



Grace Neighbourhood Nursery

Spring Topic

Hello to all our Parent/Carers, we hope your Child/ren have now settled in Nursery and you are familiar with their Nursery routine.

This Spring, the Children will be learning about the following Festivals and Celebrations:

Chinese New Year—5th of February

Valentine's Day—14th of February

Pancake Day— 5th of March

World Book Day—7th of March

Mother's Day—31st of March

Easter—from the 19th of April.

They will be learning about different cultures, religion, reading different books associated with the festivals, mark making by making cards, measuring, cooking and tasting foods, role play (Chinese restaurant) and Nursery rhymes/songs.

Some of the books they will be reading are: Guess how much I love you, Dear Zoo, Monkey Puzzle and Three Little Pigs.

Tapestry

Your Child(ren's) learning journal is on Tapestry, we hope you have successfully logged in to view observations, you can also use it to write your own observations and upload any evidence of development. If you have no access to the online system because you don't have a smart phone, computer or tablet we will provide you with a paper assessment. **It is important that you use Tapestry for assessments and observations of Children's learning only. Please refer to your Parent Handbook or speak to Linda the Deputy Manager if you have any queries.**

30 hours Eligibility

All Parents who qualify for 30 hours (for child/ren who turned 3 before 31 March 2019) must confirm on the Childcare choices website

www.childcarechoices.gov.uk by the **28th February** to get your 11 digit eligibility code (starts with 5000 or 11) for next term April 2019. You must give us your eligibility code for verification to the local authority and sign a Parental Declaration and agreement not later than **29th of March 2019**. For others who are already on the scheme, you will need to re-confirm your eligibility every 3 months and give us the eligibility code again for verification. You can also contact HMRC on 0300 123 4097 if you have any problems with getting a code.

You can use the Childcare choice website to also apply for Tax - free Childcare if you don't pay fees with Childcare vouchers.

If this is your first time of applying for 30 hours, you have to inform us in writing before **28th of February** that you want to increase your hours as we may not have any vacancies or speak to the Manager if you have any other questions.

January 2019 Spring Term

Dates for your Diary

Holidays

☺ Half Term 18th -22nd of February.

☺ Book Week - 4th to 7th of March.

☺ Easter Holidays—Friday 8th April—Monday 22nd April Inclusive for term time only Children.

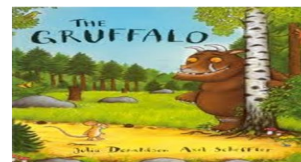
☺ 23/4/18 Summer term starts.

☺ Open Day—Saturday 11th May 10—1pm. You will have the opportunity to speak to your Child's Key Person. Time slots will be allocated nearer the time.

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Other information



Absence policy

At the very least, good attendance practice promotes good outcomes for children. Some benefits of good attendance are; securing relationships, building good habits, learning and developing self esteem.

The Nursery will record and monitor attendance of all Children to support the work of safeguarding young children and promote their learning and development. It is important you call the Nursery and give a reason why your child cannot attend on the day or if you are going to be late . We aim to work in partnership with our Parents and support you to make sure there are no barriers to your Child(ren) attending Nursery.

Female Week

Week Commencing 25th March 2019

Calling all Mums, Grandma's Aunties and Big Sisters!!!

Come and spend half an hour of your time to read a story in English or your native language, sing a song, Cooking, kick a ball or any sport, teach Children how to count in your language, play musical instruments, talk about your job or play with the children. Please speak to a member of staff to arrange a suitable time for you to come in or for more information on how you can participate.

Packed Lunches

To ensure consistency and to keep packed lunches in line with food standards for school meals, packed lunches should not contain the following:

Fizzy/Sugary drinks in cartons, bottles or cans, Chocolate coated products/sweets/confectionery
Chocolate spread as filling for sandwiches, Chewing gum, Sugared/toffee and salted popcorn, Crisps or any packed savoury snacks high in salt and fat, Nuts and Energy drinks.

It is the responsibility of the Parents/Carers to provide an appropriate labelled packed lunch container where food items can be stored securely and appropriately until the lunchtime period. Parents must provide an insulated bag for your child's packed lunch and clearly label their child's lunch box. All packed lunches must be handed over to a member of staff when your child comes in and not left on their pegs.

Your Child's packed lunch must have some fruit and a meal, we will provide water and or milk so you do not have to bring any drink.

If you have any questions, speak to Karen or Linda.

Forest School

There will be no Forest School this term, this is to ensure the ground is rested. Sessions will resume during the Summer term after the Easter holidays.

Clothing

Make sure you bring the right clothing in for your children and ensure they are labelled including all bags and Lunch box.

World Book Day

Thursday 7th of March 2019

Dress your child up in their favourite book character or bring their favourite book to read to other children anytime during Book Week from the 4th to the 8th of March 2019.

Reception Admissions

If you applied for a Reception place for your Child, you will receive the outcome from the Council on 16/04/19 by email or letter. Once you have accepted the offer inform Karen or Linda so we can arrange a smooth transition for your Child to their new School.

Top tips to help with your Child's learning.

Sing songs and nursery rhymes, read a book, Cook/bake together

Explore the park at different times of the year .

Visits to the supermarket and talk about different foods, fruits, shapes, numbers, money and sizes.

You can also visit the local Library with your child and register to borrow books.