

# Brambles Weekly News

WB: 24/04/17

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## Reminders

Please let the school your child has been allocated to know that you would like to take up their place. Please also let Brambles staff know which school your child will be attending.

For those children who are staying at Brambles, please let Brambles staff know if you will be attending the registration afternoon in July.

## Carpet Time

**Stories:** School Days Around the World by Catherine Chambers  
Peppa Pig School Bus Trip by Ladybird Books

**Song:** Off to school we go

**Rhyme:** Welcome to school

## Upcoming Events

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May**  
Bank Holiday  
Brambles and school closed

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**  
Brambles and school re-open

## This Week's Learning

We have been learning all about school, where Brampton school is, and all the different rooms and classrooms there are by going on lots of walks to visit both KS1 and KS2 buildings. We have continued to play with our siblings, friends and new school friends on the playground after lunch.

## Something Special



Learning how to use scissors plays an important role in developing the fine motor skills young children need in order to hold pencils and crayons. Having strong fine motor skills will help children as they begin the tricky process of learning how to write. It might sound easy, but teaching young children how to cut with scissors is a very complex task.

**Sequence of Scissor Skills:** This is the order in which cutting skills should be introduced to young children: rip, snip, fringe, straight lines, zig zag lines, curved lines (circles, waves, hearts), right angles (squares and rectangles).

**Scissor Skill Definitions:** Ripping sturdy paper such as construction paper is the perfect activity for young children to engage in before being introduced to scissors. Children exercise their tripod grasp - or their thumb and first two fingers as they grip the paper to rip it. Ripping also requires children to move their hands in opposite directions at the same time which helps develop bilateral coordination skills. Cut sturdy paper into strips and invite children to rip away! When they demonstrate they are ready, move to larger pieces of paper. Snipping is the act of opening and closing the scissors one time only which results in successfully cutting something. Snipping will help children develop the muscles in their hands necessary to cut longer lines later so their hands won't become fatigued. Fringe is repetitive snipping without cutting the paper in half.

**The Importance of Scissor Skills:** Cutting also helps develop eye-hand coordination as children hold the paper with one hand and cut with the other while tracking the movement of the scissors with their eyes. Another important skill that is developed through cutting is bilateral coordination. Bilateral coordination involves using both sides of the body at the same time while each hand is performing different tasks. For example, to cut a square, the child must hold the paper with one hand and turn it while the other hand is not only opening and closing the scissors but also moving along the line. Easier said than done!