

THE EARLY YEARS ECHO

Discovering our world, one day at a time...

January 2019

We believe children are powerful, competent and rich in potential.

*We provide an environment that promotes creativity and playfulness encompassed in awe and wonder. We empower our children to become **curious** and **confident** individuals who are co-constructors of their own journey, and **researchers** in their own right.*

*We advocate **resilience** and independence through a challenging and inspiring environment.*

We welcome children and their families to join us on our journey of discovery.

Happy New Year!

Christmas may seem like a distant memory now but it was lovely to welcome our children back, hear about their Christmas adventures and to share their experiences captured in their Me, My Family, My World books. I had a fantastic Christmas with my family, eating lots of delicious food and enjoying lots of PJ days!

We have had a wonderful start to the New Year where we have welcomed seven new children to our Early Years family. It has been a pleasure getting to know the children and their families. For those of you that don't know us already, we would like to introduce you to our wonderful Early Years team. We are always available if you have any questions or suggestions. We send out a monthly newsletter to keep you updated, which contains lots of key information. Don't forget to look at our blog- which gives you a glimpse of what the children have been learning each week.

Mrs N. Hunt / Mr E. Hahn



Miss Young

Miss Jones

Mr Hahn

Miss Johnston

Mrs N. Hunt

Miss Carr



Beach School

The children in Reception have enjoyed starting Beach School again. As well as the amazing hands on experiences that they get from Beach School, they also develop their knowledge back at our Beach Hut. We have been answering questions, such as, ***“How does the tide come in and out?”*** ***“Where do caves come from?”*** and ***“How can we stop the litter?”*** Thank you to our fantastic grown-up volunteers, who join us each week, we couldn't do it without you and you are helping to give our children wonderful experiences.



Discovery

Robots have been a topic of discussion for some children and they have enjoyed researching, designing and making their own robots. This play has developed into a fascination with technology, with the children questioning how and why things work. In order to develop their understanding further, the children have deconstructed a variety of technological equipment and were amazed at what they found inside!



The Atelier

“The atelier is a place of research, exploration, investigation and a place where children’s theories and ideas are respected and valued”

Photography has been of interest within the Atelier, this month. Children have used cameras to take images and discuss what they could see. As their investigations developed, children started to use string and wool to stick structures, which evolved into the string game.

I wonder what wonderful avenue this takes us to next...



Studio

Identities have been a focal point with the children within the studio. Children have used mirrors to study their faces and paint a self-portrait to represent themselves with acrylic paints and canvas boards.

Snug

Children have continued their interest into performance and role-play in the snug. Children have been expressing themselves through dance and movement, whilst acting out experiences within their created 'hair salon'.

The snug has had some recent additions thank you to a kind family volunteer- thank you so much!

Garden

In the 'Garden' children have been using leaves as a stimulus for observational drawings and paintings. As adults, when we observe children through the master of drawing, we are able to get an insight to their understanding of their communication and their thinking. Every stroke and mark creates an understanding of the child's theories, perceptions and knowledge.



Stay and Sibling

We were so grateful that ALL of our foundation stage families, who have younger siblings joined us for our first ever “Stay & Sibling” event. It was a great morning for our younger siblings who had the opportunity to join in with all the fun their big brothers and sisters have!



To continue to keep you updated we will be sending our Early Years newsletters out monthly and adding those important key dates so that you have more notice to attend the exciting events and visits we have planned.

There will be some instances, when following the children’s interests, that we may plan a visit for the coming week, where prior notice is not always possible. In this case, we have placed a sign-up sheet in the entrance for you to let us know if there are any times where you would be available to join us. We can then look at this list and get in touch with parents and extended families directly to arrange this.

Any other pre-planned events will have a specific sign-up sheet and you will be informed about these via the blog and text message.

Dates for your diary

13th February- Spring Disco (**Reception Only**)

15th February - Break up for half term

7th March- World Book Day- Children can come to school dressed as their favourite **BOOK CHARACTER!**

W/C 18th March Sponsored Welly Walk- Children and families will be invited to a sponsored ‘Welly Walk’ around our school grounds, raising money for our EYFS Fund- to buy some new resources for our Early Years.

W/C 25th March- Early Years Open Week-

Stop! Drop & Snow

"It is freezing outside!!!"

The snow captivated some of the children today, which meant that they were able to spend some time exploring outside, making snow angels; snow rolls and sleighs!!

The snow is a fantastic example of our 'emerging curriculum'. The 'in-the-moment' play is crucial for the development of our children. By giving children the freedom to explore larger spaces and for some, unknown experiences, it gives children the chance to widen their understanding and skills.

By allowing the children to use large movements and negotiate space, they are developing their gross motor and upper body strength!

The weather does wonders for the imagination of children as the snow provided new challenges, which supported their cognitive and physical development! The self-led play in a new empowering environment allowed children to run wild with their imaginations and create a new way of thinking critically and creatively!

Our children are... ***POWERFUL, RICH IN POTENTIAL, RESEARCHERS, CURIOUS, RESILIENT, CONFIDENT AND COMPETENT!!!***



Hidden Treasures?



Please keep an eye out for our 'Hidden Treasures' board in our EY entrance, where we are regularly asking for donations of things that you may have laying around and unused. We are currently looking for:

- Metal objects- screws, bolts, pipes (No rust or sharp edges)
- Mirrors
- Vintage/Shabby chic dressing table
- Real musical instruments
- Various sized pieces of wood
- Vintage scales
- Old telephones

Going Greener

As a school, we are moving towards minimising waste and thinking about what we can do for our environment. With this in mind, a whole school decision has been made for us to stop accepting plastic for the children's 'junk' modelling. We would still be very grateful for cardboard boxes, egg cartons, cardboard tubes etc. but we will no longer be able to accept anything plastic. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

THURSDAY, 17 JANUARY 2019

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Our Blog

Please check our blog to keep informed about our adventures and discoveries in Early Years. These are updated weekly and are a fantastic way for you to see some of the things that have been happening that week. Why not have a look at this with your child? You will find it at www.benedictbiscopacademy.co.uk

Polite Reminder

Could parents and carers please ensure that no bikes or scooters are left outside of Early Years. These must be either taken home with the grown-ups or they can be locked in the bike racks available around school. This is to ensure that the entrance is kept clear and so there is no risk to children and grown-ups health and safety.

Thank you.

No way.
The hundred is there.
The child is made of one hundred.
The child has a hundred languages
a hundred hands
a hundred thoughts
a hundred ways of thinking
of playing, of speaking.
a hundred, always a hundred
ways of listening
of marveling, of loving
a hundred joys
for singing and understanding
a hundred worlds to discover
a hundred worlds to invent
a hundred worlds to dream.
The child has a hundred languages
(and a hundred hundred hundred more)
but they steal ninety-nine.
The school and the culture
separate the head from the body.
They tell the child to think without hands
to do without head
to listen and not to speak
to understand without joy
to love and to marvel
only at Easter and Christmas.
They tell the child
to discover the world already there
and of the hundred
they steal ninety-nine.
They tell the child
that work and play
reality and fantasy
science and imagination
sky and earth
reason and dream
are things
that do not belong together.
And thus they tell the child
that the hundred is not there.
The child says
“No way – The hundred is there.”

-Loris Malaguzzi

