

Gloucester Nursery School

Newsletter

April 2022

Dear Parents/Carers, Welcome back – I hope everyone had an enjoyable Easter break and have enjoyed some of the warmer days. PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION. IT TELLS YOU WHAT IS HAPPENING OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. THANK YOU.

- The nursery is closed for May Day bank holiday on **Monday 2nd May**.
- The nursery closes for the May holidays at 4.30pm on **Friday 27th May**, returning on **Monday 6th June**.
- The nursery closes for children on **Wednesday 20th July** and staff have a training day on **Thursday 21st July**.



Keeping Gloucester Nursery School Covid Secure

We are all working hard to keep Gloucester Nursery School Covid secure. Thank you for all your support over the past few months. Thank you to all staff, including the cleaners, who continue to work tirelessly following a rigorous cleaning schedule and maintaining a safe environment for everyone.

Please support us in keeping Gloucester Nursery Covid secure:

- Sanitise (or wash) your hands and your child's hands when leaving home and when returning from Nursery.
- Sanitise your child's lunch box daily.
- **If your child is feeling unwell please keep them at home.**
- Please keep us informed about Covid testing.

Updated possible covid symptoms from NHS website:

1. Shortness of breath.
2. Feeling tired or fatigued.
3. Aching body.
4. Headache.
5. Sore throat.
6. Blocked or runny nose.
7. Loss of appetite.
8. Diarrhoea.
9. Feeling sick or being sick.

Tapestry Observations:

Every week staff work really hard to send you a tapestry observation of a significant piece of learning related to your child. It is really great when parents reply either to the Tapestry observation sent from Nursery or with a photograph and observation of their child at home. This enables us to build up a complete picture of the child's learning and development as well as providing ideas of the child's interest that we can incorporate into the provision we offer the children. Please send us some more observations and comments via Tapestry – staff really enjoy reading what children are learning to do at home. Please see attached feedback from our recent parents questionnaire regarding the use of Tapestry.

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):

Hooray for summer; brighter and sunnier days with the occasional drops of rain. Perfect ingredients for a rainbow but also perfect conditions for playful fun and learning in the outdoors. Staff continue to plan for and respond to your child's individual interests and developmental needs; this term the children will develop their interest in finding insects in the sensory garden and exploring natural textures. We would love to see updates on how the sunflower seeds are doing, please send photos via Tapestry.

The children in G2 will be exploring their garden area through a range of experiences such as digging and watering, painting outside on a larger scale, learning how to move their body in different ways confidently, developing their bike skills and through the enhanced outdoor learning experience (previously referred to as 'The Mud Kitchen.')

Parents and Children –

Things to do to support your child's learning at home and Nursery (G2):

- Go on a walk to a park and run up/roll down the hill. Can you move in other ways? Slither like a snake, jump like a frog, hop like a rabbit?
- Let your child practice dressing themselves e.g. taking off their shoes, putting on welly boots. Encourage your child to select and attempt to put on suitable clothing for outdoor play; talk to your child about their choices and reasons why e.g. explaining why they need wellies when it's muddy.
- Let your child help get their lunch ready by cutting the cheese or banana and spreading butter onto toast.
- Draw your child's attention to the nature surrounding them e.g. ladybirds and worms, trees, the smell and colour of the flowers. What do they notice? Support language development by adding another word and repeating the word your child has said e.g. worm, yes a wiggly worm.

Children's Learning

Children in G3:

In the summer term, we will further explore our planting/nature theme: talking about how plants grow and what they need to keep them alive. As we continue to dig over the ground, we will be identifying mini beasts (learning new vocabulary; looking at reference books and websites to gain information about mini-beast habitats and how to look after them). We will be learning about life cycles and habitats.

We plan to use the garden allotment in G3 and photographs will be sent home regarding its development.

Children in G3 will be enjoying the benefits of the warmer weather – exercising, using small games equipment and discussing the effects of exercise on their bodies. Healthy eating, personal hygiene and the importance of sleeping and relaxing will also be discussed.

3 and 4 year olds only:

Parents and Children - Things to do

Children transferring from the Nursery to Primary School in September 2022 will be learning more about letters and sounds. To support their learning at home why not help them by developing your understanding of phonics. There is lots of material available on the website to watch. Look on YouTube e.g. Parents and Carers guide to Pronouncing Phonemes; Jolly Phonics – Learn the letter sounds in Jolly Phonics.

