



A message from the Governors to Parents and Children

As Governors of Gloucester Nursery, we would like to look back on the last year and to say our sincere thanks to everyone who has helped and supported us.

A Look Back.....

The children have had a wonderful time in the Nursery, with different activities and challenges available every day. Although they may not realise it, they are constantly learning new skills – both educationally and socially.

These are some of the memories the children have shared about their time at the Nursery:

“Being on the climbing frame ‘cause there’s so much to do.”

“I like painting, you get to paint flowers.”

“I like playing with my friends. At woodwork I like making something with the hammer and nails. Monster trucks, people and shoes.”

“I liked the chicks. They were so cute.”

“At forest school I liked climbing the trees because they were so high. The marshmallows were so sticky!”

Just some of the exciting special activities that have taken place have been:

Forest School

Allotment Visits

Stay and Plays

Tasty Thursdays

Chinese New Year

Easter Chicks

Christmas Magician

Grandparents Day

Sponsored Sing Song

Zoolab

Fun Marathon

Parent Skill Sharing

Many of these activities would not be a success without the support of parents/carers. We greatly appreciate those of you who have volunteered during the year, have accompanied the children on outings or contributed to Nursery sessions.

Lots of the sessions have been really well attended by parents/carers, such as the Stay and Plays and Tasty Thursdays. This makes a huge difference, so **thank you**.

2 Year Provision (G2)

Our 2 year provision is now 2 years old. Over the past year we have had a canopy erected and the outdoor environment continues to be developed with the help of members of the community.

Children with Special Educational Needs

Gloucester Nursery School currently has 7 children with special educational needs. 3 children have Education, Health and Care Plans. 4 children have been in receipt of High Needs Funding from the Local Authority. The majority of children with special educational needs have communication and language difficulties. Over the year 37 children in total from G2 and G3 have had support through planned interventions. The school provides a range of support for children with special educational needs including specialised language groups, small group work as well as partnership working with outside agencies and parents. All children irrespective of their level of need are making substantive progress.

Accessibility

Gloucester Nursery School is a fully inclusive school and continuously strives to make adaptations to its environment to ensure all children from the local community can come and flourish within the school. The nursery was awarded the Inclusion Quality Mark Inclusion Award in June 2016. Documentation has been submitted to the National Portage Association in the hope that Gloucester Nursery School will be recognised for the work undertaken with children with special educational needs.

Attendance

The school is actively working to support families to attend regularly and punctually. For the past 2 terms, children who have 100% attendance have had their names printed in our termly newsletter. In order for children to learn and reach their full potential they need to attend school on a regular basis. Hopefully we can work together to improve our attendance rates.

The Staff

Julia and the team have worked really hard as usual to make the children's time at nursery as varied, stimulating and challenging as possible and to provide the very best learning environment for them. The Governors would like to thank all the staff; not only those working directly with the children, but also the office and administration staff and the cleaning staff, without whom the nursery would not run as smoothly as it does.

Julia and the Governors would like to say a "big thank you" to Rebecca Fitton, the nursery teacher. Rebecca will be taking up a new post as Foundation Stage Lead at Southend Infant School in Rushden in September. Governors would also like to wish Amanda Dobson "all the best" as she prepares for her new arrival to her family and embarks on maternity leave.

The Governors would also like to say “thank you and good luck” to Kelly Freak from G2 who is having a career change and will be taking up a new post as Administrative Assistant at All Saints Primary School in Wellingborough. Our new Nursery Teacher, Maria, will start working at the nursery in September.

The Governors

Although we may not always be visible, we are a small group of dedicated people working behind the scenes. We support and challenge Julia and her leadership team in the development of the nursery in areas such as the safeguarding and welfare of the children, teaching and learning and play provision and finances. If anyone is interested in joining the Governing Body, please do ask by talking to the office staff. We would like to say a ‘big thank you’ to Susan Boyd, our Parent Governor. She has supported the Governing Body for many years. We welcome Victoria Hinds to the Governing Body.

From September 2017, the Governors will be:

- Promoting the nursery i.e. places in G2 and G3.
- Thinking of ways the Parent Governors can support parent’s views at the Governors meetings.
- Continue to monitor the quality of teaching and learning, safeguarding and financial management of the nursery.
- Monitoring the Department of Education’s initiative of 30 hours of free entitlement. This will be offered at Gloucester Nursery School from September 2017 to families meeting the eligibility criteria.

The Nursery Budget April 2016 – March 2017

The nursery has an income budget – we estimated receiving £387,077 (funding from the County Council, income from additional sessions and other income received during the year), we also had a carry forward from the previous year of £81,161.

We received more income than estimated (£422,202) over the course of the year and spent £377,656 on salaries, £50,152 on premises costs and £30,042 on supplies and services. The balance to carry forward to 2017/18 is £69,638.

Moving on

This year we say goodbye to 73 of the children as they move into many different local Primary Schools. Their new teachers have been invited to the nursery to meet the children to make their transition as smooth as possible.

29 of the current year’s G3 children will remain with us for another year and 15 children from G2 will be moving up to G3. We do still have a limited number of places available for

September 2017, so if you know of any friends or family who might be interested in a place, please ask them to get in touch.

Thank you

Thank you for all your support with fundraising events over the year. The sponsored sing song raised £563.50 and we also raised and donated £53.24 for Children in Need and £188.13 for Macmillan.

Finally

We hope the children and their parents/carers will look back on this past year with many happy memories and will be very proud of what they have achieved. We wish you all the very best for the future.

The Governors

July 2017