# **Everton**Nursery School and Family Centre









www.evertonnurseryschoolandfamilycentre.org



0151 233 1969



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## Welcome

#### Dr. Lesley Curtis OBE Headteacher/Head of Centre

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our first newsletter of the academic year.

Welcome to all new parents/carers and children who have joined Everton Nursery School and Family Centre since September 2019.

We welcome you all to our Nursery School and hope you have settled well into your classes. As always at Everton Nursery School children have been exploring lots of learning both indoors within their classroom learning environments and outdoors in outdoor play and Forest School.

This newsletter will give you an insight into the range of learning the educators lead. For example: Promoting Communication and Language, Phonics and Educational Visits. Find out in this newsletter about what children have engaged in so far. Check our Twitter account for activities.

I hope you can attend some of our December activities.

I look forward to meeting you at some of our December activities such as our In Harmony concerts and making Yule logs and Christmas biscuits.

Following the judging of the 2019 Educatering Excellence Awards, Maria Roberts our school cook was shortlisted for the Nursery/Preschool Caterer of the Year. As a finalist Maria attended a special dinner, which was held at the Royal Garden Hotel, London on Tuesday 8th October 2019.

Maria, as Senior Cook is very aware of the need for nutritious meals for our children. Maria makes sure that all the children have a fresh meal each day. Maria reviews the menus regularly and often disguises fresh vegetables in a range of quality foods such as soups, casseroles, enabling the children to access a quality diet throughout

the week. The children learn to appreciate new foods by tasting cauliflower, broccoli, peas and other vegetables during the week in small portions. Mealtimes at Everton Nursery School involve a family service providing opportunities for children to pass the vegetables and salad around the table for the children to serve themselves with support from the nursery staff. Maria cooks all the nursery food from scratch and starts in the Nursery School kitchen each morning at 6.30a.m. until 1.30p.m. She has dedicated her life to enabling nursery children to have healthy food at Everton Nursery School and Family Centre. Maria has been an inspiration to the children and has encouraged us all to think about cooking meals in a healthy way. We are delighted that Maria was a finalist representing Everton Nursery School and Family Centre at a national awards



EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2019

FINALIST

ceremony. Well done Maria for all your hard work in preparing and cooking meals for our children.

Dr. Lesley Curtis OBE Headteacher/Head of Centre

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#### Vacancy Notice

We have a parent governor vacancy. If you are interested in undertaking this role please ask at the foyer for more information.



#### **Term Dates 2019/20**

**Autumn Term 2019** 

Friday 20th December End of Autumn Term

Spring Term 2020

Monday 6th January Start of Spring Term

Monday 17th - Friday 21st February

Monday 6th April

Tuesday 7th - Friday 17th

April

End of Spring Term

Half Term - School Closed

Spring Break - School

Closed

Summer Term 2020

Monday 20th April Start of Summer Term Nursery Closed - VE

Friday 8th May Anniversary

Monday 25th - Friday 29th

May

Friday 17th July

Half Term - School Closed

End of Academic Year



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## **Communication and Language**

Faye O'Connor
Assistant Headteacher / Spencer 1 Teacher

Did you know Communication and Language is made up of three strands?

- Listening and Attention
- Understanding
- Speaking

At Everton Nursery School and Family Centre, the aim is to enrich children's communication and language from birth to five years through giving children opportunities to experience a rich language environment, to develop their confidence and skills in expressing themselves, and to speak and listen in a range of situations.

During the school day learning experiences are planned to provide opportunities for all children to develop listening and attention skills, understanding and expressive language. Through teacher led sessions, circle time and family worker sessions we aim to provide children with language rich experiences that promote a love of talk.

Staff at Everton are skilfully trained to support all children to make progress in their communication and language development.

Additionally, some children may require additional support through the Wellcomm programme. Wellcomm is school funded intervention package that provides all children across 3-5's with an initial screening process. Children are then supported by speech therapist Rachel and staff member Lyndsey Gardner through intervention group work. All children will receive written reports that detail how best to support them, for the reference of parents / professionals.







