

St Georges Church Nursery, Pastures Avenue, St Georges, Weston-Super-Mare, BS22 7SA

Tel no: 01934 426901 Email: nursery@stgeorges.bwmat.org

www.stgeorgeschurchschool.co.uk/nursery/

September 2022 Nursery Newsletter Number 1

Welcome to the first term of our new academic year!

On behalf of all the staff at St. Georges Church School & Nursery, I would like to welcome our new children, parents, carers, and families as well as welcome back our returning children and their families.

We strongly believe in building strong partnerships with our families and as a team, we work together closely to ensure every child within our care feels safe, secure, stimulated, and happy. We very much look forward to working with you all to ensure your child has a happy and successful year in Nursery.



Settling in and beginning to build relationships

We are so proud of how well each child has settled into Nursery over the last two weeks. The children have been exploring the nurturing environments, settling into our daily routine, and getting to know their peers, key person and fellow staff members. Thank you so much for your continued support and understanding as your child transitions into Nursery either for the first time or following the summer break. Children respond differently to transitional events, and as team we actively ensure that each child and their family work closely with us to create a smooth, flexible, and individualised transition into our setting.

Our Learning Journey

So far this term, our child-led approach has led us to go blackberry picking, make blackberry crumble, explore different mark-making techniques with hammers, wheels and hoops, make large scale art pieces outdoors, create snail art, fly kites and explore our Forest School area, wooden fort and field. Here are just a few photographs of the amazing adventures we have had over the last two weeks!



We have also been enjoying developing a love of books through our focus stories and 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley' has become a popular story with the children.



The sensitively written story has highlighted environmental issues and provoked discussions about plastic pollution, caring for our animals and planet and the importance of reusing and recycling our plastic bags. Following our storytelling sessions, the children, within their key families have made environmental pledges, introduced eco-bricks to our lunch tables and created their own Stanley's which they have been enjoying flying them around the school field.

"Plastic bags don't belong in the ocean blue, creatures think you're a jellyfish and swallow you!"

Some facts about plastics

- 18 billion pounds of plastic waste flows into the oceans every year from coastal regions.
- Plastic impacts entire food chains – sea, soil, plants, and creatures. Scientists predict that every seabird and every turtle on this planet have plastic in their stomachs.
- Reducing, reusing, recycling, and picking up plastic makes a life-or-death difference to ocean life.
- Our actions have global effects as currents transport plastics across continents. There is even evidence of plastic pollution on the North Pole.

A recording of one of our 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley' story sessions has been uploaded to Tapestry so that you can enjoy sharing the story with your child at home and talk about the problems one simple plastic bag can create in the oceans and all the creatures Stanley meets on his journey.

Our termly learning journey is proudly displayed in Nursery so please make sure you pop in regularly and look at what other things we have been experiencing, enjoying, and learning about.

Tapestry

All our new parent/carers have now been set up on Tapestry and should have received their activation email direct from Tapestry (please check your junk folder if you have not received the email into your inbox).



Tapestry is an easy-to-use application which allows us to share what the children have been doing as well as our focus story and song sessions, activities, and enrichments events. This gives you the opportunity to support your child's learning further at home. We actively encourage our families to upload observations from home and create a joint two-way sharing document.

Please may we remind you not to electronically share by social media or other platforms, any part of your child's learning journal (including photographs and videos). If you require

any support in accessing your child's Tapestry account, adding, and uploading home observations or locating Nursery's Communication Folder, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Nursery team for assistance.

Nursery Gate – Drop Off and Collection Times

In response to our current family's needs and the feedback we have received, Nursery are pleased to be able to offer a selection of flexible drop off and collection times throughout our day.

Breakfast Club Drop Off: Children who are booked in for breakfast club need to be dropped off at the school's pupil entrance gate between 7.30 a.m. and 8.10 a.m. On arrival, please press the breakfast club bell, located next to the internal green gate and a member of staff will come to the gate and welcome your child into the school hall. Prior to the start of our morning session, the children attending breakfast club will be escorted down to Nursery by a member of staff.

