

Gloucester Nursery School

Newsletter

February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope everyone had a safe week. We are welcoming more children back to the nursery. With the increase in the number of children returning to the nursery we have re-established 3 bubbles: in G2; the Nurture Nest and G3. This half term is quite short. If you do not wish your child to return yet to nursery, your child's place will be saved – email Liz bursar@gloucester.northants-ecl.gov.uk. We continue to be strictly adhering to our risk minimisation as before: one parent per child to come to school at drop off and pick ups. This person must wear a mask at all times. We have been so successful over the past 3 terms and have remained open throughout, and this was due to all staff and parents being vigilant as well as following strict routines and procedures of control.

Please see events below:

- **4th March World Book Day:** Children can dress up as their favourite character from a book (if they want to).
- The nursery closes for Easter on **Friday 26th March** and reopens on **Monday 12th April**.
- **Unfortunately the G3 provision will be closed to children on Thursday 6th May and in the morning of Friday 7th May due to the elections for the Police Commissioner. G3 will be thoroughly cleaned on Friday morning and reopened to children from 11.25am.** 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 a member of staff or myself.

Best wishes

Julia

Children's Learning

Children in the 2 year provision (G2)

World Book Day – Thursday March 4th. Do you and your child read together each day? There are some wonderful YouTube stories being read, why not have a look?

The children will have storybooks read to them each day and the staff will also be using picture books to support the development of language. If your child has a particular favourite book please use Tapestry to share this with the staff.

Adults will be inspiring and supporting children's pretend play by setting up a wonderful bakery, which was suggested by some of the children. The children will also be planting sweet peas in the garden and going on hunts in the garden for eggs.

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. **This will support your child's independence at nursery when changing from their outdoor shoes into their indoor shoes.**
- 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:

This term, the children will be learning about **growth, animals, space (planets) and shapes and patterns.**

Children in the main nursery (G3):

All the children in G3 will enjoy taking part in **World Book Day**, we are having a '**Books under the Stars**' session on **Thursday 4th March.**

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 G3 will be looking at **similarities and differences, materials (what things are made out of and recycling), time and space.**



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 ask a member of staff or contact me.

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.

Encourage children to be as independent as possible and to concentrate and complete an activity that they have started.

Maths:

Looking at and looking for 2-D shapes indoors and out (square, triangle, rectangle, circle, semi-circle, diamond, star etc). Using mathematical language to describe shapes Eg straight, edges, corners, curved.

Looking at patterns in the environment and copying a pattern.

Counting amounts and recognising numbers to 10, 20 and beyond! Children are fascinated by bigger numbers.



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?

Reading and 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.

Learn the alphabet song and play 'I spy.'

General Information for all parents and carers.

Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility.

Please can parents:

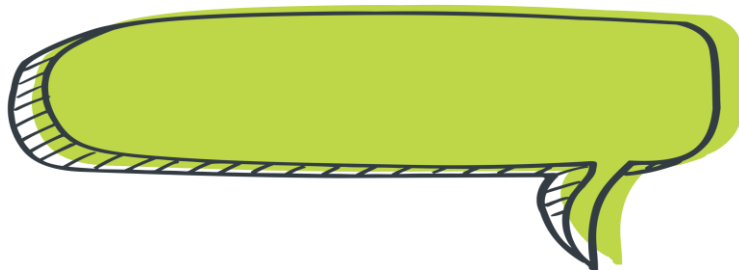
The red bullet points are very important

- 1. Close all external gates. If you see a parent leave the gate open please speak to them!!!!**
- 2. Only use mobile phones when you have left the school building**
3. 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.



The VOICE OF THE CHILDREN AT GLOUCESTER NURSERY

Here are some of the children's comments

"So Boris is the one who tells the world what to do and the Queen is the one who is in charge. When Boris says we can meet outside that's when we can all come back to school and I can meet my friends at the park."

What do you know about the Coronavirus?

"You need to wash your hands before you go into nursery and you count for 20."

"You have to catch your cough in your elbow."

"If you are feeling sad you can tell a grown up, then you feel happy."

"Sanitiser washes germs from your hands."

"We wear masks because the germs are in the air."

"It's about the Coronavirus."

"I got blue mask."

"Just in case you are hot, you take your temperature, if you're too hot you need to cool down with a fan or cold drink."

"I wear my mask in the shop, I don't want to give it to people."

"Asda don't have sanitizer but other shops have soap on the table."

"Every single time you go outside it goes near me."

"I have a polar bear mask I wear in the shop."

"If someone isn't in your bubble you don't go into their house."

"A visor helps germs to keep away."

"Catch your cough in your elbow."

"We can't see the germs but can see them on the telly."

"When it was lockdown and we couldn't go anywhere me, mummy and my brother did Joe Wicks."

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 – Lennon and Everleigh

In Nurture Nest – Cole, Daisy, Jacob T, Ayesha and Chloe

In G3 – Hugo, Jack, Madeleine, Jack C, Jacob E, Estelle, Kai, Jonah, Yameena, Porsha, Thomas, Harper R, Ethan, Harper SJ, Gabriel, Sonia and Wiktor.

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



World book day on 4th March for all children (G2, Nurture Nest and G3). Please can children dress up as a character from a story if they wish.

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.

ANY CHILD OR ADULT WHO IS DISPLAYING SYMPTOMS MUST NOT COME TO NURSERY

- Isolate
- Get a test by phoning 119 or follow link to <https://www.gov.uk/getting-tested-for-coronavirus>
- Let the nursery know the results

In the event that one of the children's bubbles is closed due to staff absence, illness or a positive CoVid case, the closure will be communicated to you via Parent Mail. Please do not phone the Nursery. **Please check your emails regularly**



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. **Please check your emails regularly.**

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?



The nursery closes for the Easter holidays at **4.30 pm on Friday 26th March and reopens on Monday 12th April.**

Happy Easter



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

Facebook Page

There is a Gloucester Nursery School Facebook page, please like and share with family or friends who may be interested in a place for their child in the future.

