

# Everton

## Nursery School and Family Centre



[www.evertonnurseryschoolandfamilycentre.org](http://www.evertonnurseryschoolandfamilycentre.org)



@EvertonNursery



0151 233 1969



**5+6** Liverpool Philharmonic



**7+8** School allotment



**9+10** Island Time



**11+12** Learning Journey

**13** Queen of Greens

The Queen of Greens stops at 40 communities bringing affordable fresh fruit, vegetables and eggs into the heart of local communities.

**14** Learning about occupations

The children were excited to show Doctor Natalie our own Doctor's surgery in Cresswell class.

**15** Children's Centre

Children's Centre Activities Summer Timetable





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

# Welcome



Welcome to our Summer 2025 Newsletter, our last Newsletter of the academic year and also sadly for our school leavers the last Newsletter they will receive from Everton Nursery School and Family Centre before they move onto Primary School.

As always we have had a very busy summer term and academic year which has flown by so quickly.

Once again through the Newsletter you will see many activities the children are involved in which really impacts on their learning in all areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). Our children have been involved in a range of activities within their classrooms and in our outdoor learning environment. Our school leavers have also engaged in further enhanced activities with the Philharmonic Orchestra for concerts off-site, our allotment, sensory garden, Forest School, woodwork and yoga. I am always amazed at the volume of activities and quality learning experiences the staff provide for the children throughout the year.

A few staff updates for you - We have had five staff who have had babies over the last academic year (Lauren Caldwell, Laura Clarke, Rebecca Cunningham, Lauren McIntosh and Rebecca Morgan). We send wishes to our staff and their new additions to their families. We have also had new staff join us in the Nursery School and Children's Centre (Nicola Canavan, Amy McCarthy, Julie Pierce, Victoria Preston and Penny O'Hare). We hope our new staff will settle well into their new roles. Also, one member of staff retired in June re our Business Manager Wendy Ellis. We thank Wendy for all her hard work since she started with us in 2013 and wish her well in her retirement. We have now appointed a Finance Manager, Nikki Holden-Trust who will support the Nursery School finances. We also say goodbye to Amina Khan from Spencer 3 who has been with us since 2014 and leaves us to move to Manchester over the summer. We wish Amina well as she hopefully takes a small part of Everton Nursery School into her next job role.

All staff wish our school leavers good luck as they move to their new primary schools.

We look forward to welcoming our returning children back on Wednesday 3rd September (not Monday 1st September or Tuesday 2nd September as we are CLOSED for Staff training). Class times for Cresswell and Spencer will change to 8.45a.m. to 3.15p.m. We will offer a staggered entry and exit between 8.45a.m. to 9.00a.m. and 3.00-3.15p.m. We will still have 9.30a.m. as our cut off for lunches. If you know you are going to be late please ring ahead so your child is booked in for their lunch.

Finally, as we come to the close of this academic year, I would like to thank you for all your support to our Nursery School and Children's Centre. I hope you have a good summer break but do remember that activities will be happening throughout the summer with the children's centre team. You can contact the reception for more information.

Have a lovely summer.

Dr. Lesley Curtis OBE  
Headteacher/Head of Centre



# Summer 2025 Contents



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## Contact information

 [www.evertonnurseryschoolandfamilycentre.org](http://www.evertonnurseryschoolandfamilycentre.org)

 Search Everton Nursery School and Family Centre

 [Everton\\_cc](https://www.instagram.com/Everton_cc)

 @EvertonNursery

 0151 233 1969

 Everton Children's Centre



**Faye Johnson**  
Assistant Headteacher

# Transitions

**During the summer term all children will preparing for transitions.** Some children will be transitioning to the next class and others on to primary school. At Everton Nursery school we see transitions as a process rather than a one off event.