Literacy and Mathematics

- ☺ Look for letters and numbers in the environment and play games like 'I spy' and start to say the first sound in words.
- ☺ Hold a pencil correctly – copy letters, write their name etc.
- ☺ Practice counting different objects and finding the correct number to match.
- ☺ Encourage your child to use positional language such as 'behind,' 'next to,' 'under,' 'on top,' and 'in front.'
- ☺ Look for patterns in the environment. Can your child finish off a pattern you have started?

Feelings and behaviour

Talk openly with your child about their responses and emotions and...

- ☺ Help them to understand that when people are busy they must wait and an adult will focus on them when appropriate.
- ☺ Help them to adapt their behaviour so that they begin to understand that sometimes you can't always do the things that you want to do because there are consequences.

Some more tips to encourage talking

- ☺ Talk about patterns you can see when you are out and about.
- ☺ Encourage your child to experiment and answer questions such as: "what would happen if...?" or "I wonder if...."
- ☺ Go and explore your garden or local park. What wildlife can you spot and name? If you have a digital camera you could use it to record what you find and then recall your visit as you look at the photos taken.
- ☺ Use Tapestry as a way of talking about what they have done. This works brilliantly at home and at school.



Some more tips to encourage independence and confidence

- ☺ Encourage your child to gain in confidence by trying new things Eg. pedalling a two wheeled bike without stabilisers
- ☺ Encourage your child's independence by seeing what they can do for themselves.
- ☺ Encourage your child to do their zips or buttons up on their jackets.

Tips to increase independence: The year is speeding by and our thoughts are just beginning to turn to supporting some of our children in their exciting journeys towards going to primary school at the end of the Summer Term

Family workers will be:

- Encouraging children to widen their friendship groups.
- Encouraging the children to try new things and to see an activity through to the end.
- Encouraging the children to motivate themselves/follow through on an activity.
- Developing their listening and concentration skills in both small and larger groups.

You can continue to help us by:

- ☞ Encouraging your child to hang up their things when coming into nursery or when they are not wearing them.
- ☞ Showing your child how to manage his/her clothing – buttons and zips; taking clothes off carefully; putting on shoes independently.
- ☞ Helping your child to write some or all of the letters in their name.
- ☞ Helping your child to further improve their concentration skills by completing the activities that they have started.
- ☞ Through everyday conversations encouraging your child to tell you/others about what they need, want, things they like to do and talking openly about dislikes.
- ☞ Helping your child to understand to keep trying even when things may get tricky for them.



Other Important Dates:

- ☺ ***Parents consultations via the phone with Family Workers from 26th April – 27th May – Letters and appointments to follow.***
- ☺ ***Wednesday 27th April – The Bug Man will be bringing various birds and creepy crawlies for the children to enjoy***
- ☺ ***Wednesday 11th May – A mini-farm will visit the nursery for the day***
- ☺ ***Thursday 26th May – Jubilee Garden Party – More details to follow.***

Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility.

Illness..... 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.

Parking 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.

Thank you

Lunch Boxes

Children have approximately 30 minutes to eat their packed lunch. Please provide foods that your children will eat and do not pack too much. Please remember our remit of healthy foods at snack time and healthy lunch boxes.

Some children that attend lunchtime sessions might have allergies and can develop a severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction.

Please ensure you do not pack any of the following in your child's lunch box:-

- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Chocolate spreads
- Cereal bars
- Some granola bars
- Cakes containing nuts
- Biscuits/cookies that contain nuts
- Snickers bars and similar
- Peanut butter cakes
- Kiwi fruit



Attendance and Punctuality

We recognise that 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. In the event that they are ill please phone us every day your child is absent from Nursery.

100% attendance (January-March 2022): Congratulations to: Muhammed, Dottie, Lochlan, Cole, Jack H, Isaac, Alisha, Florence, Freddie O, Adwoa, Leo S and Lottie W.

Collecting Children:

Please notify us if someone other than a **parent/carers** 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.

Places in G2 or G3 for September 2022

If you know of any families looking for places for 2 or 3 year olds please ask them to contact Sue or Nikki in the office. Please promote the Nursery in your local area.



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

www.gloucester-nursery-school.co.uk