

Ofsted say we are 'OUTSTANDING'

As I am sure you are all aware we had a visit from Ofsted before half term!

We received a telephone call from Ofsted at mid morning on Monday 22nd January to inform us that our inspection was to take place on Tuesday and Wednesday 23rd and 24th January. We would all like to thank you for the support you offered us, for example; through completing Parent View and talking to the Inspectors during the inspection.

We have received the grading of OUTSTANDING on the following occasions: 13th March 2007, 24th - 25th November 2010, 26th-27th September 2013, 5th February 2015, 14th February 2017, 8th June 2022 and now 23-24th January 2024. Look out for this being celebrated in the Peterborough Telegraph.

Thank you to those parents who responded to our call for a Parent Governor early in the Autumn, we had two people put themselves forward Kate James and Karolina Chlumova, who have now joined the board. We are now looking for more governors please see the article later in this newsletter.

Attendance at Caverstede is improving, thank you for sending your children regularly, currently our overall attendance is 90%. You may be interested to know that we have 8 pupils who have 100% attendance so far this year - well done.

Debbie

Term Dates 2023 - 2024

Classes close;	Thursday 28th March
Summer Term	
Classes start;	Monday 15th April
May Day;	Monday 6th May - NURSERY CLOSED
Classes close;	Friday 24th May
Half Term;	27th May - 31st May 2024 - Nursery Closed
Classes start;	Monday 3rd June
Classes close;	Friday 19th July

Nursery places: We are in the process of allocating spaces for September.

If you know of anyone looking for a nursery place for their 2, 3 or 4 year old please ask them to get in touch with us to check availability.

Upcoming weeks:

w/c 15th April:	celebrating and learning about Eid,
w/c 22 nd April:	Road Safety week,
w/c 29th April and 6 th May:	May Pole dancing within the nursery garden
w/c 13 th May & 20 th May:	Chicks, (Happy chick company)

Following road safety weeks, we will start going for walks in the local environment around Caverstede throughout the summer term.



Ladybird class

Our core story this half term has been “We’re Going on a Bear Hunt” and the children have enjoyed a variety of woodland and animal-based activities. In the class, we have been exploring the story through small world play, using our tough spot characters and puppets to retell the story. We have also explored the language of size and position through our supporting text of “Where’s My Teddy”. Outdoors, the children have enjoyed going on their own bear hunts and we have introduced the ‘A’ frames for climbing and the longer planks for balancing skills. The children have taken quickly to these and we have quite a group of fearless children emerging, always up for the challenge!

We have also continued our many adventures in the Woodland garden this half term and the children have explored the textures of mud and water through a variety of play in the mud kitchen and digging pod.

Could we once again please remind all parents to make sure that your child has the appropriate clothing to keep them warm in this cooler weather, such as a hat, gloves and warm coat. We provide puddle suits and wellies, but welcome children to bring their own.

Next term our core story will be “The Very Hungry Caterpillar” to continue to develop our language around food and counting.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Parents of all our children in Ladybirds for their fantastic support this year so far. I will miss you all as I go on Maternity leave but I know that I leave you with a fantastic teacher in Jayne coming in. She has visited us lots over the last few weeks and come to know the children well. I know that I leave you in safe hands with her and my team!

We hope you all have a lovely holiday and thank you for your continued support.

The Ladybird Team

Butterfly class

This half term, we have been looking at and listening to the traditional tale ‘Jack and the Beanstalk’. The children have been enjoying this story and learning about the main characters. We have a tuff tray with the characters and small world props so the children can use them to retell the story. We have grown some bean seeds in clear plastic bags so the children can see the roots and shoots growing as we have been talking about the lifecycle of a bean. Also we have planted some bean seeds in pots and are still waiting to see any shoots! The children have made beanstalks using different materials including paper, wool, wood, paint and real leaves. We have talked a lot about size and used many different words to describe it including enormous, tiny, large, small, tall and short. The children have investigated different types of beans as they can be different colours, sizes and shapes. We have eaten baked beans on toast and are currently growing some Mung beans in jars.

The children enjoyed drawing their mum’s for their Mothers Day cards and they are currently making a decoration for Easter. We have been talking about the celebration of Easter and the season of Spring. The children have been noticing the daffodils and other flowers growing in the garden.

The children enjoyed another visit from Bertie the dog who belongs to Katy. They can stroke him if they want to and they asked Katy lots of questions this time about Bertie.

The children also enjoyed another ‘Cinema Experience’ and this time we watched ‘Room on the Broom’. They also had a ticket and ate a chocolate biscuit as a treat.

