



Caversham Nursery School Newsletter

Autumn Term 2026



We hope you all had a wonderful summer and are excited to begin the new academic year together.

Staffing

As many of you are aware we said goodbye to Joanne Budge, our Executive Head. She hasn't left us entirely, as she will still be the head of the Thames Valley Early Years Stronger Practice Hub and will be based at one of our federated nurseries, Blagdon Nursery School. We're delighted to introduce Ben, our new Executive Head who has been at Caversham each week getting to know the children and the teams. We have had a few staffing changes which you should all be aware of from updates on Tapestry but please see below our 'Meet the Team' photos.

Welcome to Inventors

				
Bethany - Teacher Monday-Friday 8:30am-4pm	Sharon - Key person Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 8am-6pm	Natalia - Key person Monday-Friday 8:45am-4pm	Kimberley - Nurture Assistant Monday - Thursday 8:45am-4pm	Andrea - EYE - non key person Lunch and tea club Monday - Friday
				
Zsuzsa - Nurture Assistant 11am-3pm Monday - Friday				

Welcome to Explorers

				
Shauni Room Leader/ Deputy Nursery Manager Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8am-6pm	Lauren Room leader Monday (8-6) Wednesday (9-4), Thursday (8-6)	Cheryl Key Person Monday-Friday 8am-4pm	Marie Key Person Monday 9-2pm, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8am-4pm	Clare Nurture Assistant Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 8am-2pm
				
Jaheeda Key Person Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8-4pm	Swavka - Nurture Assistant Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am-4pm	Lesia - Nurture Assistant Lunch and SEN support Monday - Friday		

Welcome to Discoverers

			
Rachael Room Leader Monday - Thursday 8am-6pm	Edie Key Person Monday - Thursday 8am-6pm	Nikki Nurture Assistant Monday - Thursday 8am-6pm	Clare Nurture Assistant Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 8am-2pm

Safeguarding Reminders

- Please can we remind all parents to turn their engines off when collecting or dropping off your children; to prevent inhalation of exhaust fumes for the children waiting to go into nursery.
- Please ensure you are waiting in to correct queue for collecting your children to support with swift handovers.

Birthdays

We are happy to join you in celebrating the children's birthdays in nursery; we do this by singing Happy Birthday using our role-play cake. We are unable to share cakes or sweets with the children but if you would like to provide some additional fruit on the day we will share this during snack time.

Celebrations

Please remember to let us know of any festivals or other celebrations you celebrate in your home, so that we can share these with the children. Please have a look at our Diary Dates at the bottom of this newsletter to see if there are any celebrations from your cultures or religions that you can help us to learn more about by bringing in books, clothing, foods related to these.

Absences and Lateness



Please ensure that you bring your child to nursery on time each day. On the rare occasion you may be late, please call us to let us know. It is important that the children arrive on time for their sessions so that we do not disturb the teams or children's group times. If you are running late, unfortunately you will need to bring your child to reception, where you will wait with them until the team can be released from the room to come and collect them from you.

Timings for our school day are as follows:

8-9am - Breakfast Club session - flexible drop-off time.

9am-12pm for morning sessions, 9am - 3:45pm for a full day session and 12:45-3:45pm for afternoon sessions.

3:45-6pm - Tea Club session - flexible collection times

What to bring to nursery - Please ensure all clothes and belongings are clearly NAMED in a small bag. NO CARRIER BAGS PLEASE

- Water bottle - this will go home each day (please only fill with water)
- Wellington boots - to leave at nursery
- Waterproof jacket and trousers (or all in one) - to leave at nursery
- Sun hat - when needed
- Spare clothes - including underwear and socks

Please be mindful of what is in your children's bags and refrain from bringing toys, food, medication, creams or any other items not listed above.

We ask that you provide wet bags for us to store and send home wet/dirty clothes.

Children's absence

If your child is unwell or not coming to nursery for any reason, please call the office or leave a message on the answer phone. We have a duty of care to follow up any absences on the first day so please do make this call.

Consumables

Consumables Information



How It Works...

If you are in receipt of funding, an optional daily consumables charge of £2 (£1 for only AM or PM session) will be applied to your invoice.

What's Included...

The consumables charge includes: nappies, wipes, tissues, sun cream and a snack.



Other Information...

If you choose to opt out, this will need to be provided by you.



Further Information

If you have chosen to opt out, the following need to be provided by you: nappies, wipes, tissues, sun cream, nappy cream (where necessary) and a snack of fruit or vegetables to share with all the children. For example, this could be a bag of apples, a bunch of bananas or a bag of oranges, for the week.