## In School Transitions

Children in both Heyworth and Cresswell class often walk around the building and explore where the different classes are located. Children will visit these classes with their family worker and explore the room layout and resources. This may happen in small groups and one to one. Parents will also be invited to an open afternoon with your child to play together and explore. It is important to talk positively with your child about a new and exciting classroom and talk positively about the new teachers they will meet. Even if you are feeling unsure it is important not to share these feelings with the children or in front of the children. Teachers and all staff are here to support parents. During the six weeks holiday remember to keep talking about nursery, keep the uniform in sight for children to see and walk past regularly. This will help children to recall positive nursery experiences.

## Preparing for the next class

If your child is not yet toilet trained and is over age 2 ½ please link with the children's centre for the next sessions in July and September 2025. The six weeks holiday is the perfect opportunity to start the toilet training process. Please support staff in toilet training your child. Please see more information below:

When to toilet train boys and girls? Helpful potty training tips - BBC Tiny Happy People



### Transitions to Primary School

**"High quality transitions recognise the importance of feeling "known".** When transitions in the early years are managed sensitively it lays the foundations for positive feelings towards the many other transitions children will face through life. **Some children are particularly vulnerable at times of transition.** Moving from a place or situation in which children feel "known" into one in which they feel "unknown" can raise insecurities about having their entitlements and needs met. While some children have the resilience to cope with change, others are more vulnerable to uncertainty. Many children become particularly anxious about making new relationships, whether those are with other children or with the adults with whom they will spend their time. The support of their friends and friendship groups can help protect children from the potentially negative impact of transitions." - Birth to Five Matters.

We invite all teachers from receiving primary schools to visit the children at Everton. If their teachers cannot visit the school the staff at Everton arrange phone calls to discuss your child. The teachers here also write transition forms to ensure their teachers are aware of what your child's interests are, what makes them special and how they best support them at primary school. Children will then be invited to visit the new school with a parent so their first experience of any new setting is with a familiar and trusted adult. Our transition processes are tailored to meet the needs of each unique child and are more effective than a "one size fits all" process.

#### Some top tips for parents:

- Using the term 'Primary School' rather than 'Big School' so not to overwhelm your child.
- To walk past the school and talk positively about what you can see.
- To look at the school website with your child pointing out all the exciting activities to do and see.
- To always use positive terms in front of your child when talking about the up and coming transition.
- To validate their feelings by using phrases such as ' You might feel nervous but that is ok'.
- Reading books or watching tv clips about starting school help children to understand this process.

Please see the link below for some more tips and advice for Primary School transitions.  
<https://startingreception.co.uk/>

Please link with your child's class teacher if you require any support or advice during this process. We wish the children of Everton Nursery School well as they move on in their educational journey. We hope the children treasure the memories they have made here and come back to say hello in the near future.





## Julie Antonio

Senior Early Childhood Educator (HLTA)  
Spencer 1

# Liverpool Philharmonic Visit

**This term Spencer 1 class were lucky enough to be invited to the Liverpool Philharmonic Hall to the 'We're going on a Bear Hunt' concert.** The children travelled to the concert on the coach and had special seats inside the boxes. The children had a clear view of the stage, instruments and the musicians, some of who the children said hello to. The children saw Sally Anne, Gareth and Ian who are all musicians that have worked with the children at Everton Nursery School as part of 'In Harmony Liverpool'.



The performance was inspired by the beloved children's story *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen. The children knew this story well and were able to predict what might happen next and shout out their ideas. The Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra provided the children with a musical journey through the story.

On the stage there was also an artist who painted images of each of the scenes. The children were amazed to watch him paint and were excited to predict what animals he was painting. The children's favourite piece of music performed was called 'In the Hall of the Mountain King', this is best known as the Alton Towers tune.





The children moved fast to the tempo and danced with joy. The children also recognised the music to Disney's Moana and sang loudly together which was beautiful to hear. Musicianship and listening to live music is an integral part of the curriculum at Everton Nursery School. Our work with In Harmony Liverpool ensures children are exposed to classical music and musical experiences.

The Mozart Effect is a theory that was developed by Doctor Gordon Shaw in the 1990s. The findings demonstrated the impact of listening to classical music: 1. Increases Creativity - Artists often play classical music while doing some artwork. 2. Boosts Memory - Listening to classical music increases brain wave activity, which is directly connected to memory.