## **Communication and Language**

Faye O'Connor
Assistant Headteacher / Spencer 1 Teacher

A communication and language difficulty has many forms:

- Delayed speech and /or language development (e.g. late beginning to talk, delays in using the correct sounds in speech, etc).
- Difficulty understanding what others say (sometimes called a receptive language difficulty).
- Mixing up speech sounds in words, or other difficulties with pronunciation.
- Difficulties interacting socially with other children and / or adults.

For more information about your child's communication and language skills please speak with a member of the team. You can additionally request to meet me the school SENDCO.

How to promote communication and language at home:

1) Sharing stories- Story books provide the opportunity to explore exciting new vocabulary.

- 2) Sing songs and rhymes.
- 3) Reduce the amount of time your child spends playing with iPads and watching television and replace this with the above!







## Henry Emma-Louise-Scott Spencer 3 Centre for Nurture Teacher



#### The new addition to the Spencer 3 team

A lot of fun and exciting learning happen in Spencer 3 but in September 2019 there became a new member of the Spencer 3 team which really took the (dog) biscuit in terms of excitement. Henry our nurture dog joined the class. Henry comes to class every Wednesday and Thursday to join the children of Spencer 3. He has become a very important member of the team.



Henry promotes social, physical and emotional well-being for the children in class. The bond he creates with all the children offers unconditional acceptance and affection. It is well documented that humans have kept domesticated animals for thousands of years, providing humans with companionship. Animals are used for therapeutic purposes as they tend to be free of prejudice when interacting with people. Animals used in therapy are known to have a natural tendency to bond with people and seek affection and interaction with the individual. Research shows that time spent interacting with animals can help in lowering blood pressure, relieving pain, reducing anxiety and help with self-regulation.

Henry joins the children for all aspects of the school day including; teacher input, tuning-in sessions, one to one intervention, peer massage and continuous provision. I have been told from the children in Spencer 3 that Henry thoroughly enjoys attending tea parties on the carpet and getting cosy in the reading area to listen to a good book.

The staff and I in Spencer 3 have observed the bond Henry has created with the children. If a child becomes upset Henry is always near to offer them unconditional

support. His effect on the children is apparent through rising levels in engagement of activities and the anticipation and affection the children show Henry when he joins us on a Wednesday and Thursday. We have observed Henry move from sitting with different children at different times of the school day and we have come to understand that he does this to give that certain child in a particular situation reassurance.

To learn more about Henry and see all the vital work his does in Spencer 3 please have a look at the 'Henry' display board in the corridor.



# •

## Educational Visits

Emma-Louise-Scott
Spencer 3 Centre for Nurture Teacher

#### The world Museum

Educational visits play an important role within the curriculum. Through these first-hand experience's children are enhancing their knowledge, life skills, communication and memories. Spencer 3 recently visited the World Museum in Liverpool due to a common interest among all children about dinosaurs. However; it was observed that this visit had a bigger impact on the children than just dinosaurs. As we climbed each floor of the museum the children were transported to different worlds. The children investigated the skeletons of dinosaurs which towered over them, learnt about the ancient rituals of the mummies in Egypt and discovered the habitats of fish, turtles and an array of sea creatures.



The enriching language used throughout the visit was clear to see from the children. Nathan talked about the artefact's on display, Ava-Jean described the 'old mummies' and Lucas counted the bones of a tyrannosaurus' skeleton. It was a delight to watch the children explore all the learning opportunities within this educational visit. Conversations between the children and the staff at the Museum showed clearly the inquisition of the children. They asked an array of questions regarding each exhibition; which were kindly answered by the knowledgeable staff of the museum.





During our time at the museum the children stopped and took everything in. They slowly investigated each area from dinosaurs, to the rainforest, to ancient Egypt, space and the ocean. They explored every detail and filled their minds with knowledge. The conversations when we went back to school influenced our next steps of learning. The children furthered their learning by reading non-fiction books around their favorite aspect of the museum. We created our own museum exhibition in class and drew pictures of their time on this educational visit which are presented on the 'world museum' display board in the corridor.



