

# September 2025

# Newsletter



## 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.

## Dates For Your Diary

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September - Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October - **Donations to Foodbank Collections are Welcome**  
Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October - **Year 2 Parents and Carers** - Write to Speak Assembly  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October - **Year 1 visit to North Enfield Foodbank** - Delivering donations collected  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October - Reception Parents and Carers - Art Exhibition  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October - **MP Feryal Clark and Cllr Ergin Erbil** visiting Breakfast Club  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October - **Year 2 Parents and Carers** - Power of Reading Week  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October - **Year 1 Parents and Carers** - Power of Reading Week  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October - **Attendance Week**  
Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October - **Individual School Photographs**  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October - **School Closed** - Half Term Break  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November - **Children return to school**  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November - Fluoride Treatment - **Reception, Year 1, Year 2**  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November - Friendship Week  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November - Road Safety Week  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November - **Parent Consultations**  
Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November - **Year 2 Parents** - Information Meeting in the Juniors  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November - Decoration Day - **Non-School Uniform** - Donations Welcome  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> - Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December - Winter Fun Events  
Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December - **Year 2 Theatre Trip**  
Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December - **Year 1 Performances to Parents and Carers**  
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - **Year 1 Theatre Trip**  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December - **Last Day of Term** - School will be closing at **1:20pm** - Non-School Uniform  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January - **Winter Break - School Closed**  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January - **Children Return to School**

## Attendance

Our attendance figure since the start of term is 93.6%, well done to everyone who has been in school on time everyday since we came back in September, you have helped us reach this mark. The target set by the Government for us though is 96% so we are still short of this at the moment. Our Education Welfare Officer has begun her weekly visits to school and she will be in touch with any parents whose child's attendance is of concern.

Attendance awards will show on your Arbor App for any child who has 100% attendance for a month, half term, term, and also for each attendance week. The next attendance week is **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October**.

Best classes in each year group so far:

Leopard 96.18%

Giraffe 94.32%

Penguin 97.46%



## Our Breakfast Club!

All children at our school are invited to enjoy a **FREE 30-minute Breakfast Club** every morning from **8:15am**,

To support those needing an earlier start, we open from **7:45am** for a small charge of **£1 per child**.

We're thrilled to be able to offer this to all of our families. More flexibility, a **great start to the day** and full tummies all round!

Breakfast Club can be accessed via **Autumn Close** every morning.

At the front of the school from 8:30am every morning, we provide bagels to all of our children.

If you have not yet had a chance to do so, please come and visit us at our **Bagel Bar**.



## Welcome to our first newsletter of the academic year!

It has been a wonderful start to the new term, the children have been busy learning new routines, and most children have settled really well. It is a real pleasure to see them happy and engaged in their learning. We have welcomed many new families to our school and hope they enjoy a long and happy association with us. We also welcome three new Learning Assistants. Kowsar and Katie are part of Kangaroo and Joey class, and Rose is part of the nursery team. We hope they enjoy being part of our Carterhatch community.

Many thanks to our site staff and cleaners who worked hard over the summer getting the school ready for the return of the children. I also know many staff worked hard in the holidays preparing resources and working on making their classrooms and outdoor environments inviting and stimulating for the children.

Newsletters to parents and carers are sent regularly to share children's achievements and some of the learning that takes place across the school. In addition, curriculum letters will be sent to you at the beginning of each term. This will help keep you well informed of all the things your child will be learning about in school. They are also on the website under the [curriculum tab](#), then click on 'What your child will be learning each term.' Please speak with staff if you have a skill/talent or interest that could enrich our curriculum. We are always happy to involve the wider community.

I am sure you have had the opportunity to meet your child's teacher. It was lovely to see many of you at the year one and two welcome meetings, coffee morning and afternoon tea for parents this week. However, we would like to take this opportunity to draw your attention to some of the key dates this academic year. Further information will be sent out nearer the time, but for now, please make a note of the following:

### Parents Consultations – Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

**Tuesday 18th November**

**Wednesday 19th November**

**Tuesday 17th March**

**Wednesday 18th March**

**Summer Term** - We will give you the opportunity to meet with the class teacher to discuss your child's end of year report, should you wish to do so.

