



Cavendish Close Infant and Nursery School  
**Newsletter 16**

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Wood Road  
Chaddesden  
Derby  
DE21 4LY  
662239

### Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you are all well after the long Easter break. The sunshine has been delightful and makes us all feel bright – summer is definitely coming! I was able to safely enjoy time in Cornwall, a place I love dearly. The beaches at St Ives and Hayle are so beautiful – the golden sand and the turquoise sea is picturesque. I hope that you were able to enjoy the things and places that make you feel happy.

Thank you for your positivity during our most recent Parents' Evening. It's been such a different year for us all. We have missed welcoming you into school to see your child's classroom and to attend concerts, assemblies, and workshops. We have done our best to share information with you about your child's learning and development.

This term, we will be sending you an electronic survey to capture your views about how well you think we are doing and what you think we could do better. Your views matter to us and we will always find time to listen to any concerns or suggestions that you may have. Your positive feedback is also very much appreciated. There are members of staff outside at the start and end of every day to greet you and we will always respond to phone calls or emails.

This term, we have welcomed many new 3-year-olds into our wonderful Nursery. A special warm welcome to our new families from our school community. Following a recruitment process, we have employed Mrs Birkinshaw to join our Nursery team so that we can successfully meet the needs of our new 3-year-olds and our almost 5-year-old 'ready for school' children.

It is a longer than expected newsletter today as there is so much to share! We are hopeful for a safe and uninterrupted summer term. Thank you for your ongoing understanding and support – it is very much appreciated.

Kind regards, *Mrs C Diffin* Headteacher

### Our 8 Behaviour Values

These are the eight behaviours that we value, model, encourage and reward at school every day.

- ☺ We show respect to everyone.
- ☺ We choose kindness.
- ☺ We remember to use good manners.
- ☺ We do what adults ask us to do.
- ☺ We show respect to everything.
- ☺ We know how to feel calm and ready to learn.
- ☺ We make safe, healthy, and happy choices.
- ☺ We are Attendance HEROs (Here Every day Ready On time).



### **Keeping children safe on the way to and from school**

A member of our Safer Neighbourhood Team came to visit us last week following a community concern reported by a parent. PCSO Potter did not see anything concerning herself but has asked me to remind you to keep your children close by and certainly 'in sight' as you leave our school site and make your way home safely.

With almost 300 children coming to school every day, our site is very busy. For safety reasons, children are not allowed to ride bikes and scooters on school premises. Please respect this safety measure and leave bikes and scooters at home. Where Junior Academy children come to school on a bike, they should dismount their bike at the Wood Road gates and walk with their bike to the Junior bike shelter.



### **Summer school uniform**

With warmer weather in the afternoons, children are starting to take off their jumpers and cardigans to keep cool. Please ensure that your child's clothes are labelled with their name.

Your child needs a named sun hat in school every day to protect their head, face, and eyes from the sun's harmful UV rays.

Daily PE lessons will continue to be outside for the rest of this school year. Children need to wear sturdy, secure and flat school shoes that are appropriate for running and games. Cotton socks and school shoes will be appropriate for the rest of the school year. Please don't buy sandals or slip-on shoes for school as these will not be safe for outdoor PE and play.

For safety reasons, children should not wear any jewellery to school. Only one single pair of stud earrings can be worn. Hooped or drop earrings are not safe for school.



### **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April – Wear your 'Happy Shoes' day**

Tomorrow, we would like to invite all children to come to school in their 'Happy Shoes'. This is a Derby City 'Beat the Street' initiative to encourage children to enjoy being active outdoors. We will send some photographs to the 'Beat the Street' team and we might win some prizes.

Children can wear shoes that they like to be active in and feel happy in – trainers for example. Shoes must be sturdy, secure, and flat please.

At the end of last week, we were 98<sup>th</sup> on the score board for 'Beat the Street' with 262 points. Thank you to the 215 registered players. This week, the 'Beat Boxes' will be making different sounds when they are tapped.



### **Children's health**

The School Health team will not be carrying out their annual screening programme with Reception children due to the pandemic. Usually as a result of this screening programme, several children are identified for follow up vision and hearing tests. Some children go on to wear glasses and we have known children go on to receive support for hearing difficulties.

In the absence of this screening programme, we must work together to identify children who may be experiencing vision or hearing difficulties.

Free routine NHS sight tests are available at opticians for children. I have always taken my daughters every summer holiday for an eye test. Please consider taking up this universal offer.

Where there are concerns about a child's hearing, we can make a referral to the School Nurse.



### **School dinners**

Last week, we served approximately 200 meals each day – This is fantastic.

