



# NEWSLETTER

## CARTERHATCH INFANTS SCHOOL

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Website: <https://www.carterhatchinfants.com/>



19th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an exciting few weeks for the children. They have been busy making decorations, learning new festive songs, enjoyed Christmas parties and have attended various off-site experiences. A special thank you to family members who have helped us on our school trips. I cannot forget to mention how proud we are of the children's behaviour when they attend events off site. We always have positive feedback about their enjoyment and behaviour. It was also great to see how confident the year 1 children were at their Christmas performance. They have worked hard learning new songs and dances, it is a lot for them to remember but they were able to rise to the challenge. It must make you immensely proud when you see them perform. Reception children will have the opportunity to perform to parents during the spring term and year 2 at their leavers concert at the end of the school year.

I am sure the children enjoyed their Christmas singing and the family winter event in the hall this week. We really do appreciate your support with fundraising events, particularly at this time of year.

All of these experiences take a lot of planning and organising, so I would like to thank staff for all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes making sure that everything goes to plan and events are enjoyable for the children.

We end 2024 saying a temporary goodbye to Emma Milton, one of our reception teachers. She will be going on maternity leave at the end of this term. I am sure you will join me in wishing Emma and her family well, and we look forward to hearing about her baby in the new year. Ruth Richards, our Early Years Lead, will be leading Dolphin class, so we know they will be in safe hands.

I want to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy Christmas / winter break, and hope you enjoy making wonderful memories. No amount of money or presents can take the place of the quality time you spend with your amazing children.

We look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 6th January.

Take care,

Sarah Clements



Headteacher

### Diary:

Monday 6th January - **Children Return to School**

Monday 20th January - Cultural Awareness Week

Tuesday 28th - Thursday 30th January - **Reception Maths Workshop for Parents**

Tuesday 11th - Friday 14th February - **Reception** Hearing Tests

Monday 17th - Friday 21st February - **School Closed** - Half Term

Monday 24th February - **Staff Development Day - School Closed**

Tuesday 25th February - **Children Return to School**

Thursday 6th March - **World Book Day**

Monday 10th March - Sleep Awareness Week.

Friday 14th March - **Comic Relief Day**

Tuesday 18th - Thursday 20th March - **Parent Consultations**

Monday 24th March - Wonderful Women Week

Thursday 27th March - Fluoride Treatment

Monday 31st March - Autism Awareness Week

Friday 4th April - **Family Spring Egg Hunt - Last Day of Term - School will be closing at 1:30pm**

Tuesday 22nd April - **Children Return to School**

### REMINDER!

The school day starts at  
8:45am

Registers will be taken at  
8:50am, if your child  
arrives after 8:50am they will  
be marked as late. All children  
must be in time for registration.

The school day ends at  
3:15pm.

Children being picked up late  
from school may be charged  
for After-School Club.

## Applying for Year 3, Reception and Nursery September 2025:

Have you applied for your child's school place for September 2025?

**Reception:** If your child was born between **1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021**, you will need to apply for a primary school place by **15th January 2025**. Your child will start reception class in September 2025. Please note that you do **NOT** automatically move up to Reception if your child attends our Nursery. Further information and applications can be found online via Enfield Council website [HERE](#).

**School Nursery:** If your child was born between **1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022**, you can apply for a nursery place linked to a school for 15 hours. **You need to apply for a place by 15th February 2025**. Your child will start nursery in September 2025. Further information and applications can be found [HERE](#) (If you are eligible for 30 hour funding you will need to apply before 31st August 2025). Please let school know that you require 30 hours when you accept your 15 hour place in our school.

**Year 3:** Children in Carterhatch Infant School will need to apply for a year 3 place in Carterhatch Junior School. The deadline for on time applications is 15th January 2025. Applications can be made online [HERE](#).

**If you need help with applying for your child's school place, please see Sandra, our Family Support Worker.**

## Early Education and Childcare:

We are pleased to announce that we are able to extend the places available within our two year old's provision. These places are limited and will be offered on a first come first served basis. If you would like further information regarding a two year old's place in our nursery, please contact Sandra, our family support worker via email at [sodriscoll@carterhatch-inf.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:sodriscoll@carterhatch-inf.enfield.sch.uk)

Please click [here](#) for information around Government Childcare Entitlements.

## Learning Friends:



Congratulations to the children who have recently received a certificate for demonstrating our school values!

