



Headteacher Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy 2020!

I think I have now been serving the community of St Pauls for 20 years – I feel very old! I am reflecting back on how much the community has changed during this time. It is never boring here – there is always something to learn and hear about, particularly the personal histories of our families who have such diverse experiences. And there are always changes to respond to and things to improve. I still love this place!

Despite us suffering from exceptionally high level of staff sickness/trauma, our resilient and amazing staff team is offering your children and families some remarkable and exciting experiences:

◆ The Children's Kitchen

Children's kitchen is providing children with the opportunities to explore, cut, taste and cook with fresh local produce and ingredients. The children are also thinking about healthy eating and how things grow. We will soon start planting vegetables with them. An award winning chef Jo Ingleby has been supporting the team to be more confident with cooking and the smell that comes up the corridor from our kitchen is delicious!

◆ Music Music Everywhere

We have now some wonderful new instruments at Nursery and are seeing the children express their musicality everywhere. The staff are so attuned to the music happening in play thanks to all the learning we have been doing with our partners Soundwaves.

◆ Our Environment

I hope you can see that we are working hard to reinvest in our environment again. Early Years 1 and 2 have had some freshness breathed into the furnishing and display boards. We are now moving onto Nursery School. Have a look at the displays and tell us what you think, do they inform you or inspire you?

◆ Outings

Our Mini bus remains sitting in our carpark most days unused because we need to train up some more mini bus driving volunteers!

So far we have only one parent out of 260+ families who has come forward to offer support to us.

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE can you ask family members, friends, neighbours who you think might have time to spare and would enjoy driving our children to the woods, parks, open spaces, farms, museums... they are fantastic learning opportunities for everyone!

As ever can I just say another **THANK YOU!**

Thank you for sharing your exceptional children with us - they are a complete joy.

I look forward to the adventures they will take us on over the coming year!

Family Support

CLUB

A weekly FOOD Club (Food On Our Door) is provided to local families with young children, a range of affordable food including fresh vegetables, meat, dairy and more. Healthy ingredients and going access to quality food ingredients and helping make food is from FareShare who redistribute food from manufacturers to people who need it the most. FOOD Club provides families with 2 year olds that receive free early education and children, who are being helped by support money. They can also accept referrals from local Children's Centres and other health and wellbeing professionals. If you are unsure about whether you can apply please contact us: simon.green@family-action.org.uk

FOOD

Building stronger families
150 years
FareShare South West

Your local FOOD Club:

WEDNESDAYS 9:30-11:30am
Membership £1
Weekly Food £3.50

St Pauls Nursery School and Children's Centre
Little Bishop St, Bristol
BS2 9JF

Come and join our FOOD CLUB

We are very excited to be able to announce that our Food Club initiated by Central Bristol Children's Centre is now running. Meetings are happening every Wednesday, from 9:30 am – 11:30 am.

This is a weekly club which provides local families with young children a range of affordable food. Families can gain an annual membership for £1 and then be able to purchase a selection of groceries worth £10-£15 for just £3.50 per week. Alongside the Food Club, we will also be providing healthy eating, money budgeting and cookery courses along with weekly cookery demonstrations.

Bookings are not essential, however please give us a call on 0117 903 0337 and ask to speak to Yvonne who will let you know if you are eligible to apply.

Important dates

DAYCARE DATES

(baby room and 2-3's room)

- * Friday 27th March and Friday 24th of April - 2-3's room will be closed at 1:30pm
- * Easter break - the nursery will be closed on Good Friday 10th of April and Easter Monday 13th of April, open again on Tuesday 14th of April
- * Next INSET day - Friday 1st May (nursery will be CLOSED for all children)

NURSERY APPLICATION

If your child was born between **1st January 2017 and 31st August 2017** you need to apply for nursery space for September 2020 by filling in the form available at the reception. Children who are currently in 2-3's room are also required to fill the form in.

NURSERY SCHOOL DATES

- * Last day of term 3 - Friday 14th February
- * First day back (beginning of term 4) - Monday 24th February
- * End of term 4 - Friday 3rd April - beginning of Easter break
- * First day back (beginning of term 5) - Monday 20th April
- * Next INSET day - Friday 1st May (nursery will be CLOSED for all children)

Early Years 1&2

Some of the babies and practitioners have been joining our **Soundwaves sessions** in EY2 with Eliza and Roger our musicians. We have also bought an exciting range of new instruments. The children are showing more confidence in exploring the drums, pitched bells, claves etc. and some are able to join in with the beat and tune into the pitch and pattern of sounds.

