



# Welcome to Castlereagh Nursery School

'Hand in hand we learn together'

## September 2021 Newsletter

We are all so excited to welcome you and your little one to Castlereagh Nursery School. Throughout your child's time in our nursery we aim to promote independence, help them to build friendships and to help your child feel secure and valued.

During your child's year in nursery they will experience a carefully planned curriculum, based on the 6 key areas of learning from the Pre-School curriculum and guidance (Department of Education, 2018):

- Personal Social and Emotional Development
- Language Development
- Physical Development and Movement
- Early Mathematical Experiences
- The Arts
- The World Around Us

We use a thematic approach to planning for your child and September is all about Settling in and getting to know one another. Please could you send in a photo of your child's family. We will discuss this with your child and display them in your child's gallery space.

### **Independence**

Please help us to help your child, encourage them to put on and take off their coats themselves. By letting them hang their own coat up in the mornings lets them know where their peg is and makes getting ready to go outside to our garden easier during the session. During the nursery day your child will be given every opportunity to be independent, this might include pouring their own milk

or water during snack time, mopping spills and brushing up sand. They will become more independent using the bathroom, washing hands, brushing teeth and following various routines during the day.

### How you can help Us

#### **In the morning**

Please arrive promptly at your drop off time. Once your child has settled and is happy coming to nursery, we would like carers to pass their child to a member of staff at the front door. This will minimise the number of adults in the entrance hall.

Room 1 (Mrs Morrow's class)      8.50am - 9.00am

Room 2 (Mrs Jones' class)      9.10am - 9.20am

It is extremely important that you arrive at these times, this is to ensure the correct social distancing is adhered to. During the current COVID-19 situation, we would ask you to follow the one way system onsite. Children and carers should walk onto the nursery campus through the vehicle access gates, following the bear paw prints. Once you have dropped you child off, please follow the arrows out through the pedestrian exit.

#### **In the afternoon**

Until your child starts dinner the doors will be opened

Room 1 (Mrs Morrow)      11.50am - 12.00pm

Room 2 (Mrs Jones)      12.10pm - 12.20pm

Staff bring your child directly outside to their carer. Please do not come into the nursery at pick up time. Unfortunately, even if it is raining at this time we are unable to have adults in the nursery entrance. This is due to the very limited space we have available in this area.

Please advise anyone who might be picking your child up of this routine. Please ensure you are on time when collecting your child. If for any reason you are going to be late, you can telephone the nursery and we will be able to reassure your child. Children who are continually left until last can become fretful and get upset.



If your child is going to be absent from nursery for any reason, please contact the nursery by telephone (02890 704539) before the commencement of the school day. We call the dinner numbers through to the meals kitchen before 9.45. Thank you

### Car park

Parents are reminded that the car park is strictly for staff cars only. When dropping off and picking up please do not drive into the campus. The nursery is very busy at these times and this will ensure that all children are kept safe when walking to and from nursery.

All items of clothing should be named, and all children should have a FULL change of clothes in a drawstring bag which remains on their peg.

### How we can help you

If you have any worries or questions about your child, staff are available at the beginning and the end of each session to talk to you. We work in close partnership with all our parents to ensure your child gets the most out of their time in nursery. Alternatively, a suitable time can be arranged to speak in private if and when the need arises.

Settling in interviews will take place towards the end of October before we break up for Halloween. These are meetings where your child's teacher will discuss how your child has settled and show you some photographs of what your child has been doing during their time in school.

### Early Mathematical Focus

During the first term (once all the children have started) we will be focusing on one colour and one shape per week. Parents will receive a text on the Friday letting them know what the colour will be the following week. Please use this as a learning opportunity to share with your child, talking about the relevant shape/colour at home will reinforce what we are doing in nursery. If possible we would love it if you could send in a small item from home for our weekly colour display, these will be returned each Friday.

All the staff at Castlereagh Nursery School look forward to working closely with you and your child during the year ahead. Thank you for your support

A Morrow (Principal)

# Songs and Rhymes for September

These are some of our regular songs we sing at specific times of the day. Your child will already be able to help you with the tunes.



## Good Morning Song

Good Morning, Good Morning  
Good Morning to you,  
Good Morning, Good Morning  
Good Morning to you,  
The day is beginning,  
There's so much to do,  
Good Morning, Good Morning  
Good Morning to you!



## Time to Go Home Song

Time to Go Home,  
Time to Go Home,  
Mummies and Daddies are waiting for you,  
Time to Go Home,  
Time to Go Home  
We are all waving goodbye, goodbye,  
goodbye, goodbye

## Lunchtime Song

Thank you for the world so sweet,  
Thank you for the food we eat,  
Thank you for the birds that sing,  
Thank you, God for everything!



## Days of the Week

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday too,  
1,2,3,4,5,6,7 days,  
Each day different and every day new!

## Dates for your Diary

September - December

(more dates will be added as they are confirmed)

October	
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Paul from Sonal Sports (Physical Skills)
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Paul from Sonal Sports (Physical Skills)
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Cool For School Photographer
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Face to Face Parent teacher consultations (Mrs Jones' Class)
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Face to Face Parent teacher consultations (Mrs Morrow's Class)
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Funsie in a Onesie (wear your Onesie pyjamas to school) £1 donation in aid of Air Ambulance NI  Mr Hullabaloo Interactive Theatre (Autumn Show)
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	School closes at 11.30am for half term (No School Dinners)
November	
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	School re-opens at normal time
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	Main fund raiser of the year 'Welly Walk' (Details to follow)
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Paul from Sonal Sports (Physical Skills)
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Paul from Sonal Sports (Physical Skills)
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Paul from Sonal Sports (Physical Skills)
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Debbie Dolittle Wildlife
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Paul from Sonal Sports (Physical Skills)
December	
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	'Special Visitor' to see the children
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Party - Non uniform School closes at 11.30am for the Christmas Holidays

### Charity of the Year

Each year Castlereagh Nursery School supports a local charity. We have decided on one which means a great deal to a few of our families this year.

Air Ambulance NI

You can find out more about the work they do here in Northern Ireland by accessing their website <https://airambulancenireland.org>