**The nursery team will inform parents when their child's consultations will be.**

### The Power of Reading



**Year 1 and 2** – You will be receiving an invitation to watch your child read with their teacher and to find out useful information on supporting your child with reading. This will be at the end of October.

**Reception** – You will be given the opportunity to see your child working with their teacher during a phonics session. We just want to see how the children settle before we set a date.

Not only do the children enjoy seeing you in school but these sessions are so valuable and support you with how to help your child at home with their reading and writing.

We look forward to welcoming you so that you can see some of the learning that takes place in school. I am sure you will be very proud watching your children learn to read!

Many thanks for your continued support.



**Sarah Clements**  
**Headteacher**

## Our Deepest Sympathy

It is with great sadness, we announce the passing of one of our governors Geoff Southwell. Geoff was a school governor for over 40 years, the longest serving governor in Enfield.

He was a dedicated member of our school community and will be greatly missed. He would often come in to help children with their reading and would attend various school events.

Geoff was also an ex-councillor for Enfield and involved in many charities. He was still running marathons in his early eighties and completed the London marathon in his seventies. He was a kind, fair and dedicated member of our community, who loved being a governor at our school. There is now a remembrance bench at the entrance of the school. We will be asking his family what they would like engraved on a plaque.

## Important Reminder for Child Collection

As we start the new school year, we kindly remind parents and carers to please inform the school office if someone not listed on the Permission to Collect form will be picking up your child. This is especially important at the beginning of the year when staff are still getting to know our new families.

Your cooperation helps us ensure the safety and well-being of all our children.

## Applying for Year 3, Reception and Nursery September 2026:

**Have you applied for your child's school place for September 2026?**

**Reception:** If your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022, you will need to apply for a primary school place by 15th January 2026. Your child will start reception in September 2026. Please note that you do NOT automatically move up to Reception if your child attends our Nursery.

**School Nursery:** If your child was born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023, you can apply for a nursery place linked to a school for 15 hours. You need to apply for a place by 15th February 2026. Your child will start nursery in September 2026. (If you are eligible for 30 hour funding you will need to apply before 31st August 2026. 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.

Further information can be found online via the [Enfield Council Website](#) and in the [Applying for a Primary School in Enfield, Information for Parents brochure](#).

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

## Learning Friends

Our learning friends help promote positive attitudes to learning. They are also linked to our school values.

			
Kindness Kai	Challenge Chico	Polly Perseverance	Ruby Resilience

Children's achievements are celebrated with our learning friends' certificates. The certificates are linked to the areas our learning friends are promoting – kindness, challenge, perseverance and resilience. Staff, governors and children were involved in the decision making of what our learning friends should represent and what they should be named.

## Our School Instagram Account



The school has opened an Instagram account [carterhatchinfants](#) and we have started to post short items of news and activity information. Please give us a follow, as this is another way to see what is happening in school.

## Thank you for your Support

We want to say a huge thank you to all the parents and carers who were able to join us for their year group meetings and our Macmillan Coffee Morning and Afternoon Teas. It was fantastic to see so many of you in school, sharing cake with your children, getting to know other parents, and having those all-important chats with your child's new class teacher.

We hope you found the year group information helpful and that it gave you a clear picture of the exciting year ahead. For a re-cap of information around your year group, please follow the link to our school website [Welcome To Your Year Group](#). Our Macmillan events were a real highlight. The children had a chance to learn about kindness, community, and what it means to give something back and they absolutely loved it! Your generosity was incredible, from the beautiful cakes homemade and shop-bought alike, to your donations and the time you gave to support the event.

Last but not least, a shout out goes to our parent volunteers, Maria, Senay and Georgouia, who supported us on the day to serve and make parents feel welcome. Thank you!

We're thrilled to announce that together we have so far raised over £400, which will be shared between Macmillan Cancer Support and our school. It was a joyful, heart warming event and it simply wouldn't have been possible without you.

And there's more good news! Thanks to your amazing generosity, we have so many delicious cakes remaining that we'll be holding another cake sale at the end of the day, on Tuesday 23rd September. This gives us a wonderful opportunity to continue raising funds for Macmillan and our school, and of course, to enjoy a few more sweet treats together!



