

# CCC Newsletter- Summer 2, 2015



Welcome to our latest newsletter.

## NEWS FROM THE MANAGEMENT TEAM

### Carol Hill

Being a not for profit ,charitable organisation, fund raising is vital for us to be enable us to invest in the service, updating and renewing resources and facilities for our children and families. This quarter through the easy fundraising scheme, we received £49. This is a simple scheme that we would like to encourage everyone to join. By registering with [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk), you can make your online purchases with your favourite retailers. After you have made your purchase, the retailer will give you a cash reward that you can turn into a donation for Cawthorne Children's Centre. Easyfundraising collect this and send it on to us at no extra cost. Therefore please take time to register and select the Centre as your good cause and help us fund raise for the benefit of the children. We have put this quarter's donation towards a new rug valued at £100 in Butterfly Room.

We have an endless list of items we would like to either renew or purchase for the first time. Please help us to achieve this via Easy Fundraising. It is easy and doesn't cost a penny. Thank you.

### Sarah Baker

Summer term is now upon us and what an exciting term it will be with lots of outdoor activities, hands on learning experiences for the children and plenty of physical play as preparation for this terms main event, Sports Day!

This terms themes which support children's learning and development across all seven areas of the EYFS, include: - Fabulous foods, Amazing animals, summer and Minibeasts and We're going to school. Read more about children's learning in the individual room sections below.

We are currently applying for a Barclay's Community Challenge where we hope that a small team of Barclay's members of staff will come and help us with some developments to our garden areas in Butterfly garden and the sensory garden. If we are lucky enough to have the application passed then we can also buy £500 worth of materials/resources to enhance the gardens.

### Early Years Updates

The Department for Education have recently brought out non-statutory advice for maintained schools, to support them in meeting the obligations under section 78 of the Education Act (2002) which requires schools, as part of a broad and balanced curriculum, to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of pupils at the school and of society.

In respect of Early Years settings, the fundamental British values of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance for those with different faiths and beliefs are already implicitly embedded in the 2014 Early Years Foundation Stage. There are many ways in practice that we are and will further promote these values. For further and more detailed information about how Early Years settings can actively promote these values please visit the link below. [http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2015/03/Fundamental\\_British\\_Values.pdf](http://www.foundationyears.org.uk/files/2015/03/Fundamental_British_Values.pdf)

Separately, the Counter Terrorism and Security Act also places a duty on early years providers "to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism" (the Prevent duty). The duty is likely to come into effect from July 2015. Statutory guidance on the duty is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>. DfE will in due course amend the EYFS to reference providers' responsibilities in the light of the Prevent duty.

## **Quality Improvements**

We are continually striving to improve the quality of service, provision and most of all the care, teaching and learning that we provide here at the centre. As a management team we actively encourage reflective practice through observations of our daily practice, feedback from children and parents and staff development. Practice is also reviewed in line with new initiatives, government legislation and best practice documents which I continually keep abreast of.

The management team work together with the staff team to identify any areas for development/improvement and then ongoing Quality Improvement Plans are put in place, which are regularly reviewed and renewed once identified improvements have been carried out.

Some of our identified areas for development currently include: Reorganisation and development of our outdoor space in Butterfly room, to further embed all aspects of Fundamental British Values into everyday practice, build upon the early identification of children who may need support with speech and language development (through the Wellcomm pack), Observations of practice in particular to look at specific teaching and learning techniques to ensure that practitioners are enhancing every opportunity through play to support children's progress.

## **ACTIVITIES IN THE CENTRE**

### **Baby Room**

Firstly we would like to thank all our families, for your continued support with the home learning sheets we send out. It is always lovely to read what the babies get up to in their home environment and helps us greatly with how we support your child's continued learning.

During our theme of 'Reasons to Read' with the babies, we noticed that all the babies showed a lot more interest than usual when it came to looking at books and listening to stories, especially if it included props. We also noticed that the babies seemed to be babbling more and using more recognisable words during their play.

Currently we have been sowing lots of seeds and watching them grow into plants. We have been investigating them through feeling, smelling and tasting and we have created some lovely collage work with the seeds we didn't plant.