3. Suppressing Stress Levels- Several reports have proven that the tempo of classical music is similar to the beating of the human heart. This synchrony eases anxiety. 4. Relieves Depression - The music causes the release of dopamine, which improves the mood of the listener. Why not listen to some classical music whilst walking, driving or to have on in the background at home!







**Kate Doyle**

Nursery Teacher  
Spencer 2

## School allotment.



### **What a busy and exciting couple of months we have had in our school allotment.**

The children have been hard at work planting a wonderful variety of vegetables and herbs, including sweetcorn, tomatoes, lettuce, radishes, peas, cucumbers and pumpkins. Despite some very dry weather, our enthusiastic young gardeners have taken great care in regularly watering the plants. Their efforts are paying off, with incredible growth and progress already visible!

This hands-on experience has provided a valuable opportunity for our children to connect with nature and learn about where food comes from. The garden has become a fantastic extension of our classroom learning a space where children can observe, care for, and engage with the natural world.

In class, we've recently planted sunflower seeds and are using their growth as a fun way to explore measurement. The children are excited to track and compare how tall their sunflowers grow over time.

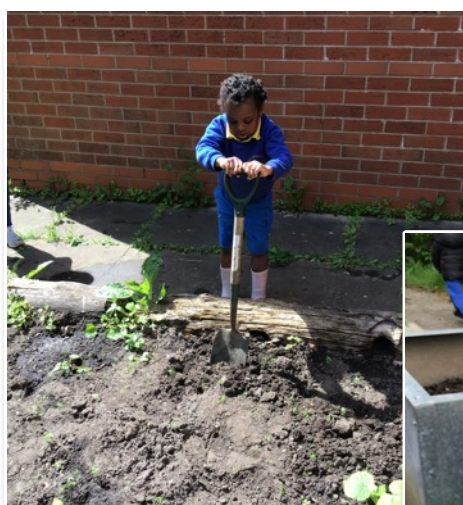




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To further support our learning, we've been reading a range of garden-themed books, including *Jasper's Beanstalk*, *A Seed in Need*, *Errol's Garden*, and *The Extraordinary Gardener*. Inspired by *The Extraordinary Gardener*, the children used oil pastels to design their own "Extraordinary Garden" artworks. The results were so stunning that we created an art gallery in our main school corridor to showcase their creations. We even invited staff and visitors to vote for their favourite piece







**Maria Edge**

Senior Early Childhood Educator (HLTA)  
Heyworth

## Island Time



Islands of Intimacy or Island time sessions were created by the early childhood pioneer Elinor Goldschmiede. This is a time of awe, wonder and anticipation. Practitioners plan learning experiences that excite, engage and motivate children. During the session children sit on a special rug which is the Island. All children are offered the opportunity to spend quality time with their family worker away from the room and other peers.



This time is important and is used to enhance listening, concentration, language skills and to build positive relationships.



continued

Island time sessions last 5-15 minutes and begins with the resources hidden in a bag. The resources that are used during Island time are chosen to evoke children's curiosity and develop their communication and language skills.



Island Time observations are shared on the 'Learning Journals' App. Please continue to log in to the Learning Journals App and interact with children's learning, starting point assessments and two year checks. You can also share information from home about your child's learning.





**Faye Johnson**  
Assistant Headteacher

## Your child's learning journey

### What do we want for the children at Everton Nursery School?

We aim for a nursery to be a place of possibilities where children will be nurtured, where their individual interests and talents will be valued and developed.

As a result, we hope that children's well-being will be high. They will have a belief in themselves and their abilities. They will know that they are loved, that they are strong, capable and unique. They will have resilience and the perseverance to keep on trying when learning is challenging.

### How do we observe children and monitor progress?

**We have developed a model of effective, meaningful and principled assessment of young children's learning.** By **effective**, we mean a method of assessment that ensures that all children are supported in reaching significant milestones.

**By meaningful**, we mean that the observations made inform our everyday practice and curriculum. By gaining an insight into children's thinking, feeling and needs we can plan our environment and actions to provide future possibilities for learning.

