

# Gloucester Nursery School

## Newsletter

February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back – I hope everyone had an enjoyable week's break. This half term is quite short. **Please see events below:**

- **5<sup>th</sup> March World Book Day:** Children can dress up as their favourite character from a book (if they want to). We would also welcome parents/carers to come into the nursery (G2, Nurture Nest and G3) to read stories to the children over the course of the week.
- **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March approximately 10 eggs will be delivered in an incubator** and over the fortnight all the children and parents will have the opportunity to watch their development.
- The nursery closes for Easter on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** and reopens on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April**.
- **Families of children in G2 and Nurture Nest. G2 and the Nurture Nest will be closed to children on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May due to the elections for the Police Commissioner.** We apologise for the inconvenience but as the nursery is a Local Authority building we have no alternative but to allow the polling to take place at the Nursery.
- Please remember that if you have any worries or problems, however trivial they may seem, do talk to your child's family worker or myself.

*Best wishes*  
*Julia*

### Children's Learning

#### Children in the 2 year provision (G2)

This term the children will be involved in choosing and preparing the food and utensils needed for snack on a daily basis. Many playful and meaningful learning opportunities can be created when supporting the children to try new foods or use new tools. This will help to increase their independence and self-help skills.

World Book Day – Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup>. Please encourage your child to dress up for the day. Do you and your child read together each day? There are some wonderful books at the local libraries. Are you and your child a member? Why not visit during the month of March and see what activities they have on offer. To find out your nearest library and opening times visit [www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk](http://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk).

In March the children in G3 will be awaiting the arrival of eggs and an incubator. The children in G2 will be able to visit with their family worker and see the eggs progress. This is always an exciting time. The staff are already wondering what the children might know about eggs? I wonder if they can guess what might be inside?

The family workers have observed the children in G2 and they have noticed that they are interested in dance and movement. Please share any instrumental music/music with your child's family worker that you and your children enjoy listening to and dancing to at home.

#### Parents and Children – Things to do together

Things to do to support your child's learning

- Let your child try to dress themselves e.g. taking off and putting on shoes/welly boots
- Help to get lunch ready by chopping and spreading
- Help you around the home e.g. dusting, putting items in the bin, wiping tables
- Playing guessing games by placing items inside boxes or underneath material, with adults using language/questions e.g. "What's inside?" Encourage the children to have a guess or use their senses to find out.

## Children's Learning

### Children in the Nurture Nest:

All the children in the Nurture Nest will have the opportunity to spend time in G3, the bigger nursery on Fridays. This will help with their transition in September. This term, the children will be learning about **growth, animals and the local community**. They will be going to **visit the library**. Details will follow and we would appreciate any parent volunteers to help.

### Children in the main nursery (G3):

All the children in G3 have or will enjoy taking part in the **Forest School experience** for 4 weeks at Hunsbury Park Primary School and also work with Piper, our artist.

To celebrate **World Book Day**, we are having a '**Books under the Stars**' session on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March**.

**Please come and share a story with your during child Pow Wow - 11.30am and 3.15pm.**

**Research from the National Literacy Trust shows that when parents are involved in their children's literacy development it makes a huge difference to their success at school and in later life.**

### Children in G2, Nurture Nest and G3: OUTDOOR LEARNING

**Did you know the expectation for young children is to have 180 minutes of physical exercise every day? 1 in 5 primary school children are obese.**

**All the children follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. The expectation within the curriculum is for children to access indoor and outdoor learning every day. Young children need to be physically active. The weather is still cold, please help your child to continue experiencing the outside curriculum by ensuring they bring suitable clothing and footwear.**

**Early Reading tips:** When our children are very young there is a lot we can do to include them in the world of reading. We can aim to build up motivation so that our children **WANT** to learn to read. Why not try some of the following...

- ☺ Talk, talk, talk – We know that talking helps reading! Encourage your child to be a chatterbox!
- ☺ Parents who read – It's vital that children understand that reading is something adults do. If your child sees that you value books and enjoy reading, then they will want to have a go themselves.
- ☺ A special time for sharing books – regularly reading books to a child is the best way to involve them in the world of reading.
- ☺ Follow your child's interests: Choose books carefully.
- ☺ Songs and Nursery rhymes – these are great for building pre-reading skills, such as memorising.
- ☺ Signs and Labels around us: Involve your child as you read simple print around you. Point out signs and labels and read birthday cards and text messages aloud so that your child understands that print carries meaning.
- ☺ Talk about the text: Whether it be a book, comic or eBook talk about it before sharing and ask your child to talk about what is happening, what they can see and invite them to begin to think about what might happen next.

**Please try not to focus too much on trying to teach your child particular reading skills during the early stages, just enjoy sharing and discussing texts together. Obviously your children will progress at different levels, so if you would like more advice on the next steps for your child please see your child's Family Worker. Don't forget to come along to our practical phonic workshop later on in the term.**

## 3 and 4 year olds only: Parents and Children - Things to do

### Personal and Social

Talk, talk, talk! Please help your child to resolve conflicts with other children by themselves, giving guidance when needed. Children need to be able to say to another child when they do something that makes them sad.

Encourage listening to each other and carrying on play by responding to what they hear around them. We are practising what conversations happen at a shop.

### Numbers and Counting

We are counting EVERYTHING at Nursery!

