

Welcome

We hope you have all had a lovely summer. We look forward to forming a partnership with you over the year to support your child's education here at Griffin Nursery. We have enjoyed welcoming and getting to know the children and look forward to our learning adventures together.

Reading books

This half term, your child will receive a book bag. Each week, your child can choose a book from our books for sharing selection. This is for you to read and share with your child. Your child may keep their book for as little or long as they would like, but we recommend changing it weekly.

Please encourage your child to engage with the book more than once. It would be great if your child hears the story read to them lots, so they can begin to remember the events and retell the story themselves!

Important: Bookbags should stay at home until a book change is required.

Listening and talking to your child is of vital importance. As part of everyday activities, talk to your child, explaining what you are doing. Listening and talking are the building blocks for reading and writing, and exposing children to conversation as well as books, is essential. The more language your child is exposed to, the more they will understand and use for themselves.

PE kit

PE in Nursery is on a Monday morning.

Please bring your child to school in their uniform. Please provide black sandshoes or trainers. If your child wears tights, please also send a pair of socks. You may wish to send a zip up jacket if the weather is chilly.



Keeping in touch

We use Tapestry to share your child's learning with you so you can see all the fun they are having at Nursery. You can even add your own observations so we can share in their experiences at home. Let us know if you haven't got access yet and we can sort this for you.

If you have any concerns or queries, please always approach us to discuss these or arrange a meeting. We are always happy to help in any way we can.

EYFS - Nursery Autumn 1

The Nursery day

8:40am - Nursery gates open

3:20-3:30pm – Pupils can be picked up between these times. (Children can be picked up early on a Thursday between 1:35-1:45pm if you wish. This is not compulsory. Please let Nursery staff know on the gate if you will be picking up early.)

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.



The EYFS team

Assistant Head and Phase Leader

Mrs Smith: louise.smith2@vennacademy.org

Nursery team

Mrs Walker: jade.walker@vennacademy.org

Mrs Connolly: hannah.connolly@vennacademy.org

Mrs Millington

Miss Birch

Mrs Gawthorpe

Personal Social and Emotional Development

Your child will be making new friends and learning our classroom routines and where everything goes in their new environment.

They will be learning how to be a good Griffin citizen and sharing resources with their new friends.

They will be getting to know the adults that will be working in the areas as well as developing confidence in speaking to others. They will also be learning to show us what they are proud of.

Understanding the World

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

We will be concentrating on your child's family and their family routines.

Your child will talk about who is included in their family and the times they spend with them.

Physical Development

Throughout Griffin's Early Years environment there are lots of opportunities for your child to develop physical development 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 mark make, both indoors and outdoors. We will also be looking at the 'pre-writing' skills your child needs by using shallow sand, buckets, water and large chalks on the floor. We will be talking and mark making about ourselves, our likes and dislikes and our families.

Phase 1 of Letters and Sounds concentrates on developing children's speaking and listening skills and lays the foundations for the phonic work which starts in Phase 2.

Typical activities for teaching Phase 1 phonics include 'listening' walks, playing and identifying instruments, action songs, learning rhymes and playing games like I Spy.

Autumn 1 – Nursery

How to help at home

- Read together as often as possible.
- Sing nursery rhymes.
- Use scissors and dough to build hand strength.
- Talk with your child and expect them to listen to your responses and engage with what you say.
- Look at the world around them and explore the weather, plants and insects.
- Draw and paint together. Get messy and creative!

Expressive Arts and Design

Your child will be able to paint, draw, mix colours, create models, sing nursery rhymes and songs and explore different musical instruments.

The sand and water areas are always a popular choice with lots of resources to enhance play and learning. Our 'home corner' is the perfect place for your child to be imaginative. They can pretend to make dinner, write shopping lists, put the washing on and read magazines with their friends!

Communication and Language

As your child settles in, they will have lots of opportunities to talk to their friends and staff. Your child will take part in circle times which allows them the time to give their opinion and explain their thoughts. We will introduce new words and discuss their meaning through discussions, stories and as part of the theme.

You can help at home by asking them about their day and the things it is they have been doing.

Mathematics

In maths we will identify, name and sort different colours. We will focus on the number 1; finding out 'what is one?' and ask 'what is how many?' We will look for the simple 2d shape, circle, in our environment. The children will enjoy listening to and learning lots of counting songs such as 'Five Little Monkeys'.

You can help at home by singing songs like "1,2,3,4,5 once I caught..." Whilst out and about you can be spotting numbers in shops, on buses, in books for example. At home, you could count each step as you walk up the stairs!