## Foodbank

As part of our harvest learning, a small group of our Year 1 children will be visiting the Enfield North Foodbank. We kindly ask for your support in donating items for the children to take with them.

Suggested donations include:

- Non-perishable food items (tinned goods, pasta, rice, cereals, long-life milk, etc.)
- Toiletries (toothpaste, soap, shampoo, sanitary products, etc.)

All donations will go directly to the foodbank to help local families in need. Please send your contributions to school by Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October. We will have a trolley at the front of the school for donations to be collected.

Thank you for your generosity and support!

## Art Exhibition

To celebrate the wonderful creativity of our reception children, we will be holding an art exhibition for parents and carers to view the children's work on display. You will also have an opportunity to purchase a piece of your child's framed artwork for £5.00 as a special keepsake to treasure forever.

Art exhibitions will be held from **2:45pm** on the following days:

- **Penguin Class: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October**
- **Dolphin Class: Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October**

We hope to see you there!



## A Message from Year 2

**Autumn carries more gold in its pocket than all the other seasons.**

A very warm welcome back to school! We hope you've had a memorable summer break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the year ahead. We are excited to begin our learning journey in year 2.

This year will be important as the children continue to build their skills and grow in confidence, independence, and resilience. Over the coming weeks, we will be focusing on strengthening key skills in reading, writing and mathematics, while also exploring exciting topics across the curriculum. In English we will be paying attention to using capital letters, full stops and sentence structure to develop confident, accurate writing. In mathematics, we will be working on the four operations whilst developing number fluency and problem solving.

**'A house without books is like a room without windows.'** (Horace Mann).



We ask that children read at home for at least twenty minutes a day (this can expose children to over a million words a year). Little and often makes the biggest difference – daily reading practice helps children build fluency, widen their vocabulary, and develop a love for books. Research shows that children who read regularly outside of school make significantly faster progress in both reading and writing and tend to achieve higher outcomes across the curriculum not just English.

### Write2Speak

Our Year 2 children are currently taking part in an Enfield Town Schools' Partnership project Write2Speak. Through a series of exciting workshops, they are building confidence in speaking, performing and sharing their ideas. The project will end with a special performance, giving the children the chance to showcase their work and celebrate all they have achieved. Further details about the performance will be shared with you.

## A Message form Year 1

Year 1 children have settled into their new classroom routines and have adapted to their new year group brilliantly. We have been focussing on our first core text, "The Bog Baby". The children have enjoyed getting to know the characters from this story and they have had the chance to show their writing skills, their acting talents and even their art skills as you can see from some of the Bog Babies that the children have made. Next week, we will be making habitats for our bog babies, so if anyone has any empty shoe boxes at home they could donate, that would be a big help! The whole team are looking forward to a fun-filled year, and getting to know your year 1 children.



## A Message from Reception

# WELCOME

A warm welcome to all our new Reception children and families. We are so proud of how well the children have settled so far into their new Reception environments, rules and routines.

In these first few weeks we are working on children understanding and following the key expectations we have in class. We have seen many children showing kindness to their new friends; sharing and taking turns. We have seen children showing wonderful manners with saying 'please' and 'thank you' and helping to tidy up at tidy up times and we have seen the children's confidence growing as they interact with new people and make new friends. All of these things really help in building a kind, calm and secure environment for our children to thrive in.

We are supporting the children in developing their independence through;

- Tidying away when they have used something and not leaving it for others to do
- Hanging their coats and bags up on their pegs when they arrive
- Putting on their own coats, shoes, jumpers
- Cutting up their own food at lunch times.

Obviously the adults are supporting, modelling and helping the children with this but your help at home in encouraging this too, would really support them embedding these skills in to their daily routines.

We will be beginning the children's daily phonics sessions the week beginning the 15<sup>th</sup> September and at the end of each week you will receive a phonics sheet showing all the sounds and words the children would have been practising that week. We ask all parents to please practise these sounds and words further at home, even 5 minutes a day at home can make such a difference in the children developing these early reading and writing skills.

If you have any concerns this year, please do speak to the class adults so we can hopefully support you and your child in having a wonderful year in Reception.