During the coming weeks we will be looking at fabulous food, experiencing new tastes, textures and smells. We plan to create a role-play pet shop as we explore amazing animals, then have fun learning all about ourselves and our families.

Michelle Wood  
Baby Room Co-coordinator

### **Caterpillar Room**

#### **Getting busy with Caterpillars**

The Caterpillar children have been getting very busy learning about books and stories; we have had a week that has focused on 'Reasons to read' where the children made some amazing props from their favourite stories at home and brought them in to show their friends in a show and tell. We looked at different books, books that had information, recipe books which we had to follow, and fictional story books. The caterpillar children really enjoyed this topic. We have also started work on our 'Creative Arts' topic looking at music and dance through our 'Busy feet' pack. We have made musical instruments to explore different sounds, looking at loud and quiet and how to make fast and slow sounds. We have also been looking at Art and design where we have looked at construction and buildings. We are now looking at Art in nature, using natural resources to explore pattern, shape and colour.

### **What's next?**

Over the summer term our topics will cover 'Fabulous Foods' looking at being healthy and exploring foods from around the world. We are looking at Amazing animals focusing on pets, and following an 'All about me' topic looking at ourselves as individuals and what differences and similarities there are between our peers and ourselves.

Our main topic is 'summer and mini beasts' where we will explore our outdoor environment especially our sensory garden, looking at changes in plants, planting our own garden and investigating mini beasts. We will cover sun safety, water safety, holidays, our senses, and transport. To finish off our summer term we will be looking at Dinosaurs, we will be getting creative with dinosaur prints, looking at dinosaur bones to learn about size, and shape. Our book focus will be 'Harry and his bucket full of dinosaurs'.

A big thank you to all of our children and their parents/carers, who took the time to complete the Home learning for our 'Reasons to Read' topic.

Just a little reminder about sun hats and sun creams, could you please provide a sun hat for your child/ren for when they are playing outdoors and also provide sun cream to either stay at nursery or to go home at the end of each day.

Emma Thistlewood

Caterpillar Room Co-ordinator/Deputy Childcare Manager

### **Butterfly Room**

Over the last few weeks the Butterflies have been working on 'Letters and Sounds', 'Reasons to Read' and 'Spectacular Science'. They have enjoyed reading many stories such as Jack and the beanstalk, Goldilocks and the three bears and whatever next. Exploring new experiments such as lemonade and baking soda and wizards brew was one of their favourite activities.

During the summer we will be learning about fabulous foods, amazing animals, summer time, mini beasts and dinosaurs. We will also have a focus on preparing for school. We will be planning exciting activities such as preparing food and food tasting. During our amazing animals theme, children will have the opportunity to role play in a vets centre, complemented with discussions about our pets. For our minibeast and summer topic, we will be going on minibeast walks and also looking at lifecycles, habitats and environments. This will enable us to use our mathematics skills to count ladybird spots and spiders legs. When the weather is warmer we will also be having garden parties where the children can play beach games, play in the paddling pool and discuss sun and water safety.

Throughout the summer many of the children will be going on their holidays and at nursery we would like to encourage the children to take part in a show and tell with their holiday photos. We would be grateful if you could provide us with some of your holiday photos/postcards to support this.

In preparation for the children who will be taking the next step into school, we will be having discussions about their transition to school and how they are feeling about this. We will support them as much as we can and will focus on making the transition as smooth as possible. We will encourage the children to explore a school role play area, looking at uniforms and dressing up in them, looking at photo booklets of schools and some children will also be visited by their new teacher.

Launa Skelley

Butterfly Room Coordinator

### **Out of School Service**

#### **Holiday Club**

Well what a busy holiday club we have had! For our trip we went to Yorkshire Wildlife Park. The children walked miles and thoroughly enjoyed looking at the different animals and finding the new polar bears. The children also got up close to the wallabies, watching them at feeding time and listening to a little talk about where they originate from and for example that they listen and travel using their ears. On Thursday we did our 'Bear Grylls' and 'I'm a celeb' challenge. The children split

into two groups, building a den as a team and took on various challengers, gaining sweets and gold coins for their team. The favourite challenge was the spaghetti in cold water, using their feet to get the gold coins out. Some of the children and staff enjoyed the eating challenge which was a fizzy lace wrapped round a cocktail sausage. On Friday we had a girly day, watching movies, playing Just Dance on the WII, and practising gymnastics.

