



NEWSLETTER

CARTERHATCH INFANTS SCHOOL

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25th January 2024

Diary:

Friday 2nd February - **Number Day** - Non school uniform - Donations Welcome
Monday 5th February - Friday 9th February - **Reception Maths Workshop** - Parents Invited.
Tuesday 6th February - Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 7th February - **Year 2 Forest School** - Parents Invited
Friday 9th February - Dress to Express Day - Non-school Uniform
Monday 12th - Friday 16th February - Half Term Break - School Closed
Monday 19th February - Staff Training Day - School Closed
Tuesday 20th February - Children Return to School
Wednesday 21st February - **Reception Forest School Begins**.
Tuesday 27th - Thursday 29th February - **Parent Consultations** - information to follow
Monday 4th March - World Book Day Celebrations Begin (information below)
Thursday 7th March - **World Book Day** - Children and staff are invited to dress as their favourite book character
Wednesday 27th March - **Reception Forest School**—Parents Invited
Thursday 28th March - Last day of Spring Term
Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April - Spring Break
Monday 15th 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.

Attendance:

Well done to everyone who has received an attendance award so far!

During the month of December 91 children received an award for 100% attendance. 41 children received an award for achieving 100% attendance in the Autumn term.



This month we held attendance week and we are so proud of the 189 children who joined the 100 club for being in school on time every day. Well done to all of you!



Who will receive an award this month?

Low attendance and irregular punctuality really impacts children's learning and confidence in the classroom.

Please follow the link for more information on what this means for you and your child.

[attendance-info-for-parents-april-23.pdf \(primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com\)](#)

Attendance Archie will continue to look out for all of the children attending school every day!

NSPCC Number Day:

We are delighted to be supporting the NSPCC by taking part in Number Day on **Friday 2nd February 2024**.

The NSPCC need our support more than ever. By raising money, we can help to fund their vital services such as Childline – the helpline that's always there for children and young people whatever their problem or concern.

Making maths meaningful

Number Day is a great way to make maths fun and bring about a positive, 'can-do' attitude towards it.

As a school we will be taking part in *Dress up for Digits*. Pupils are asked to wear an item of clothing with a number on it (football shirt, cap, netball shirt or even a onesie!). Or get even more creative by dressing in a maths or numbers theme (below are some examples from the NSPCC website). To help raise money for the NSPCC, we are asking for donations, and we'd love everyone in the school to take part in this special event.

Everything the NSPCC does protects children today and prevents for tomorrow



Welcome Back:

I hope you and the children all had a good break. We had a busy end of term before Christmas with parties, pantomimes performances and our winter market. Teacher strikes, last year, were not just to highlight teachers' pay, it was also about the lack of funding schools receive, especially with the rising cost of our energy bills, food, and resources. That is why we were so pleased when we raised £1000 at our winter market. This money will go towards buying resources for the children. We really appreciate your support and donations during these difficult financial times. I would also like to thank the support from staff and the hard work and preparation that went on behind the scenes. Children and their families seemed to enjoy the event.

We would also like to welcome Mariella (Learning Assistant) to our year 2 team. We wish her all the best and hope she enjoys being part of our Carterhatch team.

As stated in the December newsletter, we said goodbye to Adrienne (Co-Head) last term. Adrienne and I have shared this role for 10 years. I will be taking over the role full-time and look forward to continuing working with staff and families to support children's experiences, educational journey and ensuring they have the best start in life.

We have a short term this half-term, and a busy one next half-term. Make sure you keep your eye on up-and-coming events. We communicate these with you on the newsletter, via the Arbor App and written on the whiteboard near the school office.

Wishing you all health and happiness in 2024!

Sarah Clements
Headteacher

Children's Mental Health Week:

Children's Mental Health Week will take place from 5-11 February 2024. The theme this year is 'My Voice Matters'.

My Voice Matters is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves.

When we feel empowered, there's a positive impact on our wellbeing. Children who feel that their voices are heard and can make a difference have a greater sense of community and self-esteem. This year, we want children of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to be empowered to work together to create a positive change for their mental health and wellbeing.

During Children's Mental Health Week, we want all children and young people to be able to say – and believe - "My Voice Matters."