Mrs Carter and the kitchen team used their many years of experience to judge how much of each option to prepare. Children are always ‘full of surprises’ and we did run out of some options by the time our oldest children arrived for dinner. The Year 2 children were so sensible, and all children accessed a full and healthy meal. The return of the salad bar was extremely popular, and it was great to see so many children topping up their meal from the salad bar. The chicken burgers were a particular success, the children were delighted with Mrs Carter’s squirty ketchup! The kitchen team will adjust numbers in response to last week’s preferences. The children were so flexible and we are grateful for your understanding. Pre-ordering meal choices is not manageable, and children often don’t decide until they arrive at the servery and see the options.



### **Breakfast Club and After School Club**

Our Breakfast Club is thriving, and we are now planning to reopen our After School Club before the end of the year. During this academic year, we will maintain our class and family bubble approach.

After School Club is led by Mrs Roberts and run by our experienced and caring Teaching Assistants. It will be available for children from their class bubble finish time until 5:45pm. This will mean that our extended school childcare offer will be available for all our children from 7:45am to 5:45pm, 10 hours a day. Nursery children can also access extended days. Parents and carers collecting children will be able to park in the school car park.

After School Club will be run from our school hall with opportunities for children to play outside as well. A healthy light tea will be served, and children will be able to enjoy a wide range of interesting activities.

To support the next stage of our planning, we need to understand the demand for places. Please email Mrs Roberts if you would like further information about our After School Club.

[clubs@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk](mailto:clubs@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk)

Breakfast Club from 7:45am until class bubble start time, including breakfast is £5.50.

After School Club from class bubble finish time until 5:45pm, including tea is £9.50.



### **We are a fully inclusive school**

We successfully support a number of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in our school. There are children with SEND in every class and we do all that we can to enable them to succeed alongside their peers.

We have a growing number of children with autism in most classes, including Nursery and I would like to share information with all parents and carers about Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Children with ASD live in our community and belong at our school. Some of our ASD children with the highest level of need have an Educational, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and we meet their needs alongside a team of other educational, health and sometimes social care professionals. We benefit from a close relationship with our Educational Psychologist, and we access an independent ASD Advisor. In school, we have significant experience and expertise, and we find ways for children to succeed.

ASD affects children in different ways. All children with ASD have strengths as well as needs.

Children with autism can have difficulties interpreting verbal and non-verbal language like gestures or tone of voice. Often, children with autism need additional processing time.

Children with autism often have difficulty ‘reading’ other people – recognising or understanding others’ feelings and intentions – and expressing their own emotions. This can make coping with a busy day at school overwhelming at times. Even with strong routines, boundaries and good support, children with autism can become anxious or distressed.

Children with autism often have fixed thinking and they can be rigid with routines and behaviours. For example, they may only wear particular clothes, or they may need to transition into school bringing a

particular object. Although we have rules for everyone, there are times when we need to discreetly show flexibility as being calm and reducing stress must be prioritised.

Children with autism may experience over- or under- sensitivity to sounds, touch, taste, smells, light, colours, temperatures, or pain. As experienced staff we are problem solvers, and we make many simple adjustments to make our environment more autism-friendly.

Many children with autism have intense and highly focused interests and this can include specialist knowledge. Again, we make adaptations to our curriculum to connect with children's interests where appropriate. Engaging with special interests can be calming and fulfilling. Examples of special interests include cars, dinosaurs, or places such as McDonald's or London.

When everything becomes too much for children with autism, they may go into meltdown or shutdown. These can be very intense and exhausting experiences. A meltdown happens when someone becomes completely overwhelmed by their current situation. The response could be verbal or physical.

Meltdowns in children are often mistaken for temper tantrums and sadly sometimes hurtful comments or judgemental stares are made from less understanding people. In school, we are trained to deal with meltdowns sensitively and effectively. We use emotion coaching alongside giving children the time and space to regulate, repair and reconnect. We use many de-escalation strategies including distraction.

We catch children getting it right and reward good choices. We encourage children to express themselves appropriately and to use their words to communicate with us.

We are proud of our children with autism and all that they achieve at our school. Every little step of progress matters and our children with autism make great progress from their starting points.



### **Year group topics this half-term**

After Easter, the children in all year groups have started a new and exciting topic of learning. You will be sent today a summary of learning from all subjects across the curriculum.

In Nursery, the children have started a 'What's inside?' topic using the 'Hungry Caterpillar' story.

In Reception, the children have started a 'What's outside our classroom window?' topic. Using the 'Snail and the Whale' story.

In Year 1, the children have started a 'Would you like to go to Alien School?' topic using the 'Welcome to Alien School' story.

In Year 2, the children have started a 'Who cares about our world? We do!' topic using the 'Tin Forest' story.



### **Our newly developed 'Enchanted Woodland Retreat'**

During the Easter holidays, our open area on the first floor was transformed into an 'Enchanted Woodland Retreat'. This newly developed area is spectacular and will be used on a rota basis for reading and nurture activities, as well as group work. I will send you some photographs.

