

Gloucester Nursery School

Newsletter

September 2020

Welcome to Gloucester Nursery School

A very warm welcome to all our children and families, including all our new children and families who are starting this term. A newsletter is produced every term (every 6 – 8 weeks). It gives details of events and information that relate to you and your child. **This newsletter will be the only hard copy given to you, the others will be sent to you via Parentmail. Please see attached information regarding registering for Parentmail.**

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. All staff look forward to working with you this year.

Important dates for this term: Macmillian Cake Event: Friday 25th September – more details to follow. Nursery closing: Thursday 22nd October; Nursery reopens on **Monday 2nd November.**

Best Wishes,

Julia

Ensuring Gloucester Nursery stays COVID-19 secure over the year

Please read all the information given to you about protecting everyone at Gloucester Nursery from COVID-19

- *Do not attend the nursery if you or your child is unwell*
- *Keep to your allocated drop off and pick up time*
- *Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual*
- *Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting 'catch it, bin it, kill it'*
- *Minimise contact between each other - remember social distancing with other staff, other children and parents*
- *Please can parents avoid touching surfaces and equipment within the nursery*
- *Can all parents please wear masks when dropping off and picking up their children*
- *Sanitise lunchboxes each day at home*
- *Toys and books from home cannot enter the nursery*
- *Contact the nursery immediately in the event that a test proves positive*
- *In the event of infection engage with the NHS Test and Trace process.*

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Safeguarding Information: If you are worried about a child's welfare please speak to our Designated Safeguarding Leads; either myself or Kerry, our Senior Family Worker. Please see a member of the office staff if you need information or leaflets. All nursery staff have attended safeguarding training and do receive regular updates. Contact numbers are displayed on the information board and leaflets are available from the reception area.

On-Line Safety: Please find attached information and an agreement regarding our on-line safety rules. We request that parents/carers read the agreement carefully. This will confirm that rules and procedures have been understood.

Children's Learning G2

This term is all about the children getting to know each other, the children getting to know the staff and generally settling into the nursery. The children's learning often takes them outdoors where they develop, among other things, gross motor skills. Please do bring in appropriate clothing so your child can be completely involved in all the rich and valuable experiences. **Please look at the Parent Board daily for any information, this is where notices are usually placed.**

G2- Things to do at home with your child to support their learning

- Let your child help with unpacking the shopping by telling them to find different things like, "find the apples," or "find the crackers."
- Increase your child's independence by letting them wash their face or try and put welly boots on by themselves.
- Play games where your child listens to instructions such as "roll the ball, kick the ball and throw the ball."
- Read story books to your child, making the sounds of the animals or sounds of the objects.
- Encourage your child to have a go at drinking from an open cup.

Children's Learning G3

Children in the main nursery (G3)

Your child is continuing on their learning journey through the Early Years Foundation Stage and will continue to build on the skills and knowledge they have acquired so far. Sometimes, children seem to 'forget' something they have learned but please be assured, that knowledge is still in there, it is just perhaps on hold for a while to enable them to learn something new.

The children will be supported to get to know each other and the staff in the nursery this term while learning self-help skills and independence to enable them to access all areas of the learning environment. The children will be encouraged to try new activities and help each other once a skill is mastered. They will self-access all areas of the nursery. Snack will be supervised by a member of staff.

Please support your child by letting them carry their own bag and hang it on their peg, and put their lunch box on the trolley if they have a packed lunch. At home, please encourage your child to do age appropriate tasks for themselves. This could include putting shoes on, getting something out of the cupboard or fridge to help and helping select items when shopping.

Parents/carers involved in children's learning and development through using an IT software package called Tapestry

Tapestry enables the nursery-home dialogue with families, giving staff opportunity to share your child's learning and experiences with you, while providing you with a platform to share significant moments from home with your child's family worker. Please feel free to log into your account and see how your child's learning and development is progressing while they attend Gloucester Nursery.

Records will be kept about your child's development and these will be shared with you. Telephone consultations or informal meetings with social distancing will be arranged to discuss your child's progress and next steps.

Tapestry is a safe space and the images and data within it are protected by safeguarding features. Gloucester Nursery School's use of Tapestry is in full-compliance with the GDPR.