We will be looking at starting the summer holiday club planning within the next couple of weeks and hopefully getting this out at the end of June. If you have visited anywhere new and think our holiday club would like to visit for a trip then please let us know. We are open to new ideas and try to visit new places.

#### After School Club

We have now allocated the places for September, and we do have a couple of places left on a few days. Therefore please let us know if you require extra sessions and we can look at this for you. As we are coming to the end of the term, there will be lots of events planned at school, for example sports day, maize maze, leavers service, and Cawthorne Stars. Can you please let us know if you will be taking your child/ren straight from these events so we know who to look out for and can keep all children safe. July will be a sad month as we say goodbye to a small group of children who will leave for high school. We will miss these children and wish them every success as they start on their new journey. Now the warmer weather is finally here, you can bring and leave sun cream if you wish for your child but we do have spares if the children require it on. The children are enjoying playing outside and are not wanting to go when parents arrive. This is a good sign and shows they are enjoying themselves.

Amy Johnson  
Out of School Coordinator

#### GENERAL INFORMATION FOR ALL ROOMS

**Holiday allowances 2015** - We offer 2 weeks of your child's weekly pattern at 50%, between January - December. To ensure this is adjusted on your monthly invoice please can you either complete a holiday allowance form which can be downloaded from our website or put your requested dates in writing. Once received, the deduction will be made on the next invoice that is produced. Invoices are produced by the 15<sup>th</sup> of month, for the month in advance.

**Final Reminder: Also**, in addition, we do offer the option to take leave for the six week school holidays. It is a requirement to take the full 6 weeks to receive this holiday deduction. Notification for this should be made in writing by 15th June 2015, to take effect with July invoicing.

**Nursery Funding - New Entitlement Reminder 3-4 years-** For those parents whose children turn 3 years during the coming year, Nursery Funding will become available the term after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. Cawthorne Children's Centre is able to offer sessions to enable your child to receive this entitlement. Each child at present will be able to access 15 hours funded care each week, during term time. There are specific criteria that need to be met to access all 15 hours, with the main one being attendance at the Centre over 2 days per week. Sessions can be accessed between 8am and 6pm each day. Therefore if your child is approaching 3 years, and you would like to look at changing sessions in order to maximise their entitlement to nursery funding, please do not hesitate to call into the office and speak with a member of the management team.

**Nursery Funding- 2 year olds** - Some 2-year-olds in England can get free early education and childcare. You must be getting one of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- support through part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act

- Child Tax Credit and/or Working Tax Credit and have an annual income under £16,190
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- the Working Tax Credit 4-week run on (the payment you get when you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit

Children are also entitled to a place if:

- they're looked after by a local council
- they have a current statement of special education needs (SEN) or an education health and care plan
- they get Disability Living Allowance
- they've left care under a special guardianship order, child arrangements order or adoption order

If your child is eligible, you can start claiming after they turn 2. The date you can claim will depend on when their birthday is. Please contact the office for further details if you feel your family may be able to benefit from this funding.

**Fee Payment Reminder:** - To clarify our policy on receipt of payments.

We prepare invoices on the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month for the month in advance. We then require payment for these invoices by the 30<sup>th</sup> of the month, or an agreed date close to this for those in receipt of childcare vouchers through their pay. If payments are not received and kept up to date after 3 consecutive months, then we will issue a final notice and request to pay in full within 7 days. If this request is not met, we will discuss termination of sessions and take action to recover the debt. Should you be unable to pay fees at any time, please contact Carol Hill in the first instance to discuss options that are available? Thank you.

**Parents Evening Questionnaires** - Thank you to everyone who has completed the questionnaires at parents evening. Sarah has now completed the analysis of your comments. She has prepared pie charts for each area showing the proportions of how people answered the questions from 'Strongly Agree to Disagree.' She has then picked out some of the feedback and provided a response for how we feel we can or cannot address the issues raised. A copy of our responses has been placed in each room for parents to read, alongside a copy in the foyer area. Please take time to read this document to ensure you are kept up to date with our plans.

