

# Gloucester Nursery School

## Newsletter

### June 2022

Dear Parents/Carers, Welcome back – I hope everyone had an enjoyable week's holiday. Although June – July are our last months before the majority of children transfer to their Primary Schools it is just as exciting and busy! We are also welcoming 2 new children into the G3 provision and Saskia, our new Early Years Assistant. We have planned some fun experiences for the children. Please make a note of these dates:

#### G2 Events:

- Splash day – weather permitting – 11<sup>th</sup> July (or 13<sup>th</sup> July). More details to follow.
- G2 End of Year stay and play including a picnic with parents – please can children dress up (anything goes): Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July.

#### G3 Events:

- Splash day – weather permitting – 11<sup>th</sup> July (or 13<sup>th</sup> July). More details to follow.
- G3 End of Year stay and play including a picnic with parents – please can children dress up (anything goes): Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July.

**G2 and G3: the nursery closes for the summer holidays on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July at 4pm. Staff have a training day on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July.**

With the warmer weather hopefully upon us we would ask that all children have sun hats and that sun cream is applied before coming into Nursery. Staff will watch children reapply sun cream if required. Water and milk will always be available and staff will encourage the children to find the shade or even move indoors if the sun is too hot.

### Children's Learning

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

This term the children will be spending more time in the garden as the summer will hopefully bring lovely weather. Even if it doesn't, the children will still explore the outdoors as there is so much for them to experience, eg. putting on their own welly boots to jump in puddles. The children will also be exploring water play on a larger scale. Please ensure your child is provided with a sun hat and has sun cream applied. As always the staff in G2 will be supporting your child's interests and next steps in their learning.

We will continue to support children's independence and self-help skills by giving them time to put on and take off their jackets/cardigans; put their jacket/cardigan on their peg; toileting routines; changing footwear and communication.

Children will be learning to use tools like knives to spread butter and cut soft fruit and vegetables.

#### **Parents and Children**

Things to do at home to support your child's development and learning.

- Go on a walk and find bugs and insects. What did you find? Can you or your child move like one of the insects you have found?
- Let your child dress themselves e.g. pulling trousers up; pulling socks up; putting shoes on.
- Is your child moving up to G3 in September and is ready to come out of nappies? Summer is a great time to establish independent toileting routines. Please speak to your child's family worker for further support.

### Children in G3

The summer weather is finally here, so we will continue to enjoy all that the nursery garden has to offer. This term we will be exploring how to take care of what has been planted in the nursery garden. G3 children will be talking about holidays and journeys, they will also be making bread and ice cream. Piper, our artist in residence will be exploring the local community with key workers and their groups.

**G3** - We have planned plenty more experiences for the weeks ahead and will be continuing to follow the children's interests as well as planning lots of exciting and challenging opportunities. This term we have a wheeled toy project and will continue to encourage our children to ride a bike independently. We are introducing our "Pedal Pushers" challenge, which gives children a chance to ride the Nursery bikes in a safe place outside of Nursery. We look forward to our "Splash Day" and having lots of fun with water and also preparing for our end of year picnic at the end of term!

As we sadly have to say goodbye to most of the children in G3 later in the term, we will be talking about new friends, new places and preparing the children for the excitement of primary school.

### Tips for writing

- Let your child be with you when you are writing – be their role model.
- Let your child talk to you about their writing e.g. who is it for?
- Show your child that you value their writing by displaying it on the wall as you would a picture.
- Praise and value all their writing, and don't expect their writing to look like adult writing.
- Try getting your child to write: lists, menus/recipes, thank you letters, invitations, cards, make a book or catalogue, write a message, label, make a map, or write about a special outing.



**It really doesn't matter what they write, as long as they have a go and enjoy the activity.**

### Why not...

Create a 'writing toolbox' at home? Your child can then write whatever and wherever they want, and you could even have a writing toolbox for the garden with all the resources stored in a special toolbox or rucksack.

#### A writing tool box

- Paper of different sizes, shapes, colours, plain and lined
- Coupons and forms
- Postcards and old greeting cards
- Envelopes
- Ready-made books (2 or 3 pages)
- Note pads and post-its
- Felt pens, pencils, handwriting pens, crayons, charcoal, finger paint
- Hole punches, paper clips, scissors
- Clipboards
- Old diaries, calendars etc.

#### To further develop fine and gross motor skills try inviting your child to...

- ☺ Paint on an outside wall or surface using water and a brush.
- ☺ Use large chalks on a chalkboard or the ground.
- ☺ Write letters with fingers in paint, shaving foam, flour or salt.
- ☺ Spend time cutting and using tweezers and other tools to help develop a pincer grip.
- ☺ Use scarves and streamers to make circular, different linear movements or make letters in the air.

## 3 and 4 year olds only:

### Parents and Children - Things to do

#### Feelings and behaviour

Talk openly with your child to help further develop their self-confidence and self-awareness by...

- ☺ Talking about changes and helping them to understand that changes can lead to positive experiences.
- ☺ Encouraging them to tell their friends and grown-ups about their needs, wants, likes, fears and dislikes.
- ☺ Helping them to be able to talk openly about/show the things they are good at and those things they find more difficult.
- ☺ Help them to adapt their behaviour so that they begin to understand that sometimes you cannot always do the things that you want to do because there are consequences.

#### Outdoor fun

- ☺ Play different outdoor games (hide and seek, tag, cricket tennis).
- ☺ Talk about the rules and help your child to throw, aim catch, hit and kick.
- ☺ Look for different mini beasts.
- ☺ Practice riding their bikes and scooters.



