

Newsletter September 2016

A warm welcome to all the new children and families who have started this September, we look forward to getting to know your families over the coming weeks. And welcome back to a new term, to all the families who have been with us for some time or have recently moved rooms.

We hope your children settle in well and I'm sure it won't be long before they are telling you all about the friends they have made and the fun things they have been doing whilst at Nursery!

Bridgwater College has recently merged with Somerset College in Taunton.
Our new name is **Bridgwater and Taunton College**.



Every family should have access to ParentZone within one month of your child starting The Childcare Centre.

If you do not have access please verify your email address with reception.

You can upload photos and observations to your child's learning journey too. The information board in the inner foyer area has ideas of what we will be looking for.

If you would like a link to 'What to expect, when' which explains the Early Years Foundation Stage on how we decide where your child is; or need any help in anyway with ParentZone please see a member of staff.

Stay and Play - 31st October 2016

Come and play alongside your child and find out what they enjoy doing at The Childcare Centre at our Stay and Play session.

We are offering 1 hour sessions at 9am, 10am, 1pm, 2pm and 3pm on Monday 31st October.

Please speak to Reception and book in for the session you would like to attend, as spaces are limited.

Polite reminder no mobile phones or bags will be allowed onto the nursery floor, we will keep these safe in Reception for you.



Clothing & Essentials

Wellies, raincoats and hats are essential now winter is coming.
Please ensure all clothes are named.

Children need to come to nursery with a spare set of clothes, enough nappies and baby wipes (if needed) or spare underwear in case of accidents!

Donations

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. We also love anything such as boxes / tubes and pots we can use for junk modelling!

Changes

Please remember to communicate with us at all times and inform us of any changes to home or any other circumstances to do with your child. Including contact numbers and address changes.

Charity Events

Jeans for Genes - Friday 23rd September

We will be raising money by everyone wearing their jeans to nursery - all donations welcome.



Children in Need - Friday 18th November

We will be joining in the 'Big Spotaclar' to raise money for children in need by wearing something spotty and having a cake sale! We will be doing lots of 'spotty' activities all week so all children can be involved.



Wowberrys

If your child has achieved something special at home please let us help celebrate it by completing a Wowberry.

These will then be displayed on The Wowberry tree in the Reception area and celebrated each week with the children.



Absence & Sickness

If your child is ill or is going to be absent from Nursery for whatever reason, please can you ring in or email by 9am 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.

Holiday Play-Scheme

The children who attended playscheme over the Summer had lots of fun! We are taking bookings for school aged children up to the age of 8 for the October half term holidays (24th – 28th October).



If you have a term time place and would like additional sessions in the holidays please see reception.



Coming soon! LENDING LIBRARY



There will be a launch day in October for you to see what resources there are for you to borrow to support your child's learning and development at home. We have a variety of resources that can be borrowed for up to three weeks at a time.

Full details will be available at the launch day and other smaller sessions to allow everyone to attend at some point. If you are unable to make any of the sessions, please speak to your child's key-person or Amanda in reception for more information. We are looking forward to sharing the various toys and activities and hope that you find it of benefit to you and your child.

Look out for posters and e-mails with the launch dates and further details.

Ideas for activities you could do with your child at home

A focus for **mathematics** this half term is comparing. The children will compare themselves with each other, looking at height, the size of their feet and hands. They will also compare towers they have built and use language such as **bigger, tallest, smaller than, middle sized**. You can help your child by doing this at home and encouraging your child to compare 2, 3 or 5 objects by size and height.

ECAT (Every Child a Talker) Talking Tips

Dummies get in the way of talking; try to keep them just for bedtimes. Taking the dummy out will make it easier for your child to talk.

Talking to your child about what you are doing almost as a narrative helps them to learn new words and so develop their vocabulary.

Top Tips for reading with your child

Read together every day

Snuggle up in a quiet place

Children love joining in with repetitive language

Talk about the pictures

Read favourite books again and again

Use different voices for the characters

People who help us

The children has a fantastic afternoon seeing the Emergency Services. They went aboard the fire engine and looked at the equipment and uniform. The paramedic showed the children what they have in bags they carry. The police man explained to the children that all the emergency services are people who can help them.



It is everyone's responsibility, to care for children if you ever have any concerns about a child who you know you can speak to Caren Safeguarding Lead or telephone NSPCC 0808 800 5000

NSPCC 
Cruelty to children must stop. FULL STOP.

Contact us: Tel: 01278 441270 (Open 8am -5.30pm Mon-Fri)

E-mail: Childcare@Bridgwater.ac.uk

Important Dates

Friday 23rd September

Jeans for Genes day – wear your jeans to nursery!

Wednesday 12th & Thursday 20th October

Individual photos - If your child does not usually attend on these days or you would like to bring in a sibling for the photo please book a time slot with reception.

Monday 24th October to

Friday 28th October

Half Term & Playscheme

Thursday 27th October

Nursery closed for staff training

Monday 31st October

Stay and Play Day – Book your session with reception

Friday 18th November

Children in Need day – wear something spotty!

Friday 16th December to

Monday 2nd January

Christmas holidays

Tractors and Trains!

There has been a transport theme in the 0-2 room over the last few weeks. The children were very interested in the tractor they could see on the field so we went to see Keith the gardener and this tractor. We also went for a walk to the train station to see the trains.



Our Ethos

To work in partnership with parents and carers to help prepare their child to become an independent person, with confidence and enthusiasm for lifelong learning.

We approach this by creating a happy, sharing and caring environment where all children and families are welcomed and love to come.

They are encouraged to respect and value each other and be a part of our Nursery community.



REAL Project Family Workshops

We are happy to announce that we will be running the REAL (Raising Early Years Literacy) Project for a second year. Families will be invited to take part in the workshops and visits.



The results have been extremely positive and we have seen excellent progress in the children of families who have participated in this initiative. We will also be holding regular workshops for families to attend including:

School Readiness, Making Maths Fun, Explore Your World, Messy Play, Learning Through Play, Confidence Building, Social Skills and Health & Self-care.

The aim is to develop a child's understanding of their world around them to ensure they are able to be the best they can be throughout the whole of their lives. By working together, we can support them with their learning during this incredibly important stage of development.

If you have any queries about any of the workshops or the REAL Project, please speak to your child's key-person or Caren / Amanda in reception.

We are very excited about being able to offer additional activities and support to our families. We hope to see many of you at the various events over the coming months.

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