**Sports Day-** We had previously published that this year our Fantastic Sports day will take place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June. **However due to unforeseen circumstances we have had to change the date. The new date is now Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 5pm.** We still have an exciting evening planned and parents need to bring their running shoes ready for the parent events! All children will have a chance to take part in a couple of races and these will be held room by room. Caterpillars will race first so will need to be ready on the school field no later than 4.45pm and then Butterfly children will race at approximately 5.30pm. If your child/ren are not in nursery on this day, please bring them at the stated times as they will be allocated races to take part in, unless you inform us that that they will not be attending. If any children who attend our Out of School Club/Holiday club or older siblings are attending then they will race after Butterfly races at approximately 6pm. We would recommend that you bring camping chairs and rugs for use during the sports events on the school field as we have a limited number of small chairs available.

We hope that you will all join us back at the centre for fabulous food and refreshments from the café. Carol, our cook, is planning to offer hotdogs and/jacket potatoes for you to enjoy as your Friday night tea. We will also have some fundraising activities, which will include a raffle (all the prizes will be on display in the foyer before the day). If you are unable to attend and you wish to buy raffle tickets, please see a member of the management team.

<http://www.cawthornechildrenscentre.co.uk>

If you can support our fundraising efforts by donating any raffle, tombola or bottle tombola prizes we would be extremely grateful.

We apologise for the change and hope that you will all be able to still join us for this fabulous, family event.

**Transitional Parents Evening School Leavers** -We are holding a Parents Evening on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm onwards, for parents of those children who are starting school in September. This will be an opportunity to meet with your child's Key person on a one to one basis to discuss your child's progress and achievements in their learning and development and discuss any worries or concerns relating to their transition to school. Your child's Key person will have written a short summary report to share with you and you will be able to look at your child's Learning and Development file which hold's observations, photographs and samples of creative work to evidence your child's learning. Please book a time with your child's Key person, there will be lists available for you to add your name to the Butterfly room door, nearer the time. If for any reason you cannot attend on the given date please do not hesitate to rearrange a more convenient date with your child's Key person.

As part of our commitment to make the children's transition to school as smooth as possible we are planning a number of activities in the next half term to support and prepare them in making this important move to big school. These activities include-

- Talking to them about their new schools.
- Showing them photographs of their schools, the environment, activities and their teachers in a booklet.
- Having uniforms from different schools for dressing up clothes.
- Singing any songs that the schools sing with the children.
- Reading stories about starting school and making friends.
- Having a 'School/Class room' role play area that children can play in.
- Use circle time to talk about change, children's feelings and leaving adults/friends that they are fond of.
- Where possible we will invite children's new class teachers to come and introduce themselves to the children.
- Encouraging them to fill in a child friendly form where they can draw themselves, express their
- Likes/dislikes, interests and talk about their friends they are moving school with. (This will be passed to their new class teacher).

**Tempest Photography- Reminder** -We have booked Graduation photos for Butterfly room from 9.30am on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June. This will then be followed by Individual Photos for all rooms. If your child is in nursery this day, they will automatically be taken for photos. If they are not in nursery and you would like them to have their photograph, please can you book a time on the booking sheet that will be posted on the office door WC 22/6. Many Thanks.

**New Menus:** - Our summer menus are in place from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June. They have been reviewed carefully by our kitchen coordinator Carol, who is one of our two experienced cooks. She has worked hard to take into account many factors including, seasonal choices, nutritional needs and requirements, allergies and religious/cultural needs and the needs of all children across the age ranges 0-14. If you have any feedback about them, please do not hesitate to call into the office to share your views. New dishes to look out for include Turkey Stir Fry, Shepherds Pie with Green Beans, Picnic Tea, Mediterranean Vegetable Risotto and for dessert we have Dorset Apple Cake Slices, Fruit Muffins and Summer Fruit Cheesecake.