## **Phonics**

Rebecca Melia
Acting Assistant Headteacher / Cresswell 1 Teacher

#### Our approach to the teaching and learning of Phonics at Everton Nursery School



Phonics is a teaching strategy used to support children to learn to read and write. It helps children hear, identify and use different sounds that distinguish one word from another in the English language. Written language can be compared to a code, so knowing the sounds of individual letters and how those letters sound when they are combined will help children decode words as they read.

Understanding phonics will also help children to know which letters to use when they are writing words. Phonics

involves matching the sounds of spoken English with individual letters or groups of letters. Teaching children to blend the sounds of letters together helps them decode unfamiliar or unknown words by sounding them out.

At Everton Nursery School we engage children in their learning through their interests. Teachers use these interests to plan active and creative learning experiences that develop children's listening and attention skills.

As a Nursery School, we use guidance from phase 1 and phase 2 'Letters and Sounds', which focuses on the teaching and learning of instrumental and environmental sounds. We read and share a broad range of books with the children that focus on both fiction and non-fiction text.



We challenge children's phonetical knowledge through the introduction and engagement of different writing genres so that children gain a deep and secure understanding of letters, sounds, words, text and information.



Children engage in daily 'Teacher Input sessions' through which concepts such as rhythm and rhyme are developed further. Throughout the indoor and outdoor learning environments, children have the opportunity to explore a range of high quality resources to continuously develop their knowledge of letters and, in turn, their sounds.

Experiences such as 'In Harmony' with the Liverpool Philharmonic musicians on-site and 'Music and Movement' sessions also support children's ability to tune into sounds.



## Settling in to Heyworth

Maria Edge
Senior Early Childhood Educator / Heyworth 1/2

**Since September** over 40 children have settled into Heyworth. Some children have found this more difficult than others but most are now engaging well in the experience of nursery.

When the children are offered a nursery place they are allocated a family worker. The family worker role is one which encourages relationships between parents/carers, children and nursery.

The family worker arranges a home visit and visits the family home to start building that relationship.

At the home visit lots of information is shared about the nursery with parents/carers and parents/carers have the opportunity to share information about their child.



On their first visit to nursery parents/carers are encouraged to stay for an hour with their child so they can experience how the children's learning environment is structured and meet the staff, routine and expectations within the nursery environment.

This hour builds up to a morning and then to a full day without the parent/carer.

Once settled into the nursery

routine children will be moving around the nursery and will be encouraged to join in with the different activities on offer.

They will be involved with visits to Tuning In, Forest School, In Harmony and many more new experiences. The children will also be encouraged to join the Heyworth Library and parents will be given the opportunity to come and read end of day stories to all of the children.





## **Attendance**

Ruth Scully Inclusion Coordinator

#### ATTENDANCE AT NURSERY SCHOOL / CENTRE FOR NURTURE



As an Outstanding Nursery School, we are striving to increase our overall School attendance to as near to 100% as possible. Your support in bringing your child to all of their sessions is crucial. The importance of Excellent School Attendance for your child cannot be stressed enough. While it is inevitable that children will nearly all be absent at some time due to sickness, persistent absence will severely disrupt their education. Persistently absent children are those who have more than 10% absences. This amount of absence from school has a significantly detrimental impact on their learning and development.

We will be continuing to monitor children who are persistently absent from School throughout the academic year. 10% missed attendance is the equivalent of half a day absent per week and 4 whole weeks over the academic year.

#### **School Matters!**



#### Why is excellent school attendance important?

Excellent attendance gives children the opportunity to achieve to their full potential giving them a better chance in life. When children attend school every day they achieve more, learn better and make positive friendships. There is a clear link between poor attendance at school and lower academic achievement.

For your child to reach their potential in school they need to be in every day and on time. The more time a child misses in school the more gaps they will have in their learning which can be hard to catch up with. Also children find it difficult to settle back into a routine after a period of absence and this can impact upon their friendships and well-being.