**By principled**, we mean that our focus is on **observing to understand** children. We will not test children or seek unnecessary knowledge. Children are recognised as individuals, not as a percentage in a pie chart. We will not spend unnecessary amounts of time writing observations or gathering evidence of children's learning. We believe that if we are **capturing** the moment, we cannot be **part** of the moment. Instead we have structures in place that enable us to regularly discuss each child as a team and with their family.

Observation of Play and Learning (OP&L) Your child's learning will be closely monitored in collaboration with you to ensure they are supported to reach significant milestones for their age. Teachers will provide strategies in how you can support learning at home. OP&L works on the basis of having very simple, six-monthly child developmental milestones, which we use to monitor children's development. These milestones reflect what we believe a 'typical' child, should be able to achieve. We know that not all children will have 'typical' development. OP&L allows us to tell and celebrate each child's story and focus on the support they need from us. The observations and assessments that we make are called 'spotlights'. We observe children's innovation, their creativity, their ideas, their intents and feelings.



OP&L follows a simple, three step cycle:



What to expect?

There will be opportunities throughout the year for us to come together to talk about your child and their spotlight assessments. The online learning platform Learning Journals is how we will share learning with you.

**Welcome** - When your child joins us at nursery, you will be invited to a Meet the Head teacher meeting. A home visit will also be arranged to meet your child and introduce the family worker.

**Settling in:** Soon after your child has started nursery, we will create a 'starting point' assessment where we will look at child development milestones and explore if your child has 'met or not yet met' these milestones.

**Parent Days:** We will have parent session every half term. These sessions will give you the opportunity to come and interact with your child in the classrooms and understand more about their early education.

**Spotlight:** Each child will have two 'spotlight' points in the year. We will talk with you in person or over the phone to share the spotlight and talk about your child's learning and development. A two-year check is also completed as a Spotlight Two year checks are completed by your child's family worker and assistant head teacher. Your input is essential during this check.

**Stories:** Each child age 3-4 will have their PLOD (Possible Lines of Direction) uploaded to Learning Journals. Children aged 2-3 will have Island time observations uploaded to Learning Journals. Other observations may include Educational visits and Enhanced timetable experiences. Children's WellComm language assessments and next steps for parents will also be shared.

**Parental Engagement:** Parents are asked to comment on the information provided by the class teacher and family worker. We look forward to sharing your child's learning journey online.



**Emma-Louise Scott**

Nurture Teacher / SENCO  
Spencer 3

## The Queen of Greens Fruit and Vegetable Van



**The Queen of Greens**, launched in November 2022, is a social-enterprise mobile greengrocer run in partnership by Alchemic Kitchen CIC, Feeding Liverpool and Foodrise. The Queen of Greens stops at 40 communities bringing affordable fresh fruit, vegetables and eggs into the heart of local communities across the Liverpool City Region.

Our greengrocers purchase produce from wholesale markets. Priority is given to locally sourced produce and an emphasis on seasonality to not only lower costs but also promote sustainability. They also offer affordable produce in loose quantities, enabling customers to purchase exactly what they need

and minimising both unnecessary costs and food waste at home.

This flexibility means customers can sample smaller quantities of produce without the need to purchase a full packet like they typically would in supermarkets. Each Tuesday the Queen of Greens Van visits Everton Nursery School and Family Centre. Archie visited the Queen of Greens fruit and vegetable van where Archie used a basket to collect the produce he wanted to purchase. Archie gave coins to buy what he selected. After careful consideration Archie purchased potatoes. Back in class all of Spencer 3 chopped, peeled and sliced the potatoes to make homemade chips for snack. Alba had a wonderful time visiting the Queen of Greens fruit and vegetable van. Alba explored all the produce in the van and selected the lemons to buy.

Alba used her coins to purchase the lemons and brought them back to class, to cut open and explore the taste. This learning opportunity allowed children to experience the exchange of money for produce and creating with the produce bought. This real life experience influenced out role play area changing to a 'fruit and vegetable shop' where children used their experiences in their play.