**Tiger Class:** Mason-Lee, Ryan, Aleksandr, Louis, Ediz

**Leopard Class:** Esther, Muhammed, Halifatu, Guney

**Jaguar Class:** Mira, Aren, Emiliya, **Ayla C**

**Rhino Class:** Shayan, Ali A, Tiya, Alex, Nazli, Sener

**Giraffe Class:** Jemila, Kyrie, Jayden P, Masal

**Gorilla Class:** David, Amarise, Yusuf, Harun

## Attendance Matters for Every Child Every Day!



Well done to all the children who have received a 100% attendance award recently!  
42 children received an attendance award for November and 179 children received an award for 100% attendance during our attendance week in December.

## Spelling Bee:

During the Autumn term, some of our fantastic spellers have been competing in the Enfield Town Schools Partnership spelling bee! The children worked so hard and made it to the final. Sadly, they didn't come out on top, but they all gave a great account of themselves and made us so proud! Well done to Keliyah and Ali from Year 1 and Ediz and Sarah from Year 2. A special thank you and well done to Jewel-Amaziah who volunteered to participate in the final, with no practice, when one of our spellers could not take part.



## Gymnastics:

We would like to say a huge "well done" to our year two children, Sia, Jenna, Scarlett and Melanie, who performed in a competition against other local schools at the Enfield Gymnastics Festival. The children applied their perseverance skills when learning their routines and we are very proud of them! The feedback received from the judges was appreciated: "The children had worked hard and even though they did not win the results were very close."

## Early Words Together for Reception Children and Parents:

Would you like to spend some quality time in school with your child, help your child learn, get ideas for free activities and help your child to be a confident talker? If so, please speak to your class teacher or Sandra, our family support worker and you could enjoy exploring stories, rhymes and being creative outdoors with your child once a week for six weeks. Sandra is at the school gate most mornings, or can be contacted via email at [sodriscoll@carterhatch-inf.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:sodriscoll@carterhatch-inf.enfield.sch.uk)

## Holiday Activity and Food Programme:

The Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) is running once again during the winter holidays. All eligible children have received a voucher. There are still spaces on most programmes, it would be great to fill as many places as possible. The benefits to the children are that they keep in a good routine over the holidays, receive a hot meal each day, have fun with friends and many programmes provide additional food that can be taken home to help families. For more information on how to book onto the holiday programmes, the HAF Winter Brochure can be found on our website by clicking [HERE](#)

## Mental Health and Parenting:

**Parenting while living with a mental health issue can cause challenges. But you can still be the parent that you want to be.**

If you're managing mental health issues you might find you have mood swings or struggle with keeping routines such as mealtimes, bedtimes, and taking your children to school.

If you or someone you know, is struggling, there are steps you can take.

For more information, please follow the link to the NSPCC website. [Mental health and parenting | NSPCC](#)

**Look, Say, Sing, Play** is a set of resources which encourage interaction between parents and their babies.



Parents and carers interact with their babies all the time without always realising how those interactions shape the way their baby's brain develops.

Improving interaction and encouraging parents to be more sensitive to their baby's cues helps parents identify and respond to their needs.

It also improves attunement and sensitivity of parents from an early stage, setting up positive behaviour as their child grows.

The NSPCC have teamed up with [Vroom™](#) to give you some fun and easy tips to help you bring even more **Look, Say, Sing and Play** into your daily routine with your baby or toddler.

**To try brain-building tips, follow the link! [Look, Say, Sing, Play](#)**

## A Message from Year 2:

**Aladdin:** The children absolutely adored their recent visit to the theatre and were immersed into a magical world as Aladdin embarked on an unforgettable adventure filled with twists and turns and wishes granted by the magical genie! This production complimented the work we covered in our English curriculum this term. Therefore, we couldn't resist but ask the children what they would do if they had three wishes. We were so impressed with some of their answers that we wanted to share with you how observant of the world we live in, children can be.

*My wish would be to keep people from being homeless because I want everyone to be warm. **Theo G Tiger Class***

*My wish would be to become a teacher so that I could help children become very smart. **Ayla Cor. Jaguar Class***

*My wish is to be healthy and strong so I can live a happy and long life. **Melek Leopard Class***

**Giving children the 'Right Start' in life:** Recently, our year two children received age-appropriate, financial education activities to help them develop a positive relationship with money. Experiencing these lessons from an early age will help them to learn how to manage money and keep to a budget. We hope the lessons encourage them to spend wisely now and in the future. [RedSTART](#) work hard to transform the life chances of young people across the country and work in partnership with major financial institutions, local businesses and many volunteers.



The children enjoyed deciding what to spend their £20 clothing budget on for a super-hero. Huseyin, (Jaguar Class) shared that he would be buying his super-hero the basic trousers instead of designer ones as they were cheaper, did the same job and he would have more money left over to save for his house in the future!

