



Welcome to Castlereagh Nursery School

'Hand in hand we learn together'

September 2023 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) 9.00am - 9.10am

It is extremely important that you arrive at these times, this is to ensure there is adequate parking outside the nursery. Also to ease any congestion in the entrance hall once all 52 children are attending.

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) 12.00pm - 12.10pm

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 during week beginning 23rd 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.

The **holiday list** for the academic year 2023-2024 is on the website. You may sync your phone with the calendar also so you do not miss any important dates.

Early Mathematical Focus

During the first term (once all the children have started) we will be focusing on one colour 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	
Thursday 28 th September	Cool For School Photography Individual Children's Photos
Tuesday 17 th October	Halloween Stay and Play Mrs Jones' Class
Wednesday 18 th October	Halloween Stay and Play Mrs Morrow's Class
Thursday 19 th October	Curriculum Evening 6.45pm - 7.30pm
Mon 23 rd October	Parent / teacher consultations (Mrs Jones' Class)
Tues 24 th October	Parent / teacher consultations (Mrs Morrow's Class)
Friday 27 th October	Funsie in a Onesie (wear your Onesie pyjamas to school) £1 donation in aid of Air Ambulance NI
Friday 27 th October	School closes at 11.30am for half term (No School Dinners)
November	
Tuesday 7 th November	School re-opens at normal time
Friday 10 th November	Mr Hullbaloo Interactive Theatre Autumn Show
Friday 17 th November	Main fund raiser of the year 'Welly Walk' (Details to follow)
Friday 24 th November	Debbie Dolittle Wildlife
December	
Friday 1 st December	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 8 th December	Mr Hulabaloo Christmas Pantomime Jack and The Beanstalk (Courtyard Theatre)
Thursday 21 st December	'Special Visitor' to see the children
Friday 22 nd December	Christmas Party - Non uniform School closes at 11.30am for the Christmas Holidays
January	
Friday 5 th January	School Development Day (Children do not attend)
Monday 8 th January	Children Return to Nursery

Charity of the Year

Each year Castlereagh Nursery School supports a local charity. This year we have chosen

Air Ambulance NI You can find out more about the work they do here in Northern Ireland by accessing their website

<https://airambulancenireland.org/>