



Grace Neighbourhood Nursery

Spring Topic

Hello and Happy New Year to all our Parent/Carers. We started the year with Staff training about legislation, early identification and graduated approach for additional needs. We also looked at how to increase positive attitudes in children through learning and play. This term, the Children will be learning about traditional tales and Authors. The two Authors that we will be concentrating on this term are Michael Rosen and David McKee. Little Rabbit Foo Foo by Michael Rosen is about behaviour and consequences that the children will learn from, Elmer books by David McKee will encourage children to mix colours, understand quantities, counting, extending ideas and turn taking to mention a few.

Some other books from the Authors above that we will be reading are: The little fly, Chocolate cake, Godilocks and the three crocodiles, Elmer's day, Elmer and the lost teddy and Elmer and the Hippo to mention a few. Examples of songs and rhymes with actions are Rain, rain go away, Five fat sausages cooking in a pan, Once I caught a fish alive and Ten green bottles hanging on the wall.

We will continue to practice hygiene routines- washing hands, blowing noses, putting on aprons and coats - turn taking, talking about their families and communities, storytelling, reading books and Nursery Rhymes.

Fees

The cost of living has increased considerably as you all know and we will be increasing the fees from April 2023. We are giving you enough time before the changes takes place and will email the new fees in the next couple of weeks.

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 questions.**

30 hours Eligibility

All Parents who qualify for 30 hours (for child/ren who turned 3 before 31 March 2023) must confirm on the Childcare choices website.

www.childcarechoices.gov.uk by the **17th of March 2023** to get your 11 digit eligibility code (starts with 5000 or 11) for next term April 2022. You must give us your eligibility code for verification to the local authority, sign a Parental Declaration and agreement form not later than **24th of March 2023**. 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.

If this is your first time of applying for 30 hours, you have to inform us in writing, before **6th of March 2023** 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 2023 Spring Term

Dates for your Diary

☺ 13/2/23 - 17/2/23

Half term for term time children.

☺ W/C 27/02/23 World Book Week.

☺ Female week W/C 13/3/23

☺ 03/4/23 - 14/4/23

Nursery closed for term time children only.

☺ (07/4/23 and 10/4/23 Nursery closed for Bank Holidays).

☺ 17/04/23 All Children resume.

☺ 01/05/23 and 08/05/23 Nursery closed to all.

☺ 29/05/23—02/06/23 Half Term for Term time only children.

☺ 05/06/23 Parent's meeting day.

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Absence policy

At the very least, good attendance practice promotes good outcomes for children. Some benefits of good attendance are; secure 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 13th of March 2023

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

We are celebrating Female week in a different way this year.

We want you to come in person or you have the option 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 or send your video to info@gracenursery.co.uk.

Happy Mothers Day to all mothers in advance on 19th of March 2023

Reception Admissions

The latest date that you can apply for a Reception place is 15/01/23.

You will receive the outcome from the Council about the place on 17/04/23 by email or letter.

Once you have accepted the offer, inform Karen or Linda so we can arrange a smooth transition for your Child(ren) to their new School.

Remember the deadline for accepting your offer of a School Place is 02/05/23 and appeal hearings will take place in June /July 2023.

World Book Day and Library visits.

World book day is on the 2nd of March and we will be celebrating Book week from the week commencing 27th of February 2023 (Monday till Friday).

Staff and children should dress up in their favourite book character for the week. We will be reading books with Children and acting out characters in their favourite books. Parents/Carers can send photos to Tapestry reading with your child or dressed up as a book character.

We will be taking children to the local library in Abbey Wood this term with your consent. Regular visits will enable children to develop the passion to be readers and have a book of their own. Just 10 minutes' daily shared reading will benefit your child's future.

Story sharing with children of all ages is great fun. It is also a positive experience for parents too as it boosts creativity/imagination, improves wellbeing and increases self-esteem.

A reminder that Children should come in with appropriate clothing e.g. coat, hat, scarves and gloves as they will still be playing outside. It is important to label all your child's clothing and bags as their peers have similar or same accessories.



TIP of the month

The best way to attach gloves to a child's jacket is to attach a string or cord to the gloves. You can do this with a yarn needle and some yarn. Next, thread the now stringed gloves through the arms of the jacket. This will allow the child to take the gloves off without worrying about losing them.

Parent's Meeting Day

Our next Parents meeting is on 05/06/23, the Nursery will be closed for term time children and we will contact you by phone to discuss your Child/ren's progress with the Key Person. Don't forget to book a slot between 10am—3pm. However if you cannot make this time, feel free to book a convenient time during the week with your Child's Key Person.

Advice for high levels of Flu and Scarlet Fever

Flu and coronavirus (COVID-19) are currently circulating at high levels and are likely to continue to increase in coming weeks. High numbers of scarlet fever, which is caused by group A streptococcus, also continue to be reported. Professor Susan Hopkins, Chief Medical Adviser at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), said: "If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from nursery until they feel better and the fever has resolved".

We will contact you or your emergency contacts when your child is unwell.

Remember that flu vaccination is still available for all eligible children and include those aged 2 and 3 on 31 August 2022.

