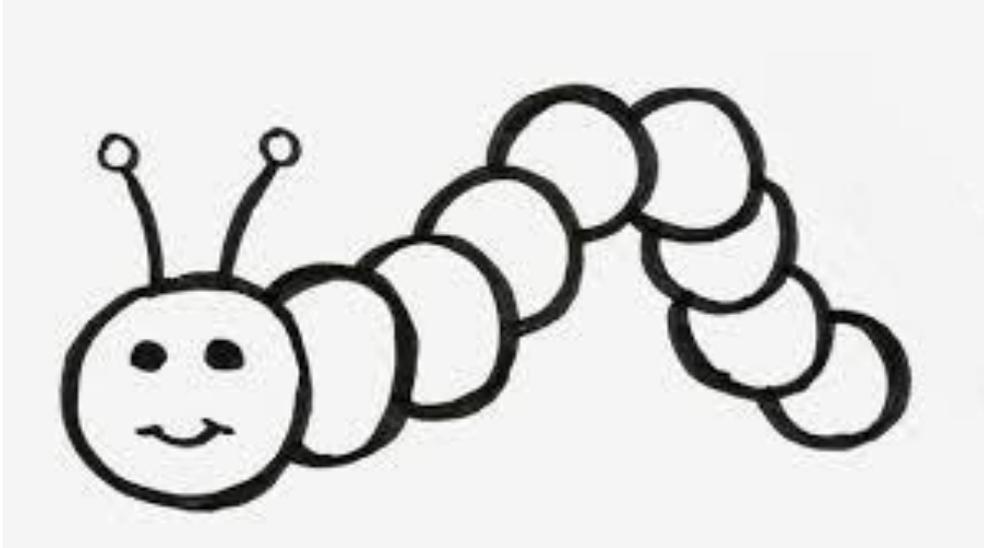


Caterpillar Class



Information for
parents of
children starting
in nursery class

Staff Team



Mrs S Hodgson
(Headteacher)



Mrs J Coles
(Deputy Head)



Mrs C Quinn
(Nursery Teacher &
EYFS lead)



Ms S Wright
(EYFS Practitioner)



Miss C Cameron
(Reception Teacher)



Mrs H Sheen
(EYFS Practitioner)



Ms C Johnson
(SENCo)



22 June 2018

Learning & Development

The curriculum that we deliver in the Nursery meets the requirements set out in the Curriculum Guidance for the Foundation Stage. This sets out the standards that must be met to ensure that children learn and develop well, are healthy and safe. Children develop skills, acquire new knowledge and demonstrate their understanding through 7 areas of learning and development. These areas are divided into the 'Prime' and 'Specific' areas of learning.

The 3 'Prime' areas of learning focus on developing the skills that children need for healthy development and to become effective learners. These areas are:

- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Personal, Social and Emotional Development

As children grow, the Prime areas will help them to develop skills in 4 'Specific' areas, which are:

- Literacy
- Mathematics
- Understanding the world
- Expressive arts and design

These 7 areas are used to plan children's learning and activities. It is designed to be flexible so that staff can follow the needs and interests of the children. Children in the EYFS learn through playing and exploring, being active, and through creative and critical thinking which takes place both indoors and outside.

Each term we hold 'Stay and Play with Me' mornings, where parents are invited to spend some time in class and see the children's learning in action.



Topics in Class

The wonderful thing about the EYFS curriculum is that it is specifically designed to work around the interests and needs of that particular class.

We take our lead from the children's passions and interests,



theming our teaching around them to ensure that children really engage with their learning. As we cannot know what will motivate and inspire the children as they move through the year, we have moved from fixed topics to following the interests of the children across the year.

There are, however familiar themes which arise each year, although we may explore them in different ways. Over the course of the year, our learning may well be based around some of these common themes:

- Me & My Family
- Autumn
- Christmas
- Snow
- Spring
- Growing (Plants and animals)
- Around the world
- Food & Health
- Summer

Throughout the course of the term, each child will have a 'focus week' when they will have the opportunity to share photographs, stories and information from home and this will influence the learning for that week. Parents are invited to offer insights into the children's current interests and given the opportunity to ask questions about their child's learning.