### 'Tis the season to be jolly...



As we count down to the Christmas break in Year Two, we have been thinking about how to make others feel happy by demonstrating acts of kindness (Kindness Kai). Top of our list was smiling at someone – it really is infectious! We wanted to build positive habits and take a moment each day to be grateful for the everything we have. People who are grateful tend to be happier, healthier and more fulfilled. Even the Grinch couldn't resist a smile!

Recently, we challenged Year Two children to find the most unusual place they could, to read a book. Thank you to all the families that got involved – we had an amazing response, and it was very difficult to choose winners from across the year group.

After much debate we would like to announce our winners: Tyler (Tiger Class); Aren (Jaguar Class) & Yasmin A (Leopard Class).

### What will you be reading over Christmas?

#### You can do anything Tyrone

Tyrone is going to build a brilliant rocket ship out of building blocks and go on an adventure to the moon! There's just one problem . . . the blocks won't work, and Tyrone quickly loses his temper. Luckily, Grandad Cleveland is on hand to show him that with self-belief, a bit of determination and a lot of imagination, there's nothing Tyrone can't do. In fact, why stop at the moon when there's the rest of the world and a whole universe to explore!



#### The Jolly Postman

The Jolly Postman delivers Christmas letters and presents to several famous fairy-tale characters such as the Big Bad Wolf, Little Red Riding Hood, and the Three Bears.

Please encourage your children to share what they have read over the Christmas holidays with us. We would be interested to know any book review recommendations.

### What will your teachers be reading over Christmas?

#### Beyond Possible (Laura Leopard Class)

Beyond Possible charts the incredible journey of an elite soldier who conquered fourteen of the world's toughest peaks in six months.

#### The Fraud (Sonia Jaguar Class)

Truth and fiction. Jamaica and Britain. Zadie Smith returns with her first, historical novel. Based on real historical events, The Fraud is a dazzling novel about how in a world of hypocrisy and self-deception, deciding what's true can prove a complicated task.

#### Lessons in Chemistry (Gloria Tiger Class)

Chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing as an *average* woman. But it's the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute takes a very unscientific view of equality.



## A Message from Year One:

### Theatre Trip to Arts Depot Finchley



All the children had a fantastic time watching "The Gruffalo's Child" on stage at the theatre. They joined in with songs and actions and really engaged with the actors. It was lovely for staff to see so many smiles and excited faces

"That was the best day!" – Alanah

"The Fox was so funny!" – Yusuf

### Forest School

A big thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the final Forest School session. The children have loved all the activities and have really enjoyed learning outdoors, even in the chilly weather! A big thank you to Adam for running every session each week for the classes, organising resources and planning.



### Finally.....

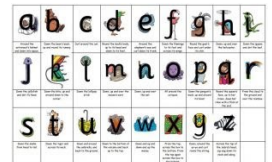
We hope you all have a lovely Christmas break relaxing or seeing family and loved ones. Please continue to read with your child when you can, although we know what a busy holiday it can be!

See you in 2025! Happy New Year!



## A Message from Reception:

Many thanks for all the parents who were able to attend the Phonic workshops recently. We hope you have found these useful and given you some ideas of activities and ways to support your child at home. Please speak to your class teacher if you have any questions about how to support your child's reading and writing development further. Our main message though is always to **read, read, read!!!** The more you read with your child and practise the letter sounds and tricky words, which are regularly sent home on the home learning sheets, the more confident a reader your child will become. Please look at the parents page on the phonics Little Wandle website where you can access how to say the sounds and other useful resources. [Little Wandle letters and sounds](#)

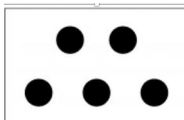


In maths we have been focusing on numbers 0-5 and their composition this half term. For example, how 5 can be made by:

$$4 + 1 = 5$$

$$3 + 2 = 5$$

$$5 + 0 = 5$$



We are also really encouraging the children to try to recognise whole amounts rather than needing to count every item (this is called subitising). For example, in the picture below we would want the children to be saying "I can see 2 dots at the top and 3 dots at the bottom, so that makes 5 altogether!"

