

Welcome

Happy New Year, we hope you have all had a lovely Christmas. We are looking forward to continuing to develop our partnership with you over the coming weeks to support your child's education here at Griffin Nursery. We thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the children during our first term.

Session times

Morning session: **8:45am – 11:45am**

Afternoon session: **12:30pm – 3:30pm**

Please note: Nursery gate opens at 3:25pm to allow parents/carers to collect and make your way around to collect from other year group exits if required.

Reading books

We hope your child has enjoyed our bedtime reading scheme. It has been lovely to hear the children speak with enthusiasm about the books you have shared at home so far. Remember, you are welcome to change your child's book selection as often as you wish.

Please only bring your child's book bag if you require a book change.



PE kit

PE is on Monday. Please bring your child to school in their uniform. The school will be providing the PE kit which will be kept in school. Please provide black sandshoes or trainers. If your child wears tights, please also send a pair of socks.

Labelling of clothes

Please ensure that your child's name is written in **ALL** their clothing, including shoes, bags and packed lunch boxes so they can be returned to the correct child.

EYFS – Nursery Spring 1

Marvellous Me

Please continue to look out for messages from us on Marvellous Me. If you are not signed up to this yet, please inform the office who will be happy to set you up.

Clothing

Here at Griffin Nursery, we love to use our outdoor area whatever the weather! Please send a hat and gloves and a warm coat now that the weather is often wet and cold.

Please ensure you have provided a change of clothing (uniform), including pants and socks/tights.

Current Topic

The children will be spending this half term focussing on our topic 'Let's Celebrate!'.

The children will be introduced to Diwali through the book 'Peppa's Diwali' and enjoy lots of activities related to this. We will explore and discuss birthdays through the text 'Kipper's Birthday' and children's own experiences. We cannot wait!

Please turn over for more information on learning in Nursery over this half term.

Tapestry

We uploaded lots of fabulous observations of the nursery children during Autumn 1; it has been great to watch them grow and develop over the last seven weeks. If you have not accessed your child's Tapestry account yet, please let us know and we will be happy to help!

Footwear



With the ever-changing weather, please provide a pair of wellies with your child's name clearly labelled for outdoor play. Children are welcome to keep wellington boots at nursery to save you bringing them each day.

Your child must continue to come to school daily in their black school shoes. Velcro shoes are preferred.

For their safety, please do not send your child to Nursery wearing crocs or open-toe sandals.

Personal Social and Emotional Development

Your child will continue to develop new friendships and play with increasing confidence on their own or with other children.

They will continue learning to take turns sharing resources with their new friends.

Children will be increasingly able to talk about and manage their emotions in more elaborated ways such as "I'm sad because..." or "I love it when..."

They will select and use resources, with help when needed.

Understanding the World

Understanding the World is about how children get to know about other people, the place where they live and about all aspects of the environment.

Your child will talk about who is included in their family and the times they spend with them, including celebrations which are special to them. Children may start to notice differences and begin to ask questions.

Please send in a family photograph; we would love to display these in our home corner!

Physical Development

Throughout Griffin's Early Years environment there are lots of opportunities for your child to develop these skills.

Your child will have access to the outdoors come rain or shine meaning they can strengthen their core and develop skills such as climbing, balancing, riding and large mark making.

Inside children will develop their fine motor skills through opportunities such as tweezer activities, threading, manipulating play dough, drawing, writing and snipping.

Literacy

Throughout the environment we have lots of opportunities for your child to develop their literacy skills. Children will join in with rhymes and songs, copying sounds, rhythms, tunes and tempo. They will have lots of opportunities to access fiction and non-fiction texts both independently and with an adult.

You can help at home by singing children's favourite songs and nursery rhymes and by introducing them to new ones!

Also, sharing books and talking about the pictures and words on the page. Find lots of different places to read books around your home e.g. build a den to read in!

Autumn 2 – Nursery

Reading

At Griffin, we LOVE reading!

We have daily story sessions in nursery. We strive to create a love of reading amongst our children.

Throughout the setting, there is a wide range of texts, both fiction and non-fiction for them to enjoy.

Don't forget to take advantage of our bedtime reading stories!

Daily phonics sessions take place which teach children the skills that they need to enable them to read and write later on.

Expressive Arts and Design

The development of children's artistic and cultural awareness supports their creativity and imagination. Your child will have lots of opportunities to engage with the arts through playing and exploring with a wide range of media and materials.

Children will enjoy moving and dancing to music and will be able to express their ideas and feelings through making marks, often giving meanings to those marks.

They will develop their pretend play, using objects to represent their ideas.

Communication and Language

Communication and language is threaded throughout all other areas of learning. In partnership with parents/carers, we will provide lots of opportunities to support your child in their development. Children will listen to simple stories and understand what is happening with the use of pictures. They will understand simple questions about 'who', 'what' and 'where' and begin to use a wider range of vocabulary. You can help at home by engaging children in conversations and through asking them questions.

Mathematics

In maths we will continue to look at the numbers 1-5 to start with and being able to find 5 objects for example. The children will begin to compare amounts using language such as 'lots', 'more' or 'same'. Children will build with a range of resources and will begin to compare sizes, weights etc using language including 'bigger/little/smaller', 'high/low', 'tall', 'heavy'.

You can help at home by continuing to sing counting songs and rhymes and by using the language of size and weight in everyday contexts.