To demonstrate our support for Children's Mental Health we are asking for all children to dress up on **Friday 9th February** for Dress to Express Day.



Safer Internet Day:

Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity to focus on online safety with your child, whatever their age. This year's theme is all about change and influence online and we have created a range of pages to help you talk about these issues and ideas with your child, no matter how much time you have and in an age-appropriate way.

Safer Internet Day 2024 is celebrated on 6th February 2024, with thousands of people across the UK working together to champion youth voice and engage in conversations about how we can all work together to make the internet a great and safe place.

Watch the official 2024 Safer Internet Day film for parents and carers: <https://youtu.be/SD5KW6dqnv0>

For more information visit: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2024/parents-and-carers>
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>



A Message from Year 2:

Mathematics:

We are trying incredibly hard to bring the children up to speed with their multiplication tables. Please engage with this task (2, 5 & 10) times tables. Supporting your child to practise their times table on a regular basis will help to develop their fluency, speed and accuracy when trying to recall what they have already been taught. It is essential that they learn these skills to enable future progress when trying to solve problems during their mathematics lessons.



Pose questions and challenge children:

If there are five people in our family and we have three biscuits each how many biscuits will we eat altogether?
I have twenty-one strawberries. If I share them between you and your two friends, how many will you get each?

Forest School

The children are enjoying Forest School so much this term and they are becoming increasingly confident to explore the outdoors and hands-on experiences in a natural setting that it offers them.

"We get to have fun and eat marshmallows and popcorn that we cook outside. We built a tent out of branches. You must never go in the circle of fire!" Tyler Jaguar Class.



On Wednesday 7th February, we look forward to parents and carers joining us for our last Forest School session this term. Please speak to class staff for individual class times. Thank you

A Message from Year 1:

We hope you all had a wonderful Winter break and spent some quality time with loved ones!

The year one team have a few reminders for the rest of the Spring Term:

Reading Books

Please can you make sure that your child brings their book bag into school every day and especially on their book changing day. We often take children to read on random days to see how they are progressing with their phonics home reading books and if they are ready to move onto the next phase.

Home learning Books

Home learning books need to be returned by Tuesday at the latest to be marked and ready for the next tricky words to be sent home on a Thursday. It is important children are practising these words and trying out simple sentences to support their learning at school and making them more independent writers.

PE Kits

PE days are Monday and Tuesday. Please can you ensure that your child is wearing a PE kit to school on both days and that any earrings are left at home.

Thank you for all your support with this. If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to speak to your class teacher or a member of the year one team.



A Message from Joey and Kangaroo Class:

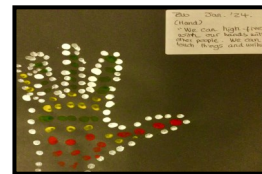
In Kangaroo and Joey Class we have been learning about the clothes we wear in winter. We learnt how important it is to keep ourselves warm during the colder months using the clothes we have in our wardrobes. We got dressed up in our warm clothes and went outside to see how we stayed cosy in all our layers. We then collaged a snowman and added all the warm items of clothing to keep him warm in the snow.



A Message from Reception:

It has been lovely seeing how settled the children now are in Reception and how well they have come back after their winter break.

We had an exciting first week back, enjoying our 'Art Week'. The children were able to experiment with different resources and techniques such as pointillism with paint and making models with salt dough. It is so important that children get the chance to work with different materials and be creative, both at home and at school as this supports the development of their fine motor skills, the use of their imagination, learning new techniques and understanding the use of different materials and resources, as well as how to limit wasting resources! We all had a great time and I'm sure you'll agree, they produced some beautiful pieces of art!



We have made a few changes to our timetable this term. The children now have 'daily supported reading' each morning, a PE session once a week - they do not need a PE kit at the moment for this - we will let you know if this changes. And finally, we are lucky to have a lady from the borough music team coming in to carry out a singing programme called 'Songsack' with the children each Tuesday afternoon, where they will be learning a variety of songs which we hope to perform to you at the end of the term - date to be confirmed!

A Message from Nursery:

The nursery children returned after the Winter break and settled back into the familiar routines. We have now started the children's focus weeks and their ideas and imaginations are making each day different and very exciting. We have been looking at numbers 1 and 2 in class. Children have enjoyed finding the correct number of objects or showing us 2 claps. Some children have shown an interest in mark making and are attempting to write the numerals. Thank you to all our parents and carers who are continuing to look at the tapestry memos and are actively taking part in the home learning activities. If you have not managed to engage with tapestry yet and would like some help to do this, please speak to class staff.