## **Attendance**

Ruth Scully Inclusion Coordinator

#### **Policy and Procedure**

As requested by the Local Authority, all children's attendance is carefully monitored and is shared with the Local Authority on a termly basis. Parents/Carers have a legal responsibility to ensure their child receives a full and part time education.

Parents are expected to contact the school on the morning of each day a child is absent from school, this is part of a city wide safeguarding protocol so that every child can be accounted for. Please let us know through using Parent Mail if and when this is the case for your child so that we can **authorise** your child's absence from school. Failure to inform us of your child's absence from school will result in an **unauthorised absence**.

If your child has poor attendance, support will be given to improve their attendance through the School and Children's Centre staff teams.

#### **Arriving on time**

We have a staggered entry system in place in order to support parents with getting older siblings to their school setting. Children can arrive between 9am and 9,30am. If your child is going to be late, you <u>must</u> contact the School **before 9.30am**. This ensures that your child will be counted in our lunch numbers and will therefore receive their lunch. If your child arrives after <u>9.30am</u> and you have failed to contact the School, you will be asked to collect your child at 11.30am to provide them with their lunch and then return at 12.30pm when our lunchtime period has finished.

#### **Incentives**

As parents are aware, we are trialling an awards system for excellent attendance throughout this academic year. Children with 97% and above attendance will receive a certificate every half term. Additionally the class with the highest attendance will be rewarded with a whole class attendance certificate and monetary gift to spend on a whole class activity.

Finally, please remember that we have **Terrific Tuesdays and Fun Fridays** every Tuesday and Friday morning between 9am - 10.30am. This is an extended period of time in the week when you are welcomed in to your child's class to stay and play alongside your child and to find out more about what they are learning.

Many thanks for your continued support.



## **Physical Development**

Selma Kesedzic
Nursery Teacher Cresswell 1

**At Everton Nursery School and Family Centre**, the aim is to provide opportunities for young children to be active and interactive and to develop their coordination, control and movement. Since the start of the academic year Cresswell have been exploring all the wonderful ways we can develop our fine and gross motor skills.

Motor skills are motions carried out when the brain, nervous system and muscles work together. Fine motor skills are small movements that involve fingers, such as picking up small objects and holding a spoon. Gross motor skills are the large movements such as rolling over or sitting up, actions that require you to use the large muscles in the arms, legs and feet. It is important that children are exposed

to activities which allow them to develop both.

These experiences encourage the children's progress and development in showing good control and coordination in large and small movements. Building on your child's hand strength with fine motor skill activities will prepare their hands for things such as writing and holding a pencil effectively.

Here are some simple, low cost activities you can do at home to develop your child's fine motor skills:

 Encourage your child to try fastening their own buttons, zipping up their coats and pulling their own socks on. Not only are they learning to become more independent but also developing their finger strength and coordination.

- Threading string through penne pasta. Your child can create their own pasta bracelets and necklaces!
- Mix flour, oil and water together to make playdough for your child to kneed, squeeze, roll and pull apart.
- Your child can help you hang the laundry out to dry! Using a pincer grip to open a clothes peg is quite skill.
- Peeling their own fruit, such as bananas or satsumas.
- Building and balancing blocks and other construction materials such as lego.





## Rice Lane Community Farm

Kate Doyle
Nursery Teacher Spencer 2

**In October** a number of children from Spencer 2 class went on an educational visit to Rice Lane Community Farm. This visit was planned following a recent interest in animals.

Children had been learning about different types of animals and their habitats at nursery and this learning was reinforced as they experienced and observed real life animals at the farm.



All children were greatly enthused as they made close observations of a number of animals including, sheep, goats, geese, ducks, donkeys, rabbits and birds.

Children were all motivated to record how many different animals they found during their visit giving them a purposeful mathematical learning opportunity to record data and compare findings.

Educational visits support academic achievement through bringing the Early Years Foundation Stage and the classroom outdoors. Children develop a deeper understanding of the topic through learning and engaging in a way that promotes all learning styles.





