

Gloucester Nursery School

Newsletter

February 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back – I hope everyone had an enjoyable week's break. This half term is quite short but busy. **Please see events below:**

- **7th March World Book Day:** Children can dress up as their favourite character from a book (if they want to). We would also welcome parents/carers to come into the nursery (G2, Nurture Nest and G3) to read stories to the children over the course of the week).
- **Tuesday 12th March: Stay and Play for children in G3 and their parents/carers.** Details to follow
- **25th March approximately 10 eggs will be delivered in an incubator** and over the fortnight all the children and parents will have the opportunity to watch their development.
- **Tuesday 26th March: Parents Consultations for children in the Nurture Nest and G3.** Details to follow. **Parents' consultations for G2** children will be arranged with each family Worker the week commencing **25th March.**
- **Monday 1st April:** Tickets will be on sale for an Easter Raffle. The draw for the raffle will be on **Thursday 4th April.** Funds raised will be used to purchase musical equipment including instruments.
- **Friday 5th April:** The nursery closes for Easter and reopens on **Tuesday 23rd April.**
- 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)

This term, the children will be involved in choosing and preparing the food and utensils needed for snack on a daily basis. Lots of playful and meaningful learning opportunities can be created when supporting the children to learn the snack routine which also increases their independence and self-help skills.

In March the children in G3 will be awaiting the arrival of eggs and an incubator. The children in G2 will be able to visit with their family worker and see the eggs progress. This is always an exciting time. The staff are already wondering what the children might know about eggs? I wonder if they can guess what might be inside?

World Book Day- Thursday 7th March. Are you and your child a member of your local library? Why not visit on World Book Day where you can join in the activities? To find out what's on visit the website www3.northampton.gov.uk. Please encourage your child to dress up for the day.

Parents and Children- Things to do together

Things to do to support your child's learning (G2)

- Let your child try to dress themselves e.g. putting on welly boots
- Let your child help get lunch ready by cutting the cheese or banana
- Let your child help around the house e.g. dusting, putting items in the bin, wiping a table
- Make playdough, can you and your child squeeze it, roll it, flatten it, roll it in-between two hands?
- Play guessing games placing items inside boxes or underneath material, with adults using language such, "What is inside?" and encouraging children to have a guess/use their senses to find out.

Children's Learning

Children in the Nurture Nest:

All the children in the Nurture Nest will have the opportunity to spend time in G3, the bigger nursery on Mondays and Fridays. This will help with their transition in September. This term, the children will be learning about growth, animals and the local community. They will be going to visit the library. Details will follow and we would appreciate any parent volunteers to help.

Children in the main nursery (G3):

All the children in G3 have or will enjoy taking part in the Forest School experience for 4 weeks at Hunsbury Park Primary School and also work with Piper, our artist.

To celebrate World Book Day, we are having a Books Under the Stars session on Thursday 7th March. We also will be having an exciting story session at 11.30am and 3.15pm. You are welcome to join us for this. We hope you can come to our Letters and Sounds Stay and Play session on Tuesday 12th March to find out what the children are learning about phonics. You are welcome to take your child after the session (see separate letter) if you wish. Lunch and tea clubs will run as normal.

Children in G2, Nurture Nest and G3:

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 see your child's Family Worker. Don't forget to come along to our practical phonic workshop later on in the term.

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. We are practising what conversations happen at a shop.

Numbers and Counting

We are counting EVERYTHING at Nursery!
Number of steps, claps, fallen leaves, candles on a cake. Look out for numbers all around us. What numbers can they see on houses? On their way to Nursery? On cars?

Lots of counting games and number rhymes are a great way to use numbers as well as counting objects. Count how many teddies on their beds or how many steps on the stairs.



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?

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 to write down the letter. Make sure we are trying to hold our pencil correctly.

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 let staff release the external doors in order to supervise who is coming into the school building.***
- 3. Only use mobile phones when you have left the school building***
- 4. Keep away from the children's toilets. Only staff are permitted in this area***
- 5. 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.

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

G2 and Nurture Nest children – Exploring the community G2 and Nurture Nest children will be out and about in the community over the next few weeks. See your child's Family Worker for more details.



World book day on 7th March for all children (G2, Nurture Nest and G3). Please can children bring their favourite story into nursery and also they can dress up as a character from a story if they wish.



Forest School for children in G3. Red Foxes:
4th, 11th, 18th and 25th March.



Stay and Play for G3 children and parents/carers Focus – Letters and Sounds (Phonics). Tuesday 12th March. More details to follow.

Nurture Nest and G3 Parents Consultations – 26th March 5pm – 7pm Meetings with Family Workers to discuss children's progress and next steps.

G2 Parents Consultations – From 25th March until 5th April Meetings will take place in the session with Family Workers to discuss children's progress and next steps.

The nursery closes for the Easter holidays at **4.30 pm on Friday 5th April and reopens on Tuesday, 23rd April.**

Happy Easter

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 - Riyad, Jaiden, Clara, Alexander, Beatrice, Lottie, Estelle, Darcie-Rae, Olly, Imaan, Olivia, Isla, Summer and Aiden

In Nurture Nest - Harper, Evan, Millie and Saham

In G3 - Ikhlas, Josiah, Annabelle, Erin, Sophie B, Sam, Jacob, Dominik, Kian, Mia, Hugo, Charlie, Sophie J, Archie, Lena, Lucy, Eva, Rose, Tilly, Freddie, Faolan, Ethan, Harrison, Joseph and Buster

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.



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.

Parent Helpers in the nursery:

We are always grateful for any help you can give us. If you would like to help regularly or occasionally, please come and have an informal chat with me. We hope to have one parent helping at every nursery session. A DBS form (was called CRB) needs to be completed beforehand.

Parent Readers Wanted!



We would welcome any parent who would like to come and read a story to the children in their home language. Maybe you are free on World Book Day, 7th March. Please liaise with your child's family worker if you are able to help.



In the unlikely event that the Nursery is closed (e.g severe weather conditions) the closure will be recorded on the nursery's website www.goucester-nursery-school.co.uk
Please do not phone the Nursery.

Governors:

Our next Governors meeting is on 6th March. If you want your views represented please have a word with Jane Page or Victoria Hinds McDowell (Parent Governors).

A big thank you to all the parents that have Helped in the nursery:

Tom, Sam's dad shared his carpentry skills; Jade, Jack's mother shared her hairdressing skills; Lucy's Pappy Lee talked about Chinese New Year; Hugo's Nana Janet involved the children in experiments; Priya, Sree's mummy cooked with some children



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

www.goucester-nursery-school.co.uk

Twitter account!

Don't forget to follow us on @GloucesterNurs1