World Book Week Celebrations:

We will be celebrating World Book week in the week starting on 4th March 2024.

We would like to ask all children to dress up as storybook characters on Thursday, 7th March (World Book Day) if you have the book at home that matches their character, it would be great to bring that in too. Please follow the link below for low cost costume making resources:

<https://www.worldbookday.com/celebrate-world-book-day/dressing-up/>

Year 1 team would like to invite you to join them for a special story time with Year 1 teachers and, afterwards, to help your child choose two books to take home, which you will be able to keep, from the Children's Book Project. Year 1 sessions will be held in the morning, 9:00 – 9:30 in the library in small groups. We will send a letter with your day next week. The sessions will take place between 4th March - 12th March 2024.

All children will be taking part in many fun activities promoting the love of reading. Nursery and Year 2 children will choose their next set of books from the Children's Book Project with their class teachers and learning assistants.

Reception will host a Story Café the following week and you will be able to choose new books from the Children's Book Project with your child to take home and keep.

Dolphin class – 12th March, Penguin class – 13th March, Panda class – 14th March

Let's start brainstorming dressing up ideas!!!



NSPCC's Speak out. Stay Safe Programme:

We are pleased to inform you that we are participating in the NSPCC's Speak out. Stay safe programme this term. Speak out. Stay safe. is a programme for children aged 5-11 which aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a safe adult or Childline.

This child friendly programme is aligned with the curriculum and consists of age-appropriate virtual assemblies and supporting classroom-based activities which we have reviewed. The content is delivered in an engaging and interactive way with the help of the NSPCC mascot Buddy. If you would like to know more about the Speak out. Stay safe programme visit www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout.



Additional NSPCC resources for families to help keep children safe

Parent/Carer support Take a look at information, support, advice and activities from NSPCC for parent and carers. www.nspcc.org.uk/parents	Activities to extend learning at home Take part in games and activities at home to help children learn about speaking out and staying safe. www.nspcc.org.uk/activities
Online Safety Hub For information on a range of different online safety topics including gaming, social media, sharing images, parental controls and more. www.nspcc.org.uk/onlinesafety	Childline – under 12's Childline have an accessible website with advice, support, games and activities. Children can change the language, enlarge text and also listen to the content. www.childline.org.uk/buddy (5-7) www.childline.org.uk/kids (7-11)
Talk PANTS with your children Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep children safe from sexual abuse. From P through to S, each letter of PANTS provides simple but important messages. Download the free resources at www.nspcc.org.uk/pants .	

Health Updates:

As you may be aware, measles has very much been in the news recently and within the Enfield Borough, the first case of mumps has been reported; Scarlet Fever is also on the rise.

Is your child's immunisations up to date, or would you like to speak to someone for vaccine advice?

The Enfield School Aged Immunisation Team can be contacted for advice and to book appointments, Monday to Friday from 9am to 4pm by telephone 020 8702 3499 or email northmid.enfieldimmunisationteam@nhs.net

Vaccination Clinic	Date	Time
Baytree House	15th February 2024	9:00am - 3:00pm
Ordnance Unity for Health	12th February 2024	9:00am - 3:00pm
Evergreen Surgery	4th February 2024	9:00am - 3:00pm
Enfield Island Surgery	14th February 2023	9:00am – 3:00pm

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has published a new blog of some of the seasonal illnesses that tend to peak during winter and the steps parents/carers can take to keep their family well. Please follow the link for more information [A parent's guide to keeping kids healthy this school term - UK Health Security Agency \(blog.gov.uk\)](https://www.blog.gov.uk/2023/02/a-parents-guide-to-keeping-kids-healthy-this-school-term/)

Sleep Resources for Parents:

Are you interested in how baby brain development is linked to sleep? Or have questions surrounding breastfeeding and sleep?

On Friday 2nd February, Solihull Approach are inviting you to join their free online event and listen in to what their experts have to say! [Sleepfullness: How to nurture positive sleep habits for children](https://www.sleepfullness.com/)