We have done several woodland sessions with Ali in the Woodland garden. The children have been practising putting on their wet suits and wellies. Also they have been playing in the mud kitchen, using real spades in the digging pod, doing various scavenger hunts for different things, making various soups for the giant, learning to use the hammers and nails safely and splashing in puddles. The children have been really enjoying playing and exploring in this area.

Next term – Summer 1 our new core story is the traditional tale ‘The Billy Goats Gruff’.

Thank you for your continued support and have a lovely break.

Emily and The Butterfly Team



Buzzy Bee class

The children continue to embrace our core stories and this half term has been no exception. The children have really enjoyed the core story of Jack and the Beanstalk, they quickly became familiar with the text and able to retell the story and use key phrases within their play. The children have been planting some seeds on Woodland day, explored different sized and shaped beans in their tactile play and had baked beans for snack. Both the Buzzy Bees and Butterfly classes joined up during World Book week to listen to the story and help act it out as a large group in the nursery garden, where after throwing the beans out - mysteriously a beanstalk grew in the garden in the following days!

The children had a fabulous experience of author and artist Ellie Sandall joining us during world book week, where she read the story of Balancing Bernie and followed this with activities such as balancing the soft toy dogs and decorating their own dog picture.

A huge interest in the Buzzy Bees has been potion making and experimenting. We have gone with the children's interests and regularly, the children mix together all sorts of concoctions to create their 'magic potions', from creating wizards and dragons to turning each other into lizards! The children have gone on to asking to make experiments and explosions. We have so far experimented with making and melting ice, seeing what happens when mixing vinegar and bicarbonate of soda and watched the reaction of coke and Mentos! All these activities are creating wonderful opportunities for their creative and expressive language, their imaginations and developing their scientific knowledge when to see what happens when different things are mixed together.

The children are really starting to develop their skills in zipping up their coats, something we'd love you to continue to support at home, as this is something that will really help them when they move on to school in September. Encouraging them to put on their own shoes and doing their fastenings is another way we can support their independence as they get ready to move on to their new school.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to the final term with your children, we will be reading the story 'Three Billy Goats Gruff' next half term, and have lots of exciting things planned for the summer term!

The Buzzy Bee Team



Keeping safe and considerate parking

Please park with care and consideration for residents and others

when driving to the school. There have been parking enforcement officers visiting recently and they will continue to do so over the next term. So please only park as per the road markings to avoid receiving any parking tickets. This includes only using the disabled parking bay if you have a blue badge and as per the guidelines. Thank you.

New Schools:

In April you will be finding out your child's school place for September 2024, we ask that you let the classrooms know as soon as possible which school you have accepted so that we can make contact with the schools in the summer term to start talking to them about your child in preparation for September.



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.



School photographs

We are having the class group photographs taken on Tuesday 14th May. This will be taken during the session times. If you do not usually attend on Tuesday but would like to be in the photograph, you can bring your child in at a specific time to take part in this. Times are still to be arranged so please ask nearer the date.

There will also be an opportunity to have an individual photograph taken in the woodland garden. We will be asking parents if they would like their child to have their photo taken on their own (which will be on the same day as the group photograph) and photographs will only be taken of those children whose parents have requested this. More details and how to request this will be sent out after the Easter holidays.

Save the date!

We are holding our



on
Thursday 23rd May
3.45 - 5.45

More details will be sent
out soon!

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. We have a duty of care to follow up any unadvised absence and will contact you 30 minutes after the session start time if we have not heard from you. This could be by telephone, Parentmail or visit. Thank you.

Parentmail

Just a reminder that if you change your contact details, can you please update this on your Parentmail account. This is especially important for mobile phone numbers as we send texts out for more urgent messages or to let you know that we have sent an email that needs reading

Caverstede Governing Board

Our governing board is made up of a diverse range of governors from varying backgrounds, bringing a different range of skills to help set the school's vision, aims and objectives as one of their core functions.

We welcome applications from everyone and see the value of the different experiences and skills each person will have. They should also have a keen interest in our school and children. A diverse governing board will help children from all backgrounds to succeed and thrive. We encourage all members of the local community, regardless of age, experience and background, to apply for the role. Our governing board is welcoming, friendly and supportive to each other and new members of the board.

We are particularly looking for governors with skills around business, personnel and finance to join the board. If you feel you have these or know someone who does and would be keen to join our school board, please get in touch with either our chair of governors, headteacher or clerk for more information.



Borrowing library books from the Caverstede library

If you have been a Library Explorer this term, you will receive your new book to keep when we return after the Easter holidays.

We will then start a new Library Explorer period, running from 15th April until 24th May - so you will still have time to get to love borrowing books from our library! A new selection will be ready for you to choose from after Easter.

**Just a reminder that if you have borrowed books this school year and have yet to return them, please could you do so as soon as possible.
Thank you.**