**Enchanted:** Filled with delight      **Retreat:** A place of safety

We are now beginning to plan a 'Wonderland Snug' on our ground floor for our Nursery and Reception children.

**Wonderland:** A place of wonderful things      **Snug:** A safe and cosy place.



### **Our new three canopies**

During the Easter holidays, three canopy structures were successfully installed on our playgrounds. The fabric sails are due to be attached to the top of the frames in the next couple of weeks. These shelters will provide much needed shade from the sun and shelter from the rain. Children need to be active outside whatever the weather.

We have asked our Department for Education Project Manager to visit school this half term to officially 'hand over' areas of our landscaped grounds now that the grass has developed as planned. There is further work to be done in some areas, however we are looking forward to beginning to develop these areas for our school community.



### **Supporting newsletters from school leaders**

Other school leaders will be preparing newsletters to share with you more of the wonderful work that goes on in school to support children's personal and academic outcomes. Each half term, newsletters will be prepared by key leaders.

**Inclusion Newsletter** – Mrs Vincett (Inclusion Leader)

**Pupil Premium Learning Newsletter** – Mrs Unwin-Rose (Pupil Premium Learning Leader)

**Personal Development Newsletter** – Mrs Orme (Personal Development Leader)

**English Newsletter** – Mrs Asghar (English Subject Leader)

**Maths Newsletter** – Mrs Merriman (Maths Subject Leader)



### **School photographer**

We have booked our school photographer for three dates in June. Please note the dates below. Individual and 'in-school' sibling photographs will be taken. Unfortunately, due to ongoing safety restrictions, we will not be able to offer family group photographs outside of the school day.



### **End of year celebrations**

We are busy planning end of year celebrations, especially for our fantastic Year 2 children who will be leaving us in July. If you have any suggestions, please email us.

We are also starting to make plans for September 2021. We will do all that we can to support smooth transitions into new classes. Further information will follow as plans develop.



### **Coronavirus Safety Measures**

Please continue to support our COVID Safe Site Expectations:

- **Only one adult can drop off/pick up** – We must minimise the number of people on site.
- **Follow the one-way system on site** – Keep left and keep moving.
- **Wear a face mask on site** - This is in addition to social distancing.
- **Stay 2 metres away from other parents and carers** – Respect social distancing rules.
- **Minimise your time on site** – Don't come on site unnecessarily early or stay on site after collecting your children – Leave the site as soon as possible – Move on please.

### **Testing**

Twice weekly home **Lateral Flow (LF) Tests** are freely available and **strongly encouraged**. This is such a helpful safety measure. If you are not currently engaging with this opportunity, please consider getting your family and bubble (if you are entitled to one) involved for the safety of your family and our school community. **Around one in three people with Coronavirus have no symptoms, and so finding and isolating these hidden cases quickly will help to stop outbreaks before they get a chance to develop.** All eligible members of

staff test themselves twice a week before work. We have also got the adults in our households and bubbles, where we are eligible, testing twice a week as well. Please do all you can to keep everyone safe.

**Lateral flow testing is not recommended for children under the age of 11 (Secondary aged children).**

**Lateral flow testing is not recommended for young people or adults who have Coronavirus symptoms.**

If someone in your household or bubble develops Coronavirus symptoms, then they must book a **Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) Test** at a testing site immediately. The whole household and bubble must self-isolate immediately.

If a member of staff tests positive using a LF test, then they need to isolate their household and support/childcare bubble and book a confirmation PCR test at a testing site immediately. Close contacts in school will be identified and this could involve closing a class bubble early in the morning and asking staff and children to self-isolate as they will have been in close contact with someone who could have Coronavirus. If the PCR test result is positive, then a 10-day period of self-isolation will be confirmed. If the PCR test result is negative, then close contacts will be told that they no longer need to self-isolate.

Your child could be asked to self-isolate at short notice, in line with government guidance. Please prepare for this eventuality. We are grateful when parents and carers are calm, polite, and understanding. These rules are to keep us all safe. We will continue to communicate by text message.

We must all continue to be alert to the main Coronavirus symptoms:

1. A high temperature
2. A new and continuous cough
3. A loss of smell or taste

If anyone in your household develops a Coronavirus symptom, the household and support/childcare bubble **must** isolate, and a PCR test **must** be booked immediately. **Please communicate household symptoms and test results with us as soon as possible.** Stay safe and follow the rules. Please do all that you can to keep our school community safe. We will respond quickly to positive test results and you may need to collect your children from school to begin a period of isolation. Self-isolation is one of the most important things we can do to help stop the spread of the virus and help protect our friends, family, and our community.

If your child is well but absent from school for a Coronavirus related reason, then they should switch to home learning. We are continuing to send home a weekly home learning plan for each year group on a Monday morning. This plan mirrors the learning that is happening in the classroom.



