



Autumn Topic

Welcome to all parents/carers and children. We hope you enjoyed your summer holidays and are now ready for your children to settle back into the nursery routine. This autumn the children's focus topic will be "**All about me**". The children will learn about themselves, their hygiene, emotions and parts of the body. They will also get to know or re-familiarise themselves with staff and nursery routines.

The children will learn about their environment and how to be more eco friendly e.g. planting seeds, growing flowers/fruits, saving energy, reduce, reuse and recycling. We would like parents/carers to talk to children at home about the things they do to help their environment. We will also be having a Walk to School Day (Where parents/carers/staff and children are encouraged to walk or take public transport to nursery that day).

Throughout this term we will be celebrating several different festivals e.g. Christmas, Diwali, Remembrance Day, Bonfire/Guy Fawkes and Black History Month.

Children/parents and staff will be encouraged to join in with all celebration which could include dressing up, singing songs, reading stories, coming in to nursery and doing activities with the children.

Some of these terms books for Ladybirds /Butterflies (2 to 3 year olds) are —**I Want My Potty, The Colour monster and The Very Hungry Caterpillar**. These books will encourage children to use the potty and discover their emotion's and feelings as well as to teach them about the life cycle of Caterpillars and how animals grow.

Ladybirds (babies) books for the term are **Little bear little boat, The Green Line and 'Teeth are not for biting'**.

Tapestry

Your Children'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 (must confirm on the Childcare choices website. www.childcarechoices.gov.uk by the **11th of December** to get your 11 digit eligibility code (starts with 5000 or 11) for next term January 2027. You must give us your eligibility code for verification to the local authority and sign a Parental Declaration and agreement form not later than **12th of December 2026**. 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 **4th of December** 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.

September 2026 Autumn Term

Dates for your Diary

- ☺ 04/09/26 Nursery re-sumes
- ☺ W/C 19/10/26 Parents meeting with Key Person.
- ☺ W/C Black History events (fashion show, food tasting, storytelling)
- ☺ 26/10/26 — 30/10/26 Half term break, Nursery closed for term time only Children.
- ☺ 02/11/26 Nursery re-sumes.
- ☺ 21/12/26 Nursery closed for Christmas for term time only.
- ☺ 24th December last day for fee paying.
- ☺ 04/01/27 Staff training.
- ☺ 05/01/27 Nursery re-sumes for all children.

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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; 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.

Celebrations

We will be celebrating the following this year:

Black History week— W/C 19th of October Children will dress up in their cultural dress. Parents can come in or record stories or songs in their native tongue and email to info@gracenursery.co.uk. You can also send photos of the variety of ethnic cooked foods that you eat at home and clothes you wear on your Tapestry journal.

Diwali— W/C 6th November 2026.

Bonfire night 05/11/2026

Remembrance Sunday 08/11/26



Application for a Reception Place

If your child is due to start primary school in September 2027, you need to apply for a primary school place from the 1st of September. The deadline for applications is **15 January 2027**.

The link below will take you to the admission guide: [Primary schools admissions booklets \(pagesuite-professional.co.uk\)](https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/pages/primary-schools-admissions-booklets)

Click the link below to apply for a reception place:

<https://www.eadmissions.org.uk/>

The outcome for a school place will be out by **16/04/27**.

Ask Linda if you need help with your application process online.

Immunisations and Flu vaccine

Here is a list of immunisations your children should have and when.

8 weeks 6-in-1 vaccine Pneumococcal (PCV) Rotavirus Meningitis B

12 weeks 6-in-1 vaccine (2nd dose) Rotavirus (2nd dose)

16 weeks 6-in-1 vaccine (3rd dose) Pneumococcal (2nd dose) Meningitis B (2nd dose)

1 year Hib/Meningitis C MMR (1st dose) Pneumococcal (3rd dose) Meningitis B (3rd dose)

2 to 10 years old Flu vaccine (every year)

3 years and 4 months MMR (2nd dose) 4-in-1 pre-school booster

The nasal spray flu vaccine is free on the NHS for:

Children aged 2 or 3 years on 31 August 2026 – born between 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024.

If your child is aged between 6 months and 2 years and is in a high-risk group for flu, they'll be offered a flu vaccine injection instead of the nasal spray.

Climate Action Plan

The nursery is committed and aligns with the Department for Education's (DfE) sustainability and climate change strategy, which aims for all educational settings to have a sustainability lead and a climate action plan. We would like some of our parents to be involved and be part of this plan so we can aim to instill a culture of environmental responsibility in our nursery community.

Together we can ensure that sustainability becomes a core part of our daily operations and curriculum.

Please let Linda know if you are interested.

Parent's Meeting Day

Our next Parents meeting is the week commencing 19/10/26 up till 23/10/26. You can book a suitable time with your Child's Keyperson to discuss your Child/ren's progress. We can arrange a phone call, whatsapp, zoom or in person to do this. However if you cannot make that week, feel free to book a convenient time with your Child's Key Person.

Forest School

Forest School resumes the first week in October. All Children will attend in small groups over the year and the Forest School Leader will let you know when your Child's session is.

Your Child should bring in spare socks to change to after Forest School sessions and a pair of Wellies which can be stored in the Nursery during the period.

Can you help us with the following items?

The Nursery will be grateful if you can provide us with telephones you don't use, keyboards, cooking utensils, dressing up clothes, old stethoscopes, hard hats and materials of different textures.