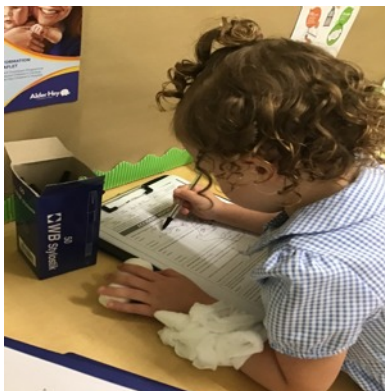
**Rebecca Morgan**

Assistant Headteacher/(Leadership Team)

## Learning about occupations

**During this term in Cresswell class, children have displayed an interest in the role of 'Doctors'.** We have created a role-play area in Cresswell class to reflect this interest and further develop children's knowledge and vocabulary of this. Children have been very keen to explore this area and take on the role of 'Doctors' and 'Nurses' with the use of role-play clothes and accessories.

To embed this learning further, we invited a real-life Doctor to visit Cresswell. The children thought of questions they would like to ask Doctor Natalie to find out more information about what a Doctor does and how they help people. Doctor Natalie showed the children what medical instruments she carries in her Doctor's bag and what they are used for.



Children observed and named a '**thermometer**' and a '**stethoscope**'. They were also introduced to a blood pressure machine and watched Doctor Natalie demonstrate using this.

The children were excited to show Doctor Natalie our own Doctor's surgery in Cresswell class. They demonstrated being 'patients' and using the waiting area. The children took turns to explore using the stethoscope to listen to Doctor Natalie's heartbeat, using the thermometer to check each other's temperatures and using the pulse oxygen monitor on their fingertips.

Doctor Natalie's visit finished with engaging the children in singing a selection of Nursery Rhymes about Doctors, such as "Five Little Monkeys" and "Miss Polly had a Dolly".

**If any of our parents/ carers have a job role that they would like to come in and share with their**

**child's class,** please speak to your child's class teacher about this.



The children and staff would love to find out more information about other occupations.



# Everton Nursery School and Family Centre Summer Timetable 2025



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Everton Children Centre



## Week commencing July 21st

Wednesday 23rd	Pool Session	10:30am - 11:30am
Thursday 24th	Lunch and Play	12:00pm - 2:00pm
Friday 25th	Pool Session	10:30am - 11:30am
Friday 25th	SWAN Session	1:00pm - 2:00pm

## Week commencing July 28th

Monday 28th	Pool Session	10:30am - 11:30am
Tuesday 29th	Wildlife experience With Party Central Wildlife with Breakfast	10:30am - 12:30pm
Wednesday 30th	Pool Session	10:30am - 11:30am
Thursday 31st	Lunch and Play	12:00pm - 2:00pm

## Week commencing August 4th

Monday 4th	Pool Session	10:30am - 11:30am
Tuesday 5th	Fishers Mobile Farm Visit With Lunch (2 Slots)	10:30am - 12:15pm
		12:30pm - 2:15pm
Thursday 7th	Lunch and Play	12:00pm - 2:00pm
Friday 8th	SWAN Session	1:00pm - 2:00pm

## Week commencing August 11th

Monday 11th	Pool Session	10:30am - 11:30am
Tuesday 12th	Mr Tumble and Friends with Lunch	11:00am - 12:30pm
Thursday 14th	Lunch and Play	12:00pm - 2:00pm
Friday 15th	Pool Session	10:30am - 11:30am

## Week commencing August 18th

Tuesday 19th	PEEP Under 1's Stay and Play	1:00pm - 2:00pm
Wednesday 20th	JOJO's Dance Party and Lunch	10:30am - 12:00pm
Thursday 21st	Lunch and Play	12:00pm - 2:00pm
Friday 22nd	SWAN Session	1:00pm - 2:00pm

### **All sessions must be booked**

**contact reception or phone 0151 233 1969**

Activities are available for **children aged**

**under 5years who live in the Everton Area.**

We do allow older children to attend with their younger sibling.