**Attending the Centre- Illness and Sickness**

<http://www.cawthornechildrenscentre.co.uk>

Just a reminder, that when your child is ill, we use guidance from the South Yorkshire Health Protection Unit for the Management and Control of Infectious Diseases to help establish if exclusion is required. If your child suffers sickness and or diarrhoea, to help prevent this spreading, your child should be excluded until 48 hours after the sickness and or/diarrhoea has stopped. Thank you for helping us to manage this condition effectively.

For all other conditions, please contact the office team and they will refer to the up to date guidance to help determine the action that is necessary.

### **Staff Update**

#### **Amy Johnson- Out of School Co-ordinator**

The time has finally arrived when Amy has decided to leave the Centre due to her relocation. Her last day at the Centre will be Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June. We are very sad that Amy is leaving; she has been dedicated to her job having worked at the Centre for 9 years. She has been a very valuable member of staff, working effectively in all the roles she has undertaken. We wish Amy and her family all the best for a happy future.

**With regards to the role of Out of School Co-ordinator**, Katherine Beal will continue to job share this, with newly appointed **Rayleigh Worrall**. Rayleigh has been at the Centre for just over a year, and is experienced and qualified in play work which underpins the activities of the Out of School club. We wish Rayleigh every success in her new role.

**Rebecca Birkinshaw** returns to the Centre after her maternity leave, on 15<sup>th</sup> June. Becky is going to take up some of the hours that Amy worked, and she is therefore going to split her time between Butterfly Room and Out of School Club. During her first week, Becky will be shadowing in Out of School club with the other members of the team.

With **Steph Priest** leaving Caterpillar Room at Easter, we have been recruiting a new member to join this team. We have appointed **Jean Halford** who will start with us shortly. Jean has worked as a classroom assistant on a voluntary basis at a local Barnsley school and also completed a placement at a local nursery. She has displayed a very warm and caring nature and is looking forward to learning on the job and developing her experience with us.

Over the summer we will also see the return of Chloe Roystone, Katie Baldry and Toni Bailey, who have completed placements with us in the past and are providing us with holiday cover.

**Key Responsibilities:** Just to remind everyone of key contacts in the Centre:

**Carol Hill** - [carol@cawthornechildrenscentre.co.uk](mailto:carol@cawthornechildrenscentre.co.uk)

For all matters relating to finance, holiday entitlement, invoicing, outstanding balances, child care vouchers, session changes, notice periods, out of school planning and nursery funding.

**Sarah Baker** - [sarah@cawthornechildrenscentre.co.uk](mailto:sarah@cawthornechildrenscentre.co.uk)

For all matters relating to the management of children's care and education, policies and procedures, future developments/improvement of the Centre, safeguarding, health and safety, staff training and development and event planning.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The following provides detail of forthcoming events and key dates:

<b>June 19<sup>th</sup></b>	N/A	Inset Day Cawthorne school- No Out of School Clubs
<b>June 21<sup>st</sup></b>	N/A	Fathers Day
<b>June 26<sup>th</sup></b>	5pm	Sports Day on the School Field
<b>June 29<sup>th</sup></b>	N/A	Tempest Photography Graduation Photos Butterfly Room Whole Centre Individual Photos.
<b>July 17<sup>th</sup></b>	N/A	Pre-school finishes for Summer break Out of School finishes for Summer break
<b>July 20<sup>th</sup></b>	N/A	Inset Day Cawthorne school. Holiday Club for Out of School
<b>August 31<sup>st</sup></b>	Closed	Bank Holiday
<b>Sept 1<sup>st</sup></b>	N/A	Pre-school recommences
<b>Oct 23<sup>rd</sup></b>		Pre school finishes for Half Term Out of School finishes for Half Term
<b>Oct 26<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup></b>	N/A	October Half Term Holiday Club
<b>Nov 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	N/A	Pre-school recommences Out of School recommences.
<b>Dec 18<sup>th</sup></b>		Pre school finishes for Christmas
<b>Dec 21-23<sup>rd</sup></b>		Holiday Club for Out of School
<b>Dec 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	6pm	Centre closes at 6pm for Christmas
<b>Jan 4<sup>th</sup> 2016</b>	7.30am	Centre reopens for New Year

**Best Wishes,  
Carol Hill,  
Business Manager.**