout the year, we aim for this to happen every half term. We start this a little later in the Ladybirds. Allowing them time to be completely settled.

This is a fabulous opportunity for children to become familiar with a dog, and talk and learn about how to care for and approach a dog safely. Over the years, we have seen many children become more confident around him over time, and be happy to stroke him, and talk about how to approach any dog safely. Bertie's arrival in the nursery always seems to have a positive impact on children and staff well being too, another reason we try and get him in the school as often as we can! We are hoping that Bertie will be visiting on Thursday 20th October. We do try and vary the days he visits, so that the children who don't attend every day of the week will have an opportunity to meet him at different points in the year. If your child has an allergy to dogs/fur please let your child's key person and/or class teacher know.





Welcome to the Buzzy Bee class;

A warm welcome to the Buzzy Bee classroom. The children are settling so well into the Buzzy Bee's this term. They are quickly becoming used to the routines of the day and are confident in accessing the resources independently.

We are currently reading the stories "WOW! Said The Owl", and "Owl Babies" With our older children focusing on Owl Babies, and our younger children on Wow! Said the Owl.

The children have enjoyed listening to the stories in small groups, and one-to-one with an adult. They are embracing activities based on owls such as painting owls, and creating them out of clay. They have looked closely at the feathers and used them in the playdough when representing their own Owls. We will be finding out facts about owls using some non-fiction books and the internet.

We are beginning to look at the changing seasons. Autumn provides us with lots of wonderful opportunities to learn about changes and the natural world. We will use conkers, fallen leaves/seeds etc to do a wide variety of activities, from crafts to counting, measuring and developing their physical skills.

We will also soon be starting to visit our Woodland garden once a week where the children will be able to experience gardening, fire building, den building, bug hunting and much more. Benefits of our woodland days include; confidence, social skills, communication, concentration, physical skills, knowledge and understanding, new perspectives.

We ask that with the changing weather, you send clothing appropriate for the weather, e.g. Wellies and coats. We do provide a waterproof suit for wet days. Our Woodland day for this term until Christmas, is Tuesday, and we will be starting to visit the Woodland Garden from Week Commencing 10th October.

Welcome to the Ladybird class;

A warm welcome to all of our new families and a big thank you for all of your support during the settling in period.

The children are settling in really well and are enjoying exploring all that our classroom has to offer.

Our core story over the coming weeks is one of our favourite stories in the Ladybird room, 'Dear Zoo'. We shall be sharing the book with the children and theming all of our learning around it.

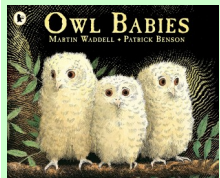
Through the story, we shall explore animals, counting, size, sounds and textiles. We shall be providing lots of hands on learning experiences.

This half term, we will also be learning the routines of our nursery day and supporting the children in their learning of this. We shall be promoting independence by encouraging the children to have a try at taking off and putting on their coats by themselves, supported by staff. If you could practice this skill at home, by encouraging them to put their arms in the sleeves (don't worry about the tricky zips and buttons yet!) then that would be lovely.

It has been lovely to meet you all and if you have any questions or worries then please don't hesitate to speak to a member of the Ladybird Team

Welcome to the Butterfly class:

The children have settled in really quickly into their new Butterfly class and it is lovely to see them all exploring! They are learning the routines including snack and group times. The children are happily playing inside and outside as well as trying some new activities.

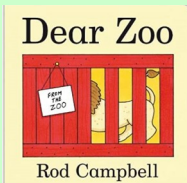
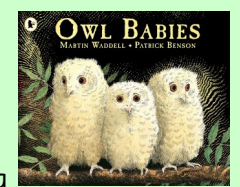
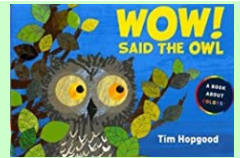


Our core story for the next few weeks is 'Owl Babies' by Martin Waddell. We will be reading the story and looking at the pictures to help us to start learning about owls. We will be finding out facts about owls using some non-fiction books and the internet. We are drawing, printing and painting owls. We have been finding feathers in the Woodland garden and looking at different birds using the binoculars.

We are learning about the season of Autumn through finding lots of fallen leaves, seeds, pine cones and conkers in both gardens. We have been doing some conker rolling using conkers in paint, printing using apples, counting conkers and looking for spiders in their webs. We will be collecting lots of sticks so we can use them to paint with, decorate them and wrap wool around them.

We have been singing and playing different instruments. We have been singing familiar songs and rhymes as well as learning some new ones! The children love singing!

Please could the children bring some wellie boots and a warm waterproof coat as the weather is getting colder and wetter as the term is progressing. Our woodland day for this term will be a Wednesday and this starts week commencing 10th October.



Choking

Each day around 40 under-5s are rushed to hospital after choking on something, or swallowing something dangerous. Food is the most likely cause, but small objects and toys can also be risky for young children.

Such a scary thought that something could stop your child breathing. But, the steps to stop that happening are simple and make sense.

Choking –Young children are still learning to chew, swallow and breathe in the right order. There's no sound to warn you. But there are simple ways to stop it happening.

- Cut round food like grapes, tomatoes and big blueberries lengthways and into quarters, not just across
- Cut hard food like carrots, apples, sausages and cheese into thin strips
- Cut large fruits like melon into slices instead of small chunks
- Avoid popcorn, marshmallows and hard round sweets like mini eggs or boiled sweets
- Put small parts from older children's toys out of reach
- Sausages should be avoided due to their high salt content, but if offered to children these should be cut into thin strips rather than chunks and remove the skins

Watch the Chokeables film for first aid advice www.sja.org.uk/thechokeables

Information taken from <https://www.capt.org.uk/choking-prevention>



Applying for a primary school place

If your child was born between 1 September 2018 and 31 August 2019, and you live in Peterborough you need to apply for a Reception school place.

To apply for a place if you live in Peterborough, please visit the following website <https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-education/school-admissions/starting-school-in-reception>

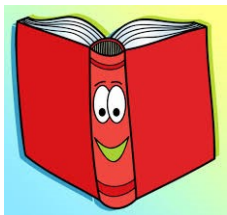
The deadline for applications is 15 January 2023, you will then get an offer for a place on 17 April 2023.

Easyfundraising

We've registered Caverstede Nursery School with #easyfundraising, which means over 4,000 shops and sites will now donate to us for FREE every time you use #easyfundraising to shop with them.

These donations will help SO MUCH, so please sign up to support us – it's completely FREE and doesn't take long. Thank you!

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/caverstedenursery/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=fb2&fbclid=IwAR1R0haexYo4TV7jZHwXVtGKAst7LCtDcJSuPci3wQdTtZkl3YaymP4fns



Our new **Scholastic Book Club** is up and running! Go to <https://schools.scholastic.co.uk/caverstede/digital-book-club> to browse the latest

books and order online. For **every £1 you spend** on this month's Book Club, **our school will earn 20p** in Scholastic Rewards and we can buy new books for the school.

Please place your **order online by October 31st**



INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PHOTO'S

These will be taken at the school

on Monday 7th November, by a new photographer from The Studio.

If you do not usually attend on a Monday, you can come in to have your photo taken. Specific times will be arranged nearer the time. Please keep checking for more information which will be sent out by ParentMail.

Amazon Smile

We have also signed up with Amazon Smile so when you shop on Amazon, a donation of 0.5% will be made to the school as a registered charity at no extra cost to you. Please follow the following link to set this up on your account and use each time you shop on AmazonSmile

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/272813-0>