

Newsletter: Spring Term 2025

Looking at photos on Tapestry taken this term shows just how busy we have been... learning about the lifecycle of a frog through observing frogspawn... learning about Hungary... doing woodwork... not to mention the children's own individual learning using the Montessori materials! It is tricky to pick out photos to add to this newsletter from the many wonderful images available – I hope you enjoy looking at what your child has been up to on your **Tapestry** account.

most recent **Ofsted** inspection recommendation. As a result of doing the 'Exemplary Practice with Two-Year-Olds' course (NDNA) we are looking carefully at what children need and changing our practice to meet that need. We have adjusted some of our routines to accommodate the youngest children. In addition, we regularly undertake a variety of training to continuously meet the needs of all the children in our care.



Here Arthur is making a dinosaur. First, he drew his idea and design on paper and discussed how he could make it with Elise. Next, he chose the most appropriate materials and with help (and close supervision) assembled his model. It is lovely to see how proud the children are of their own unique creations using simple materials and processes. **Woodwork** is currently available to children aged +3 on a Wednesday morning. More information about woodwork is on our website.

As well as the topic activities, as a staff team we have been enhancing our knowledge about 2-year-olds, as per the

Next half term, we will be continuing our travels around Europe with Paddington Bear and be stopping at Luka's ancestral home '**Germany**'.

We are also planning to mark **World Book Day**, with a **dress up day** on Thursday 6th March and **trip to the library** on the afternoon of Tuesday 11th March. During the last week of term, we will be celebrating Easter with our annual mini egg hunts in the garden.

Please continue reading for more news. Thank you for your support, Ruth and the staff team ☀

Events

We are celebrating **World Book Day** with a visit to Chagford Library on 11th March leaving at 1:30 pm and returning by 3:30 pm. We need parent helpers to enable us to get there and back safely, so please let us know if you can help.

Calling all the children: dress up as your favourite book character on Thursday 6th March - come on surprise us!

The image shows two worksheets titled 'Reading a book' with a 'EARLY CHILDHOOD MATTERS CENTRE' logo. The top worksheet includes prompts for 'position' (The goat is under / on top of / behind / in front of / next to the bridge.), 'more' (This is a longer book, look at all the pages!), 'predicting & sequencing' (What might happen next, do you think?), 'height, fit & size' (I wonder if she'll be able to reach the top. I wonder if she will be able to hide behind the tree.), and 'numbers' (I think page 6 has a good picture... can you find it?). The bottom worksheet includes prompts for 'direction & routes' (Let's retell the journey and remember what they passed on the way. Maybe we could draw a map?), 'adding' (How many fish do you think we will see on the next page, if there is one more?), 'counting & comparing' (I think there are more birds than butterflies in this picture, what about you?), 'direction & routes' (Which way should the hen go to get to the hen house?), and 'time language' (What happened first / next / after / before that?). Both worksheets feature a QR code and a footer: 'Watch your child playing • See what they enjoy doing • Join in and use these ideas when they seem ready'.

Keep it positive!

Encouraging children's positive behaviour involves praising them when they are being good and avoiding use of negative terms which can label the child, such as 'naughty'. Therefore, when your child pleases you tell them exactly what they did that made you happy i.e. 'well done for holding my hand at the road'.

Funding & Fees

Spring Term **invoices** are available to view on Tapestry. The payment due date is 17/3/25. Please ensure you settle your account by this date to avoid a late payment fee. **Tax Free Childcare** has changed. If you intend to make a claim, please let me know so that I can provide you with an invoice format which will enable you to claim the total amount.

Lunch ideas

Look no further for healthy and environmentally friendly packed lunch inspiration: Link up with <https://zone.recycledevon.org/wp-content/uploads/Waste-Free-Lunches-UPDATED-April-19.pdf>

Your feedback please!

This term, parent questionnaires will be put into children's trays and sent to you via email. Please complete and return these to us as soon as possible. We are always grateful for the comments you add to Tapestry too.

Term Dates

Spring Term 2025

Ends on Thursday 3rd April 2025

Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 22nd April – Thursday 17th July

Half term: 26th – 30th May

Autumn Term 2025

Monday 8th September – Thursday 18th December

Half term: 27th – 31st October

Spring Term 2026

Monday 5th January – Thursday 2nd April

Half term: 16th – 20th February

Summer Term 2026

Monday 20th April – Thursday 16th July

Half term: 25th – 29th May