NEWSLETTER MAY 2017

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ST PHILIP’S MARSH NURSERY SCHOOL

**Summer safety**

When the sun begins to shine it is important to take certain precautions. Please make sure you child’s shoulders are covered, bring a sun hat (labelled with your child’s name) and, if you think it is necessary, apply sun cream before your child comes to school. It would be difficult for staff to apply sun cream to children due to the number of children attending the setting each day and due to allergies. There are sun creams available that last all day and this would be preferable. However, you can send in sun cream (labelled with your child’s name) and the staff will supervise whilst they apply it themselves. It might be a good idea for them to practice this at home first.

The children spend a lot of time outside: climbing; riding bikes and scooters; playing ball games; gardening and running around. Open-toed sandals, crocs and flip flops are not suitable footwear and can be dangerous. Please ensure your child wears suitable footwear to School.

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**Diesel generators**

Thank you to over 100 parent/carers who signed the petition to object to Plutus Energy’s plan to site a 48 diesel generator power station 200 metres from the Nursery School.

This application has been refused twice and Plutus have now appealed to the Secretary of State to overturn the democratically expressed wishes of residents and the Council. It has however since transpired that the land Plutus Energy wished to lease for this site is owned by the Avon and Somerset Police Authority. The Police Authority has confirmed that the lease to Plutus was contingent on the support of local elected members. As they do not have this support they are unlikely to grant the necessary lease to Plutus for the proposed development.

Hopefully this will be the end of the matter. The support from parents and the community for protecting their children’s health and supporting the School has been inspiring.

**School admissions**

For the children that are starting school in September you should now have been offered a place at a school. Please could you let your child’s key person know as soon as possible which school you have accepted (a list is displayed in each class).

**Two year olds**

**St Philip’s Marsh Nursery School is pleased to announce that from September 2017 we are able to offer free places for eligible two year olds.**

The Ofsted registration for Cashmore Early Years Centre has changed. It is now registered as an integrated part of St Philip’s Marsh Nursery School and Barton Hill Children’s Centre and will in future be inspected as a Nursery School – not as two-year old day care.

This will not change how we work with two-year-olds at Cashmore. What it means is that, we will begin to take a limited number of two-year-olds at St Philip’s Marsh Nursery School. This will help us to align our provision at St Philip’s and at Cashmore, and to meet the demand for 15 hour provision for eligible two-year-olds.

We will also be able to offer paid places for working parents who do not meet the criteria for free places.

If you have any questions please speak to Hazel.

**30 hours entitlement**

**In September 2017 we will be offering 30 hours free child care at St Philip’s Marsh Nursery School for eligible three and four year olds.**

Families who do not meet the criteria will continue to be eligible for 15 hours free child care.

In order to check your eligibility you need to use the online childcare calculator which can be found at [www.gov.uk/childcare-calculator](http://www.gov.uk/childcare-calculator) and, if eligible, submit an online application ahead of September. Once signed up, you will receive an eligibility code which you will need to share with us. We will then check the code with Bristol local authority. Once eligibility has been confirmed you can then book a 30 hour place. Eligibility is reviewed every three months and you will need to provide a new code each time.

If you have any questions please speak to Hazel.

**Speech and Language Therapists - Drop-in sessions**

The Speech and Language Therapy Service will be running the following FREE drop-in sessions:

At St Philip’s Marsh Nursery School:

Confident Communicators - Friday 9 June (10.00-11.00 am) a course aimed at supporting parents to help their children at home. This needs to be booked at Reception.

At Barton Hill Settlement:

Drop-in - Thursday 25 May (10.00-11.00 am) - a chance to speak to a Speech and Language Therapist.

Talk and Explore – Friday 23 June (9.30-11.00 am) learn new songs, pick up tips for talking and playing with your children.



**Stay & Play in the Family Room**

We are currently holding two ‘Stay and Play’ sessions per week: Monday (am) and Thursday (am). The sessions are run by Cherene Roberts and Wendy Robbins (Family Worker Barton Hill Settlement Family Centre). These are drop-in sessions so there is no need to book in advance. Our Wednesday morning session will be resumed in September.

**Community learning courses**

Bristol City Council are running two free community learning courses (cookery and health and beauty) at the Meriton Centre (next door) during June and July. For further information see the posters around the School or the News section on our website ([www.stphilipsmarshnursery.co.uk](http://www.stphilipsmarshnursery.co.uk))

A paediatric first aid course will be running here at the School during June and July. This course costs £39 or is FREE for parents/carers in receipt of means tested benefits. Please see the posters around the School for more details. Places on the course can be booked at Reception.

**Facebook**

We have now got a Facebook page for the Nursery. We look forward to receiving your ‘likes’ and comments. Please also share.



**Slapped cheek**

We have had two confirmed cases of slapped cheek virus in the School. This is a viral infection causing a rash and mild illness in children. For further information please see the NHS website [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk). However this is of concern for women in the first 20 weeks of pregnancy. If you are at all concerned please contact your GP/Health Visitor for advice.

**Times of sessions**

Please could we remind parents of the session times. The morning session starts at **8.45 am** and finishes at **11.45 am**. The afternoon session starts at **12.30 pm** and finishes at **3.30 pm**. We understand that the start and end of the sessions are extremely busy times of the day and the car park is often crowded and allowances should be made for this. If on the odd occasion you anticipate being late to pick up your child please could you phone the school to let us know. This avoids your child becoming upset.

Please note that Breakfast Club starts at **7.45 am** and due to insurance purposes children cannot be signed in before that time.

**Sainsbury’s vouchers**

We are currently collecting Sainsbury’s vouchers. The vouchers can be placed in the Sainsbury’s posting box in the library. As a result of last year’s voucher collection we were able to purchase sports equipment for the children to play with in the garden.



**Forest School**

Further information to follow.

**Parent consultations**

Parent consultations will be held on:

**Thursday 15 June and Tuesday 20 June**

This is a chance to talk to your key person about your child’s learning. Please note that this is for children who will NOT be returning in September. (Children returning in September will be able to attend parent consultations in October.)

**Dates for your diary**

29 May – 2 June (inclusive) – School CLOSED – Half term holidays

Return to School – Monday 5 June

Friday 9 June (10.00-11.00 am) – Speech and Language Confident Communicators

Thursday 15 June and Tuesday 20 June – Parent consultations

Wednesday 28 June – New parents evening (for new children starting in September) 6.00-7.00 pm