### **Safety on Wood Road**

We are working in partnership with Derby City Council, our local ward councillors, and our safer neighbourhood policing team to make Wood Road safer at the start and the end of the school day. Please play your part and help to keep our school community safe.

- ✓ **Please drive slowly on Wood Road. Do not make a 'U-Turn' on Wood Road outside school – this is not safe or considerate. Do not stop in the middle of the road to drop off adults and children. Do not mount the kerbs to park on the pavements.**
- ✓ **Please park considerately away from school and walk. Do not park in front of the gates or on the zigzag lines. Do not park on corners, on pavements or blocking driveways. If you need to drive to school, then park safely and considerately away from school and walk.**
- ✓ **Please keep moving when walking and keep the paths clear. Do not gather or wait by the gates – this is not safe or helpful. This is not a safe meeting point. Keep moving and maintain social distancing.**
- ✓ **Please do not stand and smoke by the Wood Road gates. This is not the welcome we want for our families. Please be considerate.**

Derby City Council Public Protections Officers and members of our Safer Neighbourhood Policing Team are hoping to be able to visit us regularly so that we can challenge parents and carers who do not drive, park, or behave safely on Wood Road.

**Summer Term 1 2021 – Monday 19.4 to Friday 28.5**

Week beginning 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Special Educational Needs Support Plan parent/carer telephone consultation meetings
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	<b><u>Wear your 'Happy Shoes' day</u></b>
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	<b>Bank holiday</b>
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	<b><u>Sun Safety Day</u></b>
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	<b><u>NSPCC Number Day</u></b>
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	<b>INSET day 4 – Staff training</b>
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	School breaks up for a half-term holiday

**Summer Term 2 2021 – Monday 7.6 to Thursday 22.7**

Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>School photographer – Nursery and Reception children</b>
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>School photographer – Year 1 children</b>
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	<b>School photographer – Year 2 children</b>
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	End of year reports will be sent home
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	<b>INSET day 5 – Staff training</b>
Week beginning 5 <sup>th</sup> July	End of year parent/carer telephone consultation meetings
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	School breaks up for the summer holiday

**Autumn Term 1 2021 – The new school year begins on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021****



**Contacting School**

Telephone and email contact continues to be the safest way for parents and carers to communicate with school staff. 'Quick' messages can be passed on at drop off and pick up time.

01332 662239

**Senior Leadership Team**

[leadership@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk](mailto:leadership@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk)

(Mrs Diffin - Headteacher, Mrs Howett - Deputy Headteacher and Early Years Foundation Stage Leader, Mrs Asghar - Assistant Headteacher and Key Stage 1 Leader)

**School Office Team**

[admin@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk](mailto:admin@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk)

(Mrs Kelly, Mrs Manners and Mrs Horsman)

**Safeguarding Team**

[safeguarding@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk)

(Mrs Diffin, Mrs Howett, Mrs Asghar, Mrs Vincett, Mrs Leadbeater, Mrs Dearie)

**Inclusion Leader**

[senco@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk](mailto:senco@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk)

(Mrs Vincett)

**Year Group Class Teachers**

[nursery@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk](mailto:nursery@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk) (Mrs Howett)

[reception@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk](mailto:reception@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk) (Miss Marley, Miss Brown, Mrs Orme)

[year1@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk](mailto:year1@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk) (Miss Doxey, Mrs Unwin-Rose, Miss Luke)

[year2@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk](mailto:year2@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk) (Mrs Merriman, Mrs Asghar, Miss Harker)

**Breakfast Club and After School Club**

[clubs@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk](mailto:clubs@cavclosei.derby.sch.uk) (Mrs Roberts)

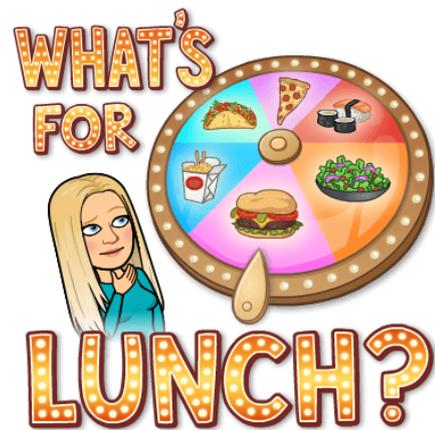
Dear Cavendish Close Children,

hello  
**SUNSHINE**



Please remember to bring your bookbag and your sun hat to school every day. Have you seen our new canopies on the playgrounds? When they are finished, they will provide shade from the sun and shelter from the rain.

Which days will you have a school dinner? Have a look at our new menu and see which meals you like.



SEE YOU IN  
CLASS



Thank you for completing my survey last week and telling me what you think about our school. I will use your answers to make our school even better

Best wishes from Mrs Diffin x