Morning Session, Lunch Time Session and Afternoon Session Drop Off: Children who are booked in for an 8.30 a.m., 11.30 a.m. or 12.30 p.m. start need to wait by the green Nursery gate (located to the right-hand side of the school office entrance). At these times, a member of staff will come up and open the gate. Parent/Carers are very welcome to walk their child down the path to the Nursery door or come in and settle their child at the start of the session.

End of Morning Session, Lunch Time Session and Afternoon Session Collection: Children who finish at 11.30 a.m., 12.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. will need to be collected from the Nursery entrance. Please can we ask that parent & carers wait at the Nursery gate and a member of staff will come down the path and open the gate.

Please note that the Nursery gate is opened at 3.20 p.m. at the end of the day to allow families that are collecting older siblings from school the option of collecting their Nursery child straight away. The gate will remain open for parent/ carers to collect their child up until 3.30 p.m.

After-School Club Collection: Children who attend our early years after-school club need to be collected from our main school office entrance. On arrival, please inform a member of the office team or ring us directly on Nursery's telephone number: This number is also displayed on the main door. Please feel free to come into the entrance and take a seat whilst your child is brought up to you.

If you miss the drop off gate times or need to collect your child early e.g., to attend a medical appointment, please come to the main school office entrance and a member of the office staff will happily contact a member of Nursery staff for you.

Nursery's 2022-23 Curriculum

Following on from welcoming and settling our new and returning children into Nursery this term, we would very much appreciate your thoughts, ideas and opinions on what you would like the children to learn and experience this year in Nursery. These will be weaved into Nursery's 2022-23 curriculum, along with the children and staff's views and then shared as a reflective overview. I would be extremely grateful if you could take the time to complete this short questionnaire and submit your responses by Friday 30th September.

An online link to the questionnaire can be found here:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ShareFormPage.aspx?id=zYYnkfAdvk6PP19ExfR4BcEfG6Yr0BVBnsiWeNEvc6FUNFVUQIU4V0RaTko5TTVCNkJBQUZLNWEZISS4u&sharetoken=GOckXnurluos87JXgE72>

If you would prefer to complete a paper version, ample copies are available in the Nursery foyer, along with a returns box.

We very much value our parent/carers opinions and work hard to promote strong partnerships with our families and local community. If you have any questions about this questionnaire, please do not hesitate to contact Karen Mogg. Thank you so much for your continued support.

Illness and Covid-19

Please remember that if your child is feeling under the weather, they do not come into Nursery until they are better. With sickness and diarrhoea, it is a 48-hour exclusion period from their last bout of sickness and/or diarrhoea and for information regarding Covid-19, please ensure you follow the current advice given from the NHS.

We understand that it can be hard when working to find childcare when your little one is poorly, however the more unwell children we have at Nursery, the quicker it will spread to both other children and the staffing team.

This is Me!

As the children continue to settle in and we get to know each other, we ask that you view our 'Home Help Observation', which has been added to your child's Tapestry account. We would be very grateful if you could upload photos of your child's favourite people, current interests and places they like to visit onto Tapestry. Your photos will then be printed and added to your child's individual Nursery photo album, which they have access to and enjoy sharing and talking about in Nursery.

By getting to know your child's likes and dislikes helps to ensure that we are keeping the children's environment relevant and stimulating to their current interests and needs. Please also add any further details to your child's All About Me section on Tapestry and please do not hesitate to ask a member of the team if you need any help accessing or uploading your photos to your child's Tapestry account.

Nursery Cooked Lunches

We are fortunate to be able to offer cooked meals as part of our Nursery lunch club. Meals cost £2.38 per day, and they can be booked via our online booking link. Each meal is cooked on site by Chartwell's dedicated kitchen staff and our meals consist of a protein item (either meat, fish or vegetarian options), 2 vegetables (e.g., broccoli/sweetcorn/ carrots), a starchy carbohydrate (e.g., pasta/rice/potato), and a pudding.