## Children's Centre Notices

**Angela Bithell Early Intervention Family Worker** 







Join us with Mr Tumble for entertainment, party food & a special visit from Santa in our forest school grotto.

\*\*Must have a child aged under 5 years who live in the Everton area &/or attend Everton Nursery\*\*

Tickets: £1 per child - Please note tickets must be purchased in advance from reception. Entry will not be permitted without a ticket. Unfortunately tickets cannot be purchased on the day.





Everton Nursery School and Family Centre, Spencer Street, Liverpool, L6 2WF Tel: 0151 233 1969 Email:Evertonecc@talk21.com Web:www.evertonnurseryschoolandfamilycentre.org

## **Everton Children's Centre**

## **Activities Timetable 2019**

Paula Fagan Children's Centre Co-ordinator



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#### MON



10-11.00am BAMBIS Breastfeeding



1.00pm-2.00pm
Early
Communication
Group
Parents and children
together. Please book.



1.00pm—2.00pm Chatterbox A five week course of speech and language Please book.

#### TUES

9.00-3.00pm
Antenatal
Booking in Clinic
Appointment only

9.30 – 11.30am Liverpool Domestic Abuse Service

9.30am—11.30am Mathematics Level 1 and 2

12.30pm—2.30pm English Course Level 1 and 2

1.00pm -2.00pm Under 1's Stay and Play

1.00pm – 3.00pm
Baby Clinic (weight only)Health Visitors drop in session.
however there may be a wait.

#### WED

9.15am – 10.15am Me Time A support group for parents / carers

10.00am – 11.00am Get Ready for Your Baby

Practical support for 'parents to be'

11.00am – 11.45am Tots in Harmony



12.30pm - 2.30pm ESOL Class

1.00pm – 2.30pm Stay and Play

## **THUR**

9.30am – 11.30am Nurture Programme



12.30pm – 2.30pm ICT Course IT course for all abilities delivered by EDT.



Accredited Courses Cooking on a Budget

#### FRI



9.00am – 10.30am Knitting and Crocheting

9.30am – 11.30am Prepare to Work

A fiveweek course based on C.V writing and gaining confidence.

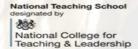
1.00pm – 2.30pm
Baby Massage A fiveweek course promoting
positive touch between
you and your baby.



Family Fun Day 10.00am - 1.00pm Please contact reception for next dates













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Web www.evertoneurseryschoolandfamilyoentre.
leadteacher Head of Centre Dr Lesley Curtis C

## **Christmas Events December 2019**

We have lots of activities and events planned for the month of December. Please see below for a list of events that your child will be involved in. Please speak with your child's class teacher for more information.

#### <u>'In Harmony' Christmas sharing performances —</u>

#### Parents invited to attend.

- \*Monday 2nd December, 9.30am Spencer 1 and Cresswell class.
- \*Friday 6th December, 9:30am Spencer 2 and Cresswell class.
- \*Depending upon the day your child attends nursery.

Monday 9th December, 10am - Spencer 3 class

#### Children's Centre Christmas Party

Saturday 7th December 10.30am-1pm.

£1 entrance fee tickets can be purchased from the school reception.

#### Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 13th December

Donations of £1 towards the charity 'Save the children UK'

#### Christmas Campfires - Parents invited to attend.

Monday 9th December, 10a.m. Cresswell class Monday 9th December, 1:30p.m. Spencer 2 class Wednesday 11th December, 10a.m. Spencer 1 class Wednesday 11th December, 2p.m. Spencer 3 class Friday 13th December, 10a.m. Cresswell class.

Friday13th December 1:30p.m. Spencer 2 class.

## Intergenerational Connected Community Hub Come and decorate a Yule log and biscuits for Christmas

Monday 16th December in the cafe area 9.30-11a.m.

#### Christmas Lunch available in the Cafe (please book at reception)

Thursday 19th December 12p.m.

#### Children's End of Term Christmas Parties

- \*Wednesday 18th December
- \*Friday 20th December
- \*Depending upon the day your child attends nursery.