1. all the fruit goes into a joint fruit bowl and each child chooses the fruit or vegetables they would like
2. with non-perishables, you can choose to bring in enough for a whole year i.e. x6 boxes of tissues

Please see the key dates below and when each item will need to be brought to nursery:

Key Dates	
Fruit or vegetables	weekly (from your child's first session)
Tissues	every half term
Wipes & nappies	weekly/as needed
Nappy cream	as needed
Sun cream	summer months



Focus Children and Tapestry Observations

Tapestry is a key part of our parent and nursery partnership, so we ask that you upload any home learning activities or special events as they happen. The children are keen to share pictures of days out with their friends, and love seeing pictures of themselves at home during their nursery sessions too.

You will receive an update on your child's Tapestry from nursery every 6-8 weeks whether it be a 'Settling In' observation, a 'Focus Week', a 'Making memories' observation or a 'Wow moment'. You will also receive weekly Curriculum Catchups which give you an overview of the learning happening in nursery each week. Each observation you receive will come with a suggested home learning activity which we would love to see you try at home.

During your child's focus week; you will be asked to complete a simple questionnaire about your children's interests, life events and things you are working on. Your child's key person will then spend the next week working with your children on any areas of development and interests that you have raised and that we have identified as a need at nursery. At the end of each focus week, you will have a 10-minute phone meeting to discuss the week, and a summary observation uploaded to Tapestry. Please comment or click like to say you have seen this.

Lunch Boxes (for children attending 30 hours)

Please remember we are a **NUT FREE** School and we have no access to fridges for packed lunch storage so icepacks or alternatively thermos tubs will need to be provided where necessary.

Please see below a suggestion for packed lunch contents:



Healthy Packed Lunches

for Children Under 5

Good food fuels little bodies, supports learning, helps with concentration and builds healthy habits for life.

Healthy food today, bright futures tomorrow

Our nursery is **NUT FREE**
Please do not include nuts or nut products in packed lunches.

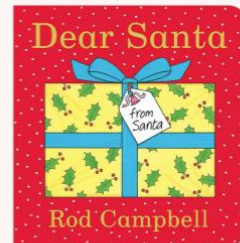
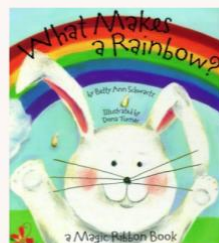
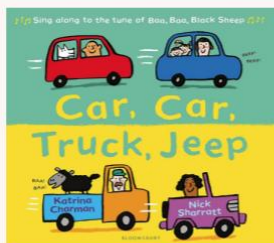
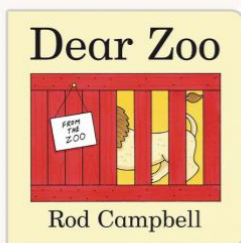
Fruit & Vegetables Add a rainbow of colour!  Try: apple slices, berries, grapes, cherry tomatoes, cucumber, carrot sticks, pepper strips, celery, melon.	Whole Grains Provide lasting energy.  Try: wholemeal bread, pitta pockets, wraps, oatcakes, wholegrain crackers, plain rice, pasta or quinoa.	Protein Foods Help with growth and keep them fuller for longer.  Try: boiled eggs, chicken, turkey, cheese, hummus, beans, lentils, chickpeas, tofu, plain yoghurt (for children with no allergies).	Dairy & Alternatives Builds strong bones and teeth.  Try: plain or Greek yoghurt, cheese cubes, fromage fraise or calcium-fortified plant-based alternatives (e.g. oat or soy).
Healthy Fats Supports brain development.  Try: avocado, seeds, plain hummus, sunflower or pumpkin seeds, or a small amount of olive oil.	Keep It Fun! Small changes can make a big difference to how much they eat.  Try: using fun shapes, colourful boxes or little pots, and letting your child help choose their favourite foods.	Hydration Water keeps them healthy, focused and energised.  Try: a water bottle – no juice or sugary drinks please.	Extra Tips for Success  Don't forget a water bottle – hydration is important!  Choose low sugar options – save cakes, sweets and sugary drinks for treats.  Use an insulated lunch box and ice pack (especially for warmer days).  Keep it fresh and safe – pack food that stays well and is easy for little hands to manage.

Healthy lunches = happy, healthy, growing children!

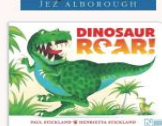
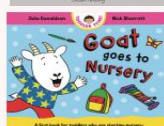
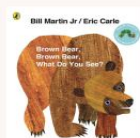


Focus Stories for this term:

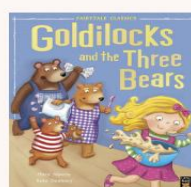
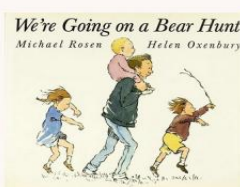
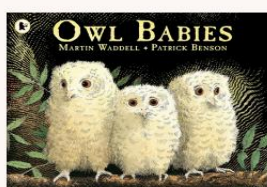
Discoverers' Focus Stories



Explorers' Focus Stories



Inventors' Focus Stories



Please find the diary dates below. These may be subject to change.