Last week the children enjoyed tucking into healthy, nutritious meals that included roast chicken freshly baked pizza and fish and chips. For more information about our cooked menu or online booking system, please speak to a member of staff at the Nursery gate or email us on nursery@stgeorges.bwmat.org

2022/23 Reception Class School Applications

School applications for children born between September 1st, 2018, and 31st August 2019 are now open on the North Somerset website. Please visit the website for a parents' guide to the application process and for the online application form: <https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/schools-learning/school-admissions/applying-school-place>

North Somerset's Parents' Guide to Starting School can be found at: <https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-09/parents%20guide%20to%20starting%20school%20and%20transferring%20to%20junior%20school%20-%202023-24.pdf>

The closing date for all primary school applications is **11.59 p.m. on Sunday, January 15th, 2023**. If you would like to book a reception class and school facilities tour, please contact Mrs Andrews in the school office, on 01934 426901 or email office@stgeorges.bwmat.org.

If you have any questions or require further assistance regarding your child's school application, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of the Nursery team, who will happily help.

Staff News

Sadly, Miss Bavin is resigning from her position of Deputy Manager and will be leaving us on Thursday 29th September. During her time with us, Lisa has been an important part of our Nursery team and has been involved in the continued success and development of our Nursery provision.

On behalf of the Nursery team, I would like to thank Lisa for her hard work, commitment and dedication to the achievements and progress of the children at St. Georges Church School & Nursery. We will miss Lisa but wish her all the best in her new role.

On Thursday 29th September at 2 p.m., (weather permitting) we will be hosting an afternoon tea party with the children in our Nursery Garden area. Parents & carers are very welcome to join in our celebration and in wishing Lisa all the very best in her new job.



What's On in the Local Community

Banwell, Winscombe and Sandford Children's Centre

Rear of car park, West Street
Banwell, BS29 6DB

Please note – although services will continue to run at BWS Children's Centre it will no longer be staffed. If you have an enquiry please contact any East Children's Centre during their opening hours

Castle Batch Children's Centre

Bishop Avenue, Worle
Weston-super-Mare, BS22 7PQ
01934 427 242
castlebatchadmin@n-somerset.gov.uk

Opening hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
9am-12.30pm and 1-3.30pm

Locking Castle and Locking Children's Centre

The Campus, Highlands Lane
Locking Castle
Weston-super-Mare, BS24 7DX
01934 426 679
lockingcastle.childrenscentre@n-somerset.gov.uk

Opening hours:
Monday Tuesday, Wednesday
9am-12.30pm and 1pm-3.30pm

Worle Library and Children's Centre

Mendip Avenue, Worle
Weston-super-Mare, BS22 6HN
01934 426 618
worle.childrenscentre@n-somerset.gov.uk

Opening hours:
Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
9am-12.30pm and 1-3.30pm

Family Information Service

A one-stop source of information for the benefit of children, young people, and families, and those that work with them within North Somerset. 01934 426 300
fx@n-somerset.gov.uk
www.n-somerset.gov.uk/fis

Compliments, comments, and suggestions are always welcome.

Please let us know what you think of our Children's Centres and any of the services that are provided through the centres.

This document can be made available in a different format or language on request by contacting your local Children's Centre

What's On

at
Banwell, Winscombe and Sandford Children's Centre
Castle Batch Children's Centre
Locking Castle and Locking Children's Centre
and
Worle Children's Centre & Library

5 September 2022 – 16 December 2022

East Group Children's Centres provide information, family health and support services to young children and their parents and carers in the area.