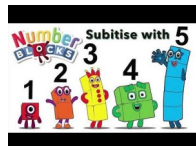
Please look at these links; they are songs and resources that we use in school to support your child's maths learning.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PSIA-u\\_ABmU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PSIA-u_ABmU)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X9N\\_IUgD\\_QM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X9N_IUgD_QM)

<https://whiteroseeducation.com/parent-pupil-resources/maths/home-learning?year=early-years&term=autumn>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X9N\\_IUgD\\_QM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X9N_IUgD_QM)



## Parent Governor:

We have a vacancy for a Parent Governor on our Governing Body. If you are interested in becoming a School Governor could you please speak to our headteacher, Sarah. We can then share information about a Parent Governor's role and answer any questions you may have.

## A Message from Nursery:

Thank you to all those parents/carers who came to our Winter Wonderland event. We hope you enjoyed the children singing of some classics with a festive twist! The children worked really hard learning the words and actions and were incredibly brave to perform in front of you all.

Thank you for all the generous gifts you have sent in for staff – the whole team are very grateful.

We look forward to welcoming all the parents and children back in January. A kind reminder that ALL items sent to Nursery need to be labelled including coats and water bottles. All children also need a bag of spare, labelled clothes including underwear and socks. Please ensure these are sent in with your children in January.

## Online Safety at Christmas



Christmas is such a wonderful time of year, excitable children and time to relax with family and friends. And of course, there are new toys to play with.

With a huge increase in sales of devices (around 13 million people receive smartphones for Christmas each year) it is important to ensure that you and your children are safe when playing with new kit. To help, we've set out a few top tips to help keep your household safe online over the holidays.

### The Tech:

#### Learn your way around

Most devices have controls to ensure that kids can't access content you don't want them to. **Make sure your "in-app" purchases are disabled** to avoid a nightmare surprise in the new year.

#### Tablets and Mobiles Devices

Tablets and phones are increasingly popular with younger children, and the market has several which are geared towards child friendly content. When it comes to using them, start slowly; only download games and apps you have checked out carefully (sites such as [www.net-aware.org.uk](http://www.net-aware.org.uk), or [www.common sense media.org](http://www.common sense media.org) provide useful advice!) and steer them towards age targeted content such as [www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/cbeebies/features/iplayer-kids](http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/cbeebies/features/iplayer-kids) or YouTube Kids.

#### Set boundaries

Our advice is to set some ground rules, and ensure they understand them.

#### Screen Time

Agree a time limit or number of games beforehand, to avoid repeated disagreements around how long they can spend online.

#### Roblox

Roblox, the game used by 90 million people daily, announced some major updates which are available to users and parents. The rollout has already started and will be fully implemented by March 2025. These safety updates include:

- Limits to how children under 13 can communicate.
- Parental controls accessible from the parents phone rather from the child's device (remote management)

To see an explanation of all the new features visit the Roblox website [HERE](https://www.roblox.com/help-center?article=parental-controls). You can also see the full guide to Roblox parental controls on the Internet Matters website [HERE](https://www.internetmatters.org/roblox-parental-controls/).



Our Winter Wonderland event was a huge success this week. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend and join in the fun. We hope you were able to say hello to Father Christmas, maybe you were able to ask for something nice to go onto your list too!

The funds we raised this week, and including the donations from our Toy Sale have collectively amounted to £2000.00. We will be using this money to go towards purchasing some outdoor furniture to enhance the outdoor learning for our children. We would not be able to do this without your help and support. We are very grateful to you all.

**Congratulations** to Kiyon, Ben, Ali, and Elena (Rhino class), Osazee (Leopard Class), Kledion Gorilla Class, and Aren Turtle Class for winning the raffle prizes, we hope you enjoy them.

We would like to wish you all well over the holiday season and good luck for the New Year.

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 6th January 2025!

## Christmas and Hannukah:

We would like to wish all our families who celebrate over this holiday period a very Happy Christmas and Happy Hannukah!

Christmas is a traditional celebration for Christians. They celebrate the birth of Jesus and give thanks to God.

Christmas is now celebrated by many families across the world, through the acts of giving and receiving of gifts and spending time with loved ones.

Hannukah is celebrated by Jews around the world. The word Hanukkah means 'dedication' and celebrates one of the greatest miracles in Jewish history. Jewish people celebrate Hannukah with a nightly menorah lighting as well as playing dreidel, singing songs and preparing delicious food.



The dates of Hanukkah change every year, but it will always fall in November or December and lasts for eight days. This year, it begins on the evening of Thursday 7 December and ends on Friday 15 December.



**My child is unwell, what do I need to do?**

Plus, get free, NHS-approved clinical advice for these common childhood illnesses, at any time

For advice, scan the codes

Fever



Cough



Skin rash



Sore throat



Stomach ache



Vomiting



Earache



Head injury



Breathing issues



Diarrhoea

