



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. We were all delighted that the exceptional high quality of learning and teaching at Gloucester Nursery School was recognised by Ofsted for the 3rd consecutive time in February of this year.

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

“At Forest School I climbed the trees, I learnt how to make a campfire. We ate marshmallows.”

“At stay and play I liked going in the fire engine and in the police van.”

“We watched the chicks hatch out of the eggs. They were soft and tickled my hand.”

“When you use the saw you need to hold it with two hands. Don’t put it down because you can chop off your leg! We use drills and nails and hammers at nursery.”

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

Forest School	Allotment Visits	Stay and Plays
Chinese New Year	Easter Chicks	African Drumming
Christmas Magician	Grandparents Day	Atomic Tom
Zoolab	Fun Marathon	Fairy Garden Visit
Parent Skill Sharing – cooking, reading		

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. This makes a huge difference, so **thank you**.

2 Year Provision (G2)

Our 2 year provision is now 3 years old. 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. 2 children have Education, Health and Care Plans. 7 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. 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 and work is underway for validation in 2019.

Attendance

The school is actively working to support families to attend regularly and punctually. Over the academic year 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 we do strive to help them attend school on a regular basis. Hopefully we can work together to improve our attendance rates.

The Staff

As always, Julia and the team have worked exceptionally hard to make the children's time at nursery as varied, stimulating and challenging as possible and to provide the very best learning environment and opportunities 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 Emma Cox, the nursery teacher. Emma will be taking up a new post closer to home in September. Governors would also like to wish Helen O’Brien “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 Oksana Ababurko who is retiring after 19 years of working at Gloucester Nursery School! Our new Nursery Teacher, Judith Staff, will start working at the nursery in September. Some of you will remember her from when we were a Children’s Centre, she has worked in the nursery before and has been a member of our Governing Body for a number of years, so knows our setting very well.

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 have welcomed Jane Page, Jackie Ellis and Victoria Hinds to the Governing Body this year and expressed our thanks and said goodbye to Sowmya Sundar who has left as she has returned to India.

From September 2018, 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.

The Nursery Budget April 2017 – March 2018

The nursery has an income budget – we estimated receiving £398,340 (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 £69,638.

We received more income than estimated (£466,464.62) over the course of the year and spent £383,202.91 on salaries, £47,717.91 on premises costs and £31,868.51 on supplies and services. The balance to carry forward to 2018/19 is £87816.00, this will help to continue to provide the highest quality learning and teaching for the children during the next year.

Moving on

This year we say goodbye to 74 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.

1 of the current year's G3 children will remain with us for another year, 28 children from the Nurture Nest and 19 children from G2 will be moving up to G3. If you know of any friends or family who might be interested in a place for their 2 or 3 year old for the future, please ask them to get in touch.

Thank you

Thank you so much for all your support with fundraising events over the year. We raised and donated £205.85 for Macmillan, £66.00 for Children in Need and the sponsored Mini Marathon raised an enormous £1,082.90 for the defibrillator which will be coming to the nursery soon!

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:

Joy Hemingway – Chair
Sue Lane – Vice Chair
Julia Mann – Head Teacher
Jackie Ellis
Jane Page
Judith Staff
Kerry Wright
Lesley Pollard
Victoria Hinds

July 2018