## **A Message from Nursery Turtle and Otter Class**

Welcome to our new families who have joined us recently. We have really enjoyed meeting and getting to know you all at the home visits and stay and plays. The children have started to settle well into their new classes, are building relationships with staff and are developing their independence.

A gentle reminder to help prevent things becoming lost or misplaced PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL ITEMS ARE LABELLED CLEARLY, this includes water bottles, bags, spare clothes and coats as this helps staff to be able to support children quickly and effectively.

Children are expected to have:

A warm, waterproof coat as the weather turns wetter and colder.

A clearly labelled reusable, plastic, water bottle.

A drawstring bag with spare clothes including underwear and socks in case of toileting accidents or if children are particularly wet or dirty.

## **A Message from Kangaroo and Joey Class**

Welcome back Kangaroo and Joey Class! We have had some really exciting changes that have been made to their classroom over the summer and will welcome parents/carers in soon to take a look! Kangaroo Class have had some children move onto their junior school placements and we will miss them very much. We have had lots of new children join both Joey and Kangaroo classes and we are excited to see their journey unfold in the coming years! Watch this space for exciting updates and photos!

## **A Message from Carterhatch Junior School**

We would like to invite the parents and carers of the current year 2 pupils to a meeting on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 9:00am. We will give you a tour and information for their start in Year 3 in September 2026. We look forward to seeing you then.

**For how to apply for your child's year 3 school place, please see admission information above.**

## **Arbor**

Thank you to everyone who has downloaded and signed up to the Arbor App. If you haven't yet done so, please follow the link you will have been sent by them. We use Arbor messages to keep you updated with news from school. You can also check if your child's profile has the correct information. From now on all payments for clubs and trips will be made on Arbor. If you do not have the Arbor App you will not be able to sign your child up to any of the after school clubs. If you are having trouble signing up or logging in, please speak to the office.

## **Scooters**

It is lovely to see so many children riding their scooters to school each day. Actively travelling to school helps children to reach their daily exercise goal of 60 minutes and helps them to concentrate better at school! For health and safety reasons and to stop any accidents from occurring, we ask that scooters are not ridden on school property. We are happy for scooters to be stored on the front school fences however, school cannot take responsibility for any loss or damage that may be caused by doing so. We suggest that you bring a lock to secure them to the fence.



## **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.

## **Acceptable Use Policy**

We ask all children, parents/carers, staff and governors involved in the life of Carterhatch Infant School to read and sign an Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) to outline how we expect them to behave when they are online, and/or using school networks, connections, internet connectivity and devices, cloud platforms and social media (both when on school site and outside of school) Children in year 1 and 2 sign the AUP in their Thoughtful Thursday sessions. A copy is on the school website for you to view [here](#). Children in Nursery and Reception build an AUP during the year based on this.

# 7 Top Tips to Support Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities learning during school closures.

**1** Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)



Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Following a recipe to make some cupcakes is valuable reading. Be on the lookout for reading, wherever it is!

**2** Ask your child lots of questions



All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to' (even for older children). So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'

**3** Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read



If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the bear on the front cover? Where do you think he will go?'

**4** Ask your child to summarise what they have read



When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Acting out the things that happened in the story or describing the big idea of a chapter is really fun and maximises learning. For example, 'can you remember all the things that happened on the bear hunt?'

**5** Ask your child to write about what they have read



Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper to make a treasure map with clues from the stories you've read together.

**6** Read and discuss reading with friends or family



Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'I hope the tiger doesn't come to tea today!'

**7** Maintain the motivation to read



Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Your child is on an amazing journey to becoming a reader. Put them in the driving seat and have fun on the way! For example, 'choose your favourite story for bedtime tonight.'