Since we have been going, the babies are recalling and joining in with the new songs by noticing the tunes when played on the bells, filling in the missing words and sounds of songs and moving in time with the beat. E.g. "Rain is falling down ... splash". Sometimes they will request a song by beginning to tap their legs.

The practitioners respond to the children's musicality by imitating their sounds and movements and the children often respond with delight as their musical communication has been noticed.



Help us to welcome our new staff members :

2-3's room :

Amber and Charlotte - practitioners

Baby room :

Amy - apprentice

Nursery school :

Ellison - SEN support

Billy - Wraparound

Huda, Adar, Rozia - SMSA

Nursery School

Storytelling, Storymaps and Reading - We love reading and storytelling in Nursery. We are focusing on the structure of stories - their Beginning, Middle and End – as well as all the rich repetitive refrains!

We've started bookshare too! Has your child borrowed books to take home and share with you? We've also started visiting our Local Library!

Cooking and the Children's Kitchen - We are enjoying cooking and exploring food in the children's kitchen. Jo and Eliza are supporting us in :



- Encouraging children to explore fresh produce
- Grow fruit and vegetables
- Learning new skills and trying new flavours
- Learning how to use tools safely
- Baking bread and more ...



As part of our **Soundwaves Project** - we have invested money in beautiful musical instruments, including very big "gathering drums" and lovely-sounding "chime bars".

Soundwaves have been supporting us to develop our understanding of how to support and develop children's musicality, voice and movement.

Local Activities

Under 5's Hub; Children's Wellbeing Stay and Play Thursdays 1-2.30pm at Barton Hill Settlement Family Centre

A drop in stay and play session to support with the health, wellbeing and development of babies and young children under 5 years. Run by Wellspring Health Visiting Team with Barton Hill Children's Centre. Contact Wellspring Health Visiting Team on 0117 304 1449 for details.



Barton Hill Settlement
Ducie Road
Barton Hill



Barton Hill Settlement, 40 Ducie Road, Barton Hill, Bristol BS2 5JL. Tel: 0117 333 0875
Email: admin@bartonhillssettlement.org.uk website: www.bartonhillssettlement.org.uk
Company registered in England and Wales. Number 1881888. Registered office: Barton Hill Settlement

Barton Hill Settlement is starting a new group called **Talking Tots**, it is part of the "I Can Programme".

This group will help improve language and communication with your child, help them do well at Nursery and School, and help with their learning.

The programme will be running for 8 weeks. For more information and to sign up for this course please ring 0117 9556971 and ask to speak to Tracey Nation or Shona Iles.

This group will start just after February half term on **Tuesday 25th February 1-2:30 pm**.

FREE FAMILY FUN

giggling gecko kids club

the galleries Arts, Crafts and fun!

Come along to The Galleries Giggling Geckos FREE kids club on **Saturday 8th February**, then every second Saturday of the month until September. Little ones can get creative with a range of exciting and stimulating arts, crafts and other themed activities.

Each kids' club will be on from 10am until 4pm and located on the ground floor.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/2628228967413046/>

During **February half term** we will maintain the following groups :

- * Stay and Play session on Monday 10-11:30 am
- * Baby Group on Tuesday 1:30-2:30 pm
- * Bumps to Babes on Thursday 10-11 am

All our groups will be held in the Family Hub as usual.

WINTER CHEER

I love all the seasons, but winter is the best !
Let's put on our mittens, now we are all dressed.
In the snow, we love to play and this is what we hear :
Brrr, brrr, brrr, brrr ! That's this season's cheer !

By Mary Sullivan

Nursery news corner and Reminders

- ◆ A reminder to all parents that our reception staff may ask you for a **password** if they haven't seen you before or don't recognise your face. This is for safeguarding reasons so please bear with us when we check the data to ensure safety of your children.
- ◆ Parents of children who have **school meals** are asked to pay on a regular basis. Please make sure that you are up to date with your payments so we don't need to chase you.
- ◆ We would like to ask all parents **NOT to park** on the yellow zigzag just in front of the main gate. This is to make sure we maintain the safety of children at all time.

Thank you to all for your consideration.