



Summer Topic

Growing



Hello to all our Parent/Carers and children. Hope you are all keeping safe and you enjoyed your Easter break. The Government has announced free Lateral flow test for everyone to help detect the virus in people without symptoms. You can now collect a free pack locally where you live at specific times. We are still following our Covid risk assessment with Government guidance as we are not out of the woods yet. We hope this term will be more stable so we can help your children learn as they play in Nursery without any more interruptions.

The theme for the Summer term is "Growing". Children will be observing how seeds grow into plants, mini-beasts in their surroundings and recording their own physical growth.

The Children will be learning words to describe size and identify words in stories like huge, big, enormous, small and tiny to mention a few. They will be looking at different life cycles of some animals and observe the life cycle of a butterfly in the Nursery. Examples of role play activities this term are: Garden Centres, Shops, using cash registers, Zoos and Vets. Children will be using colour mixing to make self portraits and family tree painting. Some of the Nursery rhymes and songs they will be learning are **Once I Caught a Fish Alive, one potato two potato, 5 little peas, when I was one and there's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf.** They will use junk modelling to create their own animals, develop their gross motor skills by using brushes, chunky chinks and will be introduced to a range of body movements.

The following are suggestions you can do with your child (ren) to consolidate their learning about growing:

Resources you will need: height chart or tape measure, a plant pot or container to grow plants like empty yoghurt or any plastic cups, seeds, baby photos, family photos, smart phone or tablets, paper, ingredients for food, measuring jug/spoons/bowls/cups and a scale for weighing ingredients for cooking.

- Comparing baby photos and height at birth to the present
- Discuss new babies in the family (if appropriate) -can help to cope with jealousy.
- Photos of family groups to discuss stages of life
- Discuss about what they couldn't do as a baby and now—When I was a baby I now I.....
- Make own books of 'growing' stories
- Planting seeds in a pot and measure the height of the plant regularly
- Discussing what a plant needs to grow and how we grow
- Read books on growing like—The enormous Turnip, Jack and the bean stalk, the very hungry caterpillar, Alfie and the big boys to mention a few
- Baking - weighing and measuring ingredients.

**April 2021
Summer Term**

Dates for your Diary

- ☺ Summer term start date—19/04/21
- ☺ 03/05/21 and 31/05/21 Nursery closed to all.
- ☺ 31/05/21—04/06/21 Half Term for Term time only children.
- ☺ W/C 31/05/21 Parent meeting appointment with Keyperson.
- ☺ Male week 14/06/21—18/06/21.
- ☺ 23/07/21 End of term for term time only children.
- ☺ Graduation for School Leavers —TBC
- ☺ Summer Trip—31/08/21 (TBC)
- ☺ 01/09/21- 03/09/21 Staff training.

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Other information



Open Day

Our next open day is during the week commencing 31/05/21.

Nearer the time we will ask you to book a convenient time with your child's Key Person to discuss your child/ren's progress. However if you will not be available during the week, feel free to book a convenient time with your Child's key Person. It will be beneficial to check

your Child's journal on Tapestry before your appointment.

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.**

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.



Reception Admissions

If you applied for a Reception place for your Child, you would have received the outcome from the Council by email or letter. Once you have accepted the offer, inform Karen on 0208 310 0040 so we can arrange a smooth transition for your Child to their new School. You can also email kstephens@gracenursery.co.uk.

Deadline for lodging an appeal is on 14/05/21 in the Royal Borough of Greenwich and appeal hearings will be in June/ July 2021.

30 hours Eligibility

All Parents who qualify for 30 hours (for child/ren who turned 3 before 31 August 2021) should have confirmed on the Childcare choices website www.childcarechoices.gov.uk by the 31st of July 2021 to get your 11 digit eligibility code (starts with 5000 or 11) for next term September 2021 You should have given us your eligibility code for verification to the local authority and sign a Parental Declaration and agreement not later than 6th of August 2021. **For others who are already on the scheme, you will need to reconfirm 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.

Male Week

Week Commencing 14th June 2021

Calling all Dads, Grandpa's Uncles and Big brothers!!! We are celebrating Male week in a different way this year. Instead of you physically coming in, we ask you to record whatever you want to do virtually like reading a story in any language, sing a song, PE or keep fit for a couple of minutes, teach Children how to count in your language, play musical instruments, talk about your job or any other suggestions that will benefit the children. Please speak to a member of staff to get involved and email videos to

info@gracenursery.co.uk

Happy Father's Day to all Fathers on 20th of June 2021.



Forest School



Forest School resumes the week commencing 19th of April till the 12th of July. Ensure your Child brings in spare socks to change to after Forest School sessions and a pair of Wellies. We will text you when your Child (ren's) session starts.



Sun cream and spare clothes

As the weather changes your child will need Sun cream applied at different times of the day. Can you ensure you give your labelled Sun cream to a member of staff when you come in.

All Sun hats, spare clothes, lunch boxes, bags, coats and water bottles must be labelled.