



## NEWSLETTER – February 2016

01278 441270 (Open 8am -5.30pm Mon-Fri)

Childcare@Bridgwater.ac.uk

The  
CHILD CARE  
Centre

BRIDGWATER  
COLLEGE

**Staffing Update** - We are currently advertising for a Centre Manager, in the interim Charlotte Weech is Acting Manager, with Caren Egan taking on the role of Acting Deputy Manager. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to speak to Charlotte or Caren. You will also notice Serena back in reception who has been off on maternity leave, she has lots of new families to get to know so please introduce yourself!

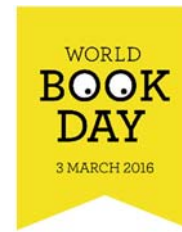
**ParentZone** - Launched on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January. If you have verified your email address you should now have access. If you have any problems accessing ParentZone please speak to Julie in reception. We hope you have all enjoyed looking at what your child has been doing at Nursery, we have had some fantastic feedback from Parents so far. We will send out a survey in the next few weeks to see what you think of ParentZone.

### Clothing & Essentials

We will be out in all weathers. Please bring your child in a warm jumper, waterproof coat, suitable clothing and a pair of wellies. Children need to come to nursery with a spare set of clothes, enough nappies and baby wipes if your child requires them, or spare underwear in case of accidents!

If your child (or any older children) has grown out of their wellies, we would be grateful if you could donate them to us.

We will all be dressing up as our favourite book characters (not superheroes!) for **World Book Day on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**. It would be lovely if you could bring in a book containing the character so we can read it with your child.



**Forest School** - During our Forest School sessions this term we have enjoyed making bird feeders using bird seed and lard, exploring the ice and measurement activities using string and sticks to find out how long and short things found in the garden are.... Including measuring ourselves. We also made kites on windy days and looked closely at the shapes we can find in an area by throwing a hoop and seeing where it landed.



### Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

We are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers... Please help us to collect as many as possible! Our collection box can be found in reception.

### Absence & Sickness

We have a board on the reception counter that displays if any children in the centre have had any illness you need to be aware of. Recently we have had a few cases of Chicken Pox. If you suspect your child has Chicken Pox please keep them home from Nursery for 5 days following the onset of the rash.

If your child is ill or is going to be absent from Nursery for whatever reason, please can you ring in or email by **gam** if possible. Please remember if your child has sickness or diarrhoea they need to be clear of symptoms for 48 hours before coming back to nursery.

**If they are unwell and require Calpol, they are too ill to be in nursery, please keep them at home.**

This is to prevent the spread of the illness.

Some parents in the 3-4 area have asked how they can help their child's learning at home. We are always willing to share ideas, however to get you started you could...

- When you are walking in town point out letters and signs, talk to your child about what they mean and follow the shape of the letter.
- When shopping ask your child to count fruit into a bag, look at numbers, pick up 'one more' etc.

### Donations for our mud kitchen

If you have any pots and pans / kitchen utensils that you no longer need we would appreciate them for the children to use outside in the mud kitchen.

**REAL** - We are working with some of our families on a literacy initiative 'REAL – Raising Early Achievement in Literacy'. Look out for upcoming workshops in the near future. If you would like to know more please speak to Caren or Amanda.

### School Leaver Photos

We have booked Timeless Images to come into the Centre to take a group photo of all the Children who will be going to school this year.

The photo will be on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 9.30am** – If your child does not attend on this day it would be fantastic if you could come in with them just for the photo! Please let us know so we can book you in.



#### Special Offer

We have some vouchers for a family portrait sitting and an 8x6 print available for a **reduced price of £20** (they are usually £50!) If you are interested please speak to reception.

**We Need You!** - Do you have hidden skills, an interesting occupation or knowledge about different cultures that you would be willing to share with the children? Please either speak to a member of staff or put your name and what you are able to offer in our 'We Need You' box.

**College Events** - There are some fantastic events coming up at the College – Mister Maker will be at McMillan Theatre on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March and Lambing Fun Day is at Rodway Farm, Cannington on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March. For more information about these events please visit [www.bridgwater.ac.uk/events](http://www.bridgwater.ac.uk/events)

### Holiday Play-Scheme

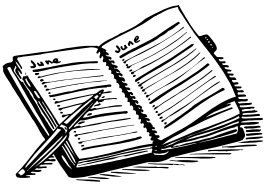
If you have a term time only place and require additional sessions in the holidays, please let us know. We are taking bookings for school aged children up to the age of 8 for Easter holidays, May half term and summer holidays. If you or anyone you know needs childcare in the holidays please contact us for more information.

### September Childcare Places

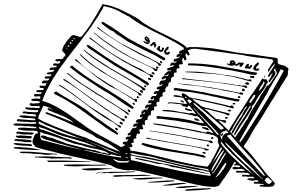
We are taking bookings across the setting for new children to start in September, if you know anyone looking for Childcare please pick up an application form for them from reception.

Did you know as a family belonging to the Childcare Centre you can join the **Bridgwater College Library?**

All you need to do is take along a form of identification to the library and join. They have a full range of children's and adult's books.



# Dates for your Diary



World Book Day	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2016
Open Evening	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2016
Bank Holiday – <b>Nursery Closed</b>	Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2016
Easter Holidays	28 <sup>h</sup> March – 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2016
Bank Holiday – <b>Nursery Closed</b>	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2016
Staff Development Day – <b>Nursery Closed</b>	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> April 2016
Primary School Offer Day	Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2016
Bank Holiday – <b>Nursery Closed</b>	Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2016
School Leavers Photos – 9.30am	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2016
Bank Holiday – <b>Nursery Closed</b>	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2016
Half Term	30 <sup>th</sup> May – 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2016
Open Evening	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2016
Celebration Day	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2016
Staff Development Day – <b>Nursery Closed</b>	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2016
Summer Holidays	21 <sup>st</sup> July – 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2016
Bank Holiday – <b>Nursery Closed</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> August 2016

## TREAT MUM AT BRIDGWATER COLLEGE'S HAIR & BEAUTY ZONE!



Make Mum feel special this Mother's Day, with a treatment in the Hair & Beauty Zone, or with a lovely gift from our product shop.

We have a range of Bed Head, L'Oreal, Orly professional nail products and nail colours, Dermalogica skin care, Tisserand, aromatherapy gift sets and essential oils, jewellery and fashionable scarves... perfect for Mother's Day!

We sell gift vouchers, which make great presents!



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