3 and 4 year olds only:

Parents and Children - Things to do

Personal and Social

Encourage your child to be more independent. E.g. Finding their own peg and hanging their coat on it.

Play games together encouraging your child to take turns and to listen and respond to what is being said to them.

Mathematics

Support your child to count steps, stairs, cars, buses, biscuits – any opportunity for counting.

Ask your child “How many?”



Top Tips!

Get Talking

Understanding others and knowing what to say are really important skills. They help children to make friends, learn and enjoy life to the full. Children need more time than adults to think about what they have heard and to decide what to say back so...

- Give your child time to respond and look at them while you wait.
- Get your child's attention by saying their name before you start speaking.
- Give your child plenty of time to think.
- Talk together about the seasons, trees, and seasonal weather changes.
- Go on an adventure and talk about your discoveries e.g. What can you find in the park?

Read together!

Help your child to fill in the missing word, phrase or join in with known rhymes and stories.

Show your child how to handle books carefully and to know what the different parts of a book are e.g. pages. Let your child see you reading. Talk about and retell favourite stories. Look for print out and about.

General Information for all parents

Opening time: Staggered start and pick up times are now in operation as a preventive measure to encourage social distancing and reduce the transmission of COVID-19. Please make sure you keep to the times allocated to your child.

Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility. Please can parents:

- 1. Close all external gates. If you see a parent leave the gate open please speak to them!!!!*
- 2. Can parents please wear a mask at all times.*
- 3. Only use mobile phones when you have left the school site*
- 4. Leave pushchairs outside in order to help with congestion.*

Thank you

***Attendance:** It is important for your child to have regular attendance at the nursery. Failure to do so often results in children having difficulties in settling into routines, gaining friends and the progress and achievement they make. Although the children's attendance is not statutory, the Governors, Local Authority and Ofsted do request information on attendance figures. 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.*

***Collecting children** – Please notify us if someone else is collecting your child. Children under the age of 16 are not allowed to collect children. At pick up times, please wait in the area where you dropped off your child. A member of staff will hand over your child to you.*

Thank you.

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



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 walk to the entrance.

Macmillian cake event on 25th September.

More details to follow.

Half term – **Finishing on Thursday 22nd October** returning to nursery on **Monday 2nd November.**

Governors

Gloucester Nursery School is supported by a dedicated Governing Body that meet once a term. The role of the governing body is to support myself and the staff in maintaining the high standards of learning and teaching and the quality of care across the setting. Progress and development work within the nursery is achieved by a shared vision of aiming for excellence and by governors challenging Gloucester to constantly improve standards through their role as 'critical friend.' Parent governors represent the views of parents on the Governing Body.

The Governing Body meet in the evening to discuss matters such as health and safety; staffing; premises and finance. We have a delegated budget and this means additional responsibilities for the Governing Body. Our first meeting is on **6th October**. If you would like your views represented please phone the office and the parent governor will contact you.

Due to COVID-19 we hold meetings virtually via zoom.

Holiday forms:

If you are going on holiday during school time, please can you complete a holiday form and return it to the office. We will be asking you where you are going on holiday in order to ensure that quarantine rules are adhered to. 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.

Website:

Please view our website for information and to look at events that have happened over the week. The website is updated weekly. We welcome any comments – to add comments please click on 'contact' – top toolbar and click on 'your comments'.

www.gloucesternurseryschool.co.uk .

We are currently in the process of creating a new website.

Places at Gloucester Nursery School:

Spaces will be available for two and three year olds in January 2021. If you know anyone who has a child eligible please contact us to fill in an application form.

Applying for a primary school place – September 2021.

You will need to apply to Northamptonshire County Council for a primary school place for September 2020 by applying online at www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/admissions. For more information call 01604 236599 or e-mail admissions@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Please note that the deadline for applying for a primary school place is 5pm on 15 January 2021.

PARENTMAIL

Please see attached information, you will receive an email invitation to sign up. Please access this ASAP as all communications to parents will be via Parentmail.

TAPESTRY

New parents will shortly receive an email invitation to sign up for Tapestry. Please sign up ASAP to see observations on your child. If you have any problems please contact the office.