North Somerset
children's
centres



North Somerset
children's
centres

Monday

Banwell, Winscombe & Sandford
Wildlife Warriors
10am – 11.30am, £2
For 0 to 5s
(Term time only)

Locking Castle & Locking Children's Centre
Locking Lollipop
Childminding Group
9.30am-11.30am
Contact: 07977 111 218

Tuesday

Locking Castle & Locking Children's Centre
Baby Fun for under 1s
9.30am – 11am, £2
(Term time only)

Let's Play
1.30pm – 2.30pm, £2
For 0-5s
(Term time only)

Worle Library & Children's Centre
Storytime
10.30am – 11am
Run by Worle Library
Contact: 01934 426 090
(Term time only)

Wednesday

Castle Batch Children's Centre
Sensory Fun for under 1s
10am – 11.30am, £2
(Term time only)

Health Hub
1pm – 4pm
Appointments only
Contact: Health Visitors
01934 533 300

Locking Parklands
The Radio Wing, McCrae Road, BS24 7LZ
Boogie Time
9.30am – 10.30am, £2
For 0-5s
(Term time only)
Locking Castle & Locking Children's Centre
Baby Massage
10.30am – 11.30am
Cost: £20.00
7 September – 5 October
2 November – 30 November
Contact Sarah:
07823 362092

Mums Comfort Zone – Bluebell
12.15pm – 2.45pm
12-week program to support with ante and post – natal depression and/or anxiety. Referral only – for more information please visit: www.bluebellcare.org
0117 9220746

Thursday

Worle Library & Children's Centre
Breastfeeding Peer Support
9.30am – 11am
Drop in for Breastfeeding and Feeding support.

Breastfeeding Specialist Support
Appointments only.
Contact: 01934 533 300

Communication Time
9.30am – 11am, £2
(Term time only)

Growth Review
12pm – 4pm
Appointments only.
Contact: Health Visitors
01934 533 300

Messy Play
1pm – 2.30pm, £2
For 0-5s
(Term time only)

Friday

Worle Library & Children's Centre
Let's Play
9.30am – 11am, £2
For 0-5s
(Term time only)

Storytime
11am – 11.30am
Run by Worle Library
(Term time only)

Other services

Family Support
Contact Front door on:
01275 888 808

Parenting Groups
Parents can self-refer to Advanced Parenting Groups
Contact 01275 888 808 or visit
www.n-somerset.gov.uk

Cherry Tree Midwives
Contact: 01275 885 759



<https://www.facebook.com/NorthSomersetCC>

North Somerset
children's
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North Somerset
COUNCIL

Communication Time

A fun opportunity to encourage speech, language and communication development whilst playing together





Where: Worle Library and Children's Centre, Mendip Avenue
Worle, Weston-super-Mare, BS22 6HN

When: Thursdays, 9.30– 11am
(Term time only)

How much: £2 per family (cash only please)

No need to book

 Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NorthSomersetCC>



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Messy Play

An opportunity to explore, make and get creative!




Where: Worle Library and Children's Centre, Mendip Avenue
Worle, Weston-super-Mare, BS22 6HN

When: Thursdays, 1– 2.30pm
(Term time only)

How much: £2 per family (cash only please)

No need to book

Dress appropriately

 Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NorthSomersetCC>



Dates for your diary

Individual Photos – Thursday September 22nd

European Week of Languages – 26th – 30th September

Mrs Thorn's Commissioning Service - 29th September 10.30 a.m. All welcome. Please advise office of attendance.

Garden Tea Party (Weather Permitting) – Thursday 29th 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

End of Term – Friday 21st October 2022

INSET DAY – Monday 31st October 2022. Please note that St. Georges Church & Nursery is closed for pupils.

Start of Term – Tuesday 1st November 2022



As well as our Nursery page on the school's website;

<http://www.stgeorgeschurchschool.co.uk/nursery/> which is updated regularly, we have a Facebook page. Please search for and like our St Georges Church School Nursery page to see what we have been getting up to and to ensure you keep up to date with all our news and events.

We look forward to working with you all. Every morning a member of staff is on our Nursery gate or we can be contacted via Tapestry, on our email nursery@stgeorges.bwmat.org or by telephone 01934 426901 so, please do talk to us if you have any questions..

Kind regards,

Mrs Karen Mogg

Nursery Manager and the Nursery Team.