#### Some more tips to encourage talking

- ☺ Look at, and talk about, things such as where you are going to, or what you are driving past.
- ☺ Think back to the things your child needed help to do when they were younger and then talk about all the things they can do now e.g. write name, get dressed or make lots of friends.
- ☺ Talk about past nursery experiences and begin to discuss the things your child is looking forward to/wants to do when they go to primary school.

#### Literacy and Mathematics

- ☺ Make up rhymes and tap out rhythms together. Why not challenge your child to think of different rhyming words? The funnier the better!
- ☺ Try working out how many things you have altogether by combining two groups of objects e.g. counting red and blue cars to see how many there are.
- ☺ Continue to spot and talk about letters and numbers that you see

#### Tapestry

As we shift our focus to writing transition documents for children transferring to Primary Schools, you will find that you will receive less Tapestry notifications about your child.

### 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. 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 the following children in G3: (children in G3 whose attendance has been 100% since Easter)

Cole, Henry, Jack P, Nabila and Aliyah

Well done to the following children in G2:

Hephzibah and Florence

Working in partnership with parents – Important 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)

Please 'like' our Facebook page "Gloucester Nursery School." We are also on Instagram!

### PARKING

The parking around the Nursery at "drop off" and "pick up" times is becoming hazardous for children, parents and residents. Please park away from the Nursery and walk the short distance to the building.



### General Information for all parents



Please support us in keeping Gloucester Nursery Covid secure:-

- If your child is feeling unwell, please keep them at home.
- 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

Please keep us informed about Covid testing and their results.

*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.*

There are 57 children leaving G3 to transfer to 24 primary schools in September. The children are going to the following schools: The Abbey, Delapre, Simon de Senlis, East Hunsbury, Hunsbury Park, Fairfields, Preston Hedges, Caroline Chisholm, Wootton, Woodland View, Upton Meadows, Briar Hill, Purple Oaks, Pineham Barns, Parklands, Harlestone, Irchester, Roade, Blisworth, Queen Eleanor, Wootton Park, Abington Vale Sterling Campus, Billing Brook, & Hardingstone. We wish the children all the best and we know they will have an exciting time, learning lots of new things.

Children will be excited but also unsure and nervous about starting primary school. It is a long time to wait for September! The summer holidays consist of 6 weeks. Approximately 10 days before the children are due to start school: have a calendar (visual representation) for your child to see how many days are left before going to school, look at the social story that is attached to this information (you and your child could adapt this according to the school your child is going to); and walk or drive past the school, talking about the exciting things the children will be learning about.

Starting primary school is an exciting time. It can also be a big change for children and families. It is common for children to be anxious about being separated from their parent or caregiver – this is often an indication that a child has a healthy attachment to them. Understanding how to manage separation is an important part of normal health development for children, both socially and emotionally. For most children, feeling anxious about this separation is a temporary phase and can be supported by parents in some of the following ways:

- Parents saying a quick goodbye that is calm when they arrive at the classroom
- Avoiding coming back to the classroom after they've said goodbye to the child
- Reassuring their child that they will be back by using concepts the child understands.

### 7 top tips to support transition for children going to Primary School in September

1. Support your child's independence: E.g. going to the toilet themselves, getting dressed, putting on their shoes, carrying their lunchboxes to nursery and school, opening their lunch boxes, opening the tops on yoghurt cartons.
2. Building up social skills: E.g. practice greeting others by saying 'hello; Practice giving children the time to talk about things, also the time to listen; can they turn take during conversations; Can children ask questions to find out more; encourage sharing and tolerance by playing games involving sharing and turn taking.
3. Develop early literacy and numeracy skills: E.g. recognising their name; writing their name (copying from adult's model or independently); sharing stories to build up vocabulary (watch storytelling videos on the Oxford Owl UTube channel or access OxfordOwle-Booklibrary; learn letter sounds YouTube Jollyphonics and Mr Thorne and Geraldine the giraffe.
4. Develop fine motor skills: E.g. threading; doing up buttons on clothing and zips; using scissors appropriately; holding a pencil in a tripod grip.
5. Develop numeracy skills: E.g. reciting numbers to 10/20/30 etc. counting objects, recognising numerals, ordering numerals; working out simple sums – 'one more than' and 'one less than.'
6. Developing concentration: E.g. staying at an activity for over 10 minutes and persisting at an activity; play games such as 'Race against the clock' and Kim's game; following instructions.
7. Prepare your child by talking to them about school – walk or drive past the school; talk about how school is going to be so exciting, with lots of toys for the children to play with and that they will be able to make new friends.

#### **Transition times:**

#### **Children leaving for Primary School in September 2022 and children moving from to G3:**

- We have invited all the Reception Teachers to contact the Family Workers
- Transition documents – In July, parents of children leaving the nursery will be given a County Transition document completed by nursery staff. This report is a snapshot of your child at nursery. We will also be asking you to complete a part of the transition document before it is photocopied and sent to the Primary Schools. Further information will follow about this.
- A play session has been arranged for children moving to G3. Staff will share information about children's development and learning.

**Children returning to Gloucester Nursery School  
in September 2022**

**Training Day: Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September**

**Home visits: Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September**

**Play session for new G2 children: Monday 5<sup>th</sup>  
September**

**Staggered start for G2: From Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>  
September**

**Staggered start for G3 children: Monday 5<sup>th</sup>  
September**

**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.



**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.

**We currently have spaces available in G2 and G3 for September. If you know of anyone that may be interested in joining our Nursery, we would love to hear from them. Admissions forms can be obtained from the nursery's website or by contacting 01604 762251.**