Education Endowment Foundation (2018)  
Preparing for Literacy: Improving Communication, Language and Literacy in the Early Years. Education Endowment Foundation: London.  
Available online: [eef.li/literacy-early-years](https://eef.li/literacy-early-years)

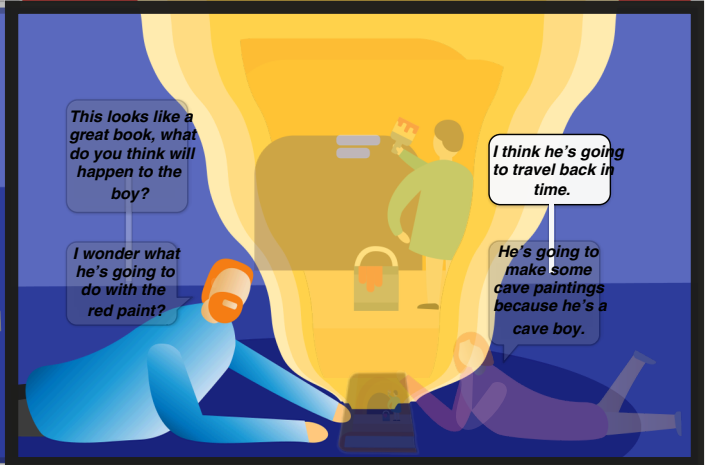
Education Endowment Foundation (2019).  
Improving Literacy in Secondary Schools. Education Endowment Foundation: London.  
Available online: [eef.li/literacy-ks3-ks4](https://eef.li/literacy-ks3-ks4)

Breadmore, H.L., Vardy, E.J., Cunningham, A.J., Kwok, R.K.W., & Carroll, J.M. (2019).  
Literacy Development: Evidence Review. Education Endowment Foundation: London.  
Available online: [educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Literacy\\_Development\\_Evidence\\_Review.pdf](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/public/files/Literacy_Development_Evidence_Review.pdf)

Enjoy reading with TRUST



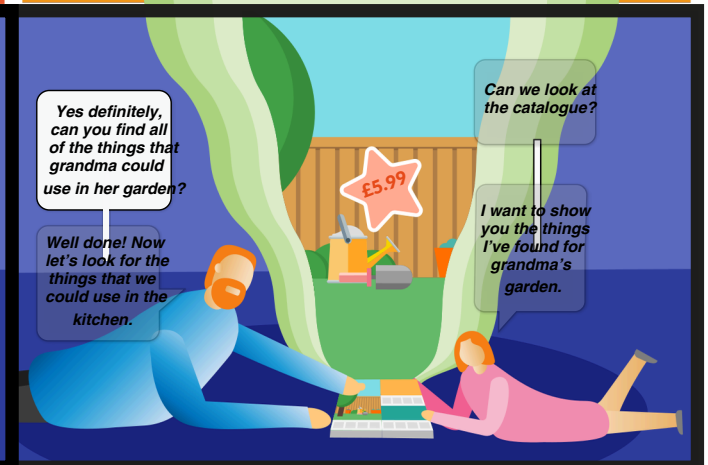
**T** Take turns to make predictions



**R** Recap to check ideas & understanding



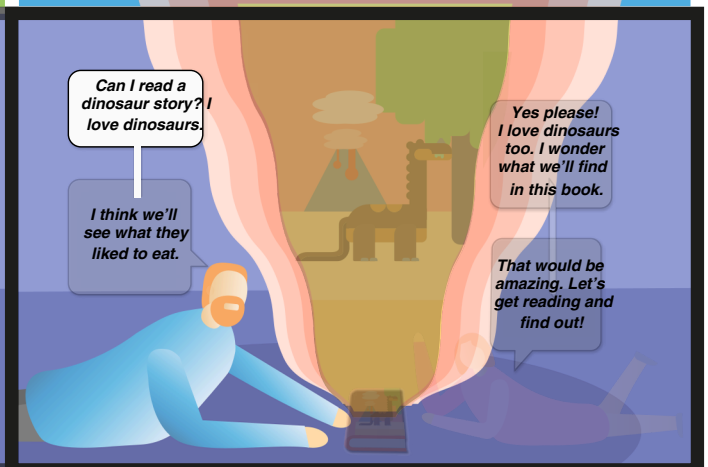
**U** Use encouragement and praise



**S** Share prior knowledge & past experiences



**T** Tune-in and listen. Be curious with your child



The TRUST framework was adapted from 'High Quality Interactions' in the EEF's guidance report [Preparing for Literacy](#) [p.9]