Daily Routine

- * 8.50 - Morning session starts
- * 11.50 - Morning session ends
- * 11.50-12.20 - Lunch
- * 12.20 - Afternoon session starts
- * 3.20 - Afternoon session ends



Early Years Fund

We ask for a parental contribution of £12 per term to help us cover the cost of items such as playdough ingredients, bulbs and seeds for planting etc. This can be paid online via Parentmail



How can I help my child?

This is one of the most frequently asked questions and parents have a vital role to play in supporting their children's learning. If you can help your child to master the skills listed below then they should be off to a flying start!

- ✓ put their coat on & take it off without help - and hang it up!
- ✓ say their teachers names
- ✓ wipe own nose & recognise when this is needed!
- ✓ play freely without the continual support of an adult
- ✓ put own shoes on/ take them off independently
- ✓ listen to, understand and follow simple instructions
- ✓ wash hands thoroughly & independently AND understands when hands need to be washed
 - ✓ sit still and listen to a story from beginning to end
 - ✓ fully toilet trained - including 'wiping'!



Please talk to a member of staff if you are worried or unsure about anything during your child's time in nursery.

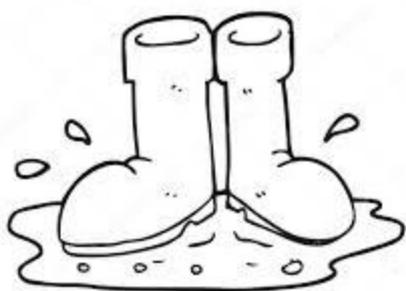
What does my child need to bring to nursery?

All children in Caterpillar Class are expected to wear a school uniform as detailed below.

Uniform

- * School sweatshirt or cardigan
- * White polo shirt
- * Black or grey jogging bottoms, shorts, leggings or school trousers
- * Shoes suitable for indoor and outdoor activities. Please avoid laces and 'slip ons'
- * Long hair should be tied back, out of the way
- * Jewellery is not permitted at school

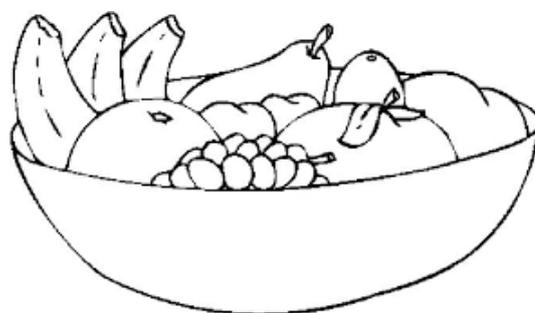
Uniform is available from <https://www.pmgsschoolwear.co.uk>



In addition to this we ask you to send a pair of wellington boots to school for us to keep here so that the children can use them whenever required. Young children like to be out in all weathers and they can learn a lot from this, so we ask parents to send the children to school with raincoats or sunhats depending on the season.

Your child will be given a book bag when we come to visit you at home. This should be brought to school every day and children are able to choose a new book to take home as often as they would like to.

Milk, water & fruit are provided free of charge. Your child does not need to bring a water bottle or snack. If they are staying all day then you will need to purchase a school meal, or send in a packed lunch. Please note that we are a nut free school so foods containing nuts should not be included in packed lunches.



Please do not allow your child to bring in toys from home unless you have been specifically asked to by the classteacher.

What if my child has a medical condition or is ill?

We will carry out a home visit for each child before they start nursery. This is an ideal opportunity to let us know about any health or medical conditions that your child may have. If your child may need medication, such as using an asthma inhaler, you will need to fill out a form giving details of exactly when & how the medicine should be given and we will administer it as necessary.



Both Mrs Quinn & Ms Wright are qualified first aiders. If your child is injured or becomes ill during nursery we will contact you as soon as possible. Please make sure that your contact details are kept up to date!

If your child is unable to come to nursery due to illness, please let the school office know as soon as possible. If your child has had sickness or diarrhoea, please keep them at home for at least 48 hours after the last

time they were ill. Please do not send your child to nursery if they are ill as they will not be able to learn effectively if they are feeling unwell.

What if my child will be absent from nursery?

Please let us know in writing if your child will be absent due to a medical appointment. We would encourage all families to avoid term time holidays, however, we appreciate that the children in nursery are below statutory school age and that you may wish to take your child out of school during term time. Please let us know in writing as far in advance as possible.

What if I have any questions?

We will always do our best to answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to pop in and speak to us at the beginning or end of a session. Alternatively, you can contact us via the school office - 020 8397 9597