Caversham Parent Diary Dates 2026-27

Day	Date	What is happening
Tuesday	1 st Sept	INSET day – Nursery Closed to all Children
Wednesday	2 nd Sept	INSET day – Mandatory training Nursery Closed to all Children
Thursday	3 rd Sept	Home visiting day - Nursery Closed to all Children
Monday	7 th Sept	Existing children start back
Friday	25 th Sept	Mid-Autumn Festival (moon festival)
Mon	28 th Sept	Open day for prospective parents
Whole of Oct		Black History Month
Week Beg: 28 th Sept		Collections for Harvest Festival throughout the week
Monday	5 th Oct	Deliver Harvest festival donations to the Weller centre with the children
Wednesday	7 th Oct	Parent workshop –Toilet Training
Saturday	10 th Oct	World Mental Health Day (9 th in Nursery)
Monday	19 th Oct	Stay and play sessions for Parents and Carers – 11-11:45am, 2:45-3:40pm or 4:45-5:30pm - <i>Further details to follow</i>
Week Beg:	19 th Oct	Sponsored – Scavenger hunt
Wednesday	21 st Oct	Celebrate Durga Puja – Hindu festival
Thursday	22 nd Oct	Celebration of Republic Day of Türkiye
Saturday	17 th - 21 st Oct	Durga Puja – Hindu Festival
Friday	23 rd Oct	Inset Day - Nursery Closed to all children for Inset Day
Nursery Closed 26th October –30th October for HALF TERM		
Thursday	29 th Oct	Republic Day of Türkiye
Monday	2 nd Nov	Nursery re opens for Term 2
Thursday	5 th Nov	Guy Fawkes
Sunday	8 th Nov	Diwali – Hindu, Sikhs, Jains, and Buddhist (celebrate 6 th at nursery)
Monday	9 th Nov	Nursery photographer sessions – <i>see Tapestry for further information</i>
Wednesday	11 th Nov	Remembrance Day – we will be honouring this at 11am
Friday	20 th Nov	Children in Need
Monday	30 th Nov	St. Andrew's Day – Patron Saint of Scotland
Monday	30 th Nov	Open day for prospective parents
Friday	4 th Dec	Christmas singing at The Weller Centre 1:45pm
Dates TBC		Santa visits for children
Wednesday	9 th Dec	Supporting Positive Behaviour Workshop
Tuesday	8 th Dec	Christmas Stay and Play for parents and carers – 11-11:45am, 2:45-3:40pm or 4:45-5:30pm - <i>Further details to follow</i>
Dates TBC	9 th Dec	Visit from Church
Thursday	10 th Dec	Save the Children - Christmas Jumper day
Wednesday	16 th Dec	Christmas Lunch
Friday	18th Dec	Last day of term for all children - Nursery closes at 3:45pm



PARENT SESSION

Learn, connect and grow together

A friendly session for parents and carers

Toilet training

Would you like to know more about how to support your child with toilet training?
If so please feel free to come along.

DATE

7th October

TIME

9.15 am - 10.15 am
Or
1.00pm - 2.00pm

VENUE

Caversham Nursery
School
RG4 5NA

RESERVE YOUR PLACE

By scanning the QR code



Everyone is welcome • Friendly and informal

Questions? Contact Claire familyworker@reysfederation.org

Reading Early Years Schools • Creating Lifelong Learners

HARVEST FESTIVAL



Please donate dry or tinned food throughout w/c 28th September so that we can deliver to the Weller Centre by Monday 5th October!



STAY AND PLAY

Come along and see what we get up to at nursery!

Let your children show you their favourite things, introduce you to their friends and meet other parents!

Monday 19th October

11am - 11:45am
2:45pm - 3:40pm
4:45pm - 5:30pm

We kindly ask that you attend the session closest to the end of your child's regular sessions, i.e. if your child finishes at 3:45pm, please come to the 2:45pm - 3:30pm session and take them home. This is to minimise children feeling unsettled, after their parent/carer leaves.



2026 FESTIVE PHOTOS

**Monday 9th
November 2026**

OFFER IS: £20 PER CHILD
AND INCLUDES:

X2 DIGITAL PHOTOS,
FULL ACCESS TO
GALLERY, £5 FOR ANY
ADDITIONAL IMAGES



FESTIVE OR
PLAIN
BACKDROPS
AVAILABLE

TO
BOOK

PLEASE MAKE A
PAYMENT OF £20
TO AMY HARVEY;
A R A HARVEY
20-71-03
13784738

PLEASE USE YOUR CHILD'S NAME
AND 'CNS' AS THE REFERENCE

FIND AMY ON FACEBOOK: FOREVERMOMENTSPHOTOGRAPHY