Number of steps, claps, fallen leaves, candles on a cake. Look out for numbers all around us. What numbers can they see on houses? On their way to Nursery? On cars?

Lots of counting games and number rhymes are a great way to use numbers as well as counting objects. Count how many teddies on their beds or how many steps on the stairs.



### Some more tips to encourage talking:

We encourage the use of Tapestry to help children talk and recall what they have experienced outside of Nursery. What they did at the weekend, any places they visited, celebrations they had.

We are becoming fabulous story tellers! Can the children tell you a bedtime story using pictures from a book? Can they draw a picture and tell you a story that you write down for them?

### Writing

We are always practising writing our names... we put it on all the work we do.

Could you help your child listen carefully for the beginning sounds in words and have a go at writing down the letter. Make sure the children are trying to hold their pencil correctly.

*General Information for all parents and carers.*

*Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility.*

*Please can parents:*

***The red bullet points are very important***

- 1. Close all external gates. If you see a parent leave the gate open please speak to them!!!!!!***
- 2. Only let staff release the external doors in order to supervise who is coming into the school building.***
- 3. Only use mobile phones when you have left the school building***
- 4. Keep away from the children's toilets. Only staff are permitted in this area***
- 5. Leave pushchairs in the external shelter in order to help with congestion*

*Thank you*

*Please can I remind you to phone if your child is ill and unable to attend the session. In the case of sickness and diarrhoea the nursery policy is keeping the child at home for 48 hours. Please phone each day.*

As you are aware the nursery has no car park! We rely on the goodwill of the local residents. To maintain the goodwill please show consideration when parking, avoid parking in front of the bungalows next to the nursery. To avoid congestion and improve safety for all, please can parents' park away from the nursery building and walk a short distance to the entrance.

**Working in partnership with parents – Important dates and information for all parents/carers of children attending Gloucester Nursery School (G2, Nurture Nest and G3)**

**G2 and Nurture Nest children – Exploring the community G2 and Nurture Nest children** will be out and about in the community over the next few weeks. See your child's Family Worker for more details.



**World book day on 5<sup>th</sup> March** for all children (G2, Nurture Nest and G3). Please can children bring their favourite story into nursery and also they can dress up as a character from a story if they wish.



**Forest School for children in G3.**

**Blue Parrots:**

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March**

**Red Foxes:**

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> March and 20<sup>th</sup> April and 4<sup>th</sup> May**

**Yellow Ducks:**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> May, 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> June**



The nursery closes for the Easter holidays at **4.30 pm on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April and reopens on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April.**

*Happy Easter*

### Attendance and Punctuality

We recognise that regular attendance is a significant factor in encouraging your children to make excellent progress in nursery. We offer so many wonderful experiences but your child will only access them and develop friendships if they are here. Please make sure your child attends everyday unless they are ill. Arriving on time is also essential for your child to be greeted, settled and best placed to learn and thrive in education.

Well done to those children whose attendance so far this term (ie since Christmas) has been 100% :

In G2 – Morgan, Ronnie, Jack C, Jacob, Jack H, Daisy, Willow, Rafferty, Gabriel, Chloe

In Nurture Nest – Grace, Delilah, Charlie

In G3 – Ini, Caitlyn, Harper, Leo, Daisy, Evan, Max, Bianka, Millie L, Imaan, Isaiah, Summer, Raeleigh, Iannis, Sarah, Thomas R, Olivia S, Jasmine, Aiden, Arabella, Grace

### Holiday forms:

If you are going on holiday during school time, please can you complete a holiday form and return it to the office. Forms can be obtained from the office. As from September 2013, I can no longer give authorised absences for holidays – authorised absence will only be given in exceptional circumstances.



### Collecting Children:

Please notify us if someone other than a parent/carer is collecting a child on any day. Children under the age of 16 are not allowed to collect children. At pick up times, a Family Worker will 'hand your child over to you' and if information needs to be passed on they will do so.

### Parent Helpers in the nursery:

We are always grateful for any help you can give us. If you would like to help regularly or occasionally, please come and have an informal chat with me. We hope to have one parent helping at every nursery session. A DBS form (was called CRB) needs to be completed beforehand.

### Parent Readers Wanted!

We would welcome any parent who would like to come and read a story to the children in their home language. Maybe you are free on World Book Day, 5<sup>th</sup> March. Please liaise with your child's family worker if you are able to help.



In the unlikely event that the Nursery is closed (e.g severe weather conditions) the closure will be communicated to you via **Parent Mail**. Please do not phone the Nursery.

### Parent Mail and Tapestry – On-Line

**Parent Mail** - Have you activated your account? All correspondence will now be sent via Parent Mail. **Tapestry** – Staff are sending observations of your child's learning. Are you enjoying reading them and sending us information?



Please view our website for information and to look at events that have happened over the week you can even comment on it.

[www.gloucesternurseryschool.co.uk](http://www.gloucesternurseryschool.co.uk)

### Governors:

#### Parent Governors needed ....Please help

Our next Governors meeting is on 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Please help us – We currently have no Parent Governors on our Governing Body. If you are willing to give up a few hours of your time in the evening 4 times a year please see Liz for further details



### Facebook Group

There is a closed Facebook group for current parents. Search for GNS and request to join.

