

Welcome

It is the start of a new term at Griffin Nursery and we are delighted to be back! We hope you, your family and your friends had a wonderful time together during the Christmas break. This half term, we are very excited to be welcoming some new friends and families to our Nursery.

Reminders

Handover

At the start of your child's session, please line up along the wooden fence next to the Nursery outdoor area. Handover must take place when you are at the front of the queue, at the wooden gate; once the staff member on the gate has greeted you and your child, your child will enter the Nursery independently. When inside, another member of the team will support your child with any needs such as hanging coats and bags up or handwashing.

If your child is staying for a full day session please let the member of staff know if your child would like a hot meal, deli meal or if they have a packed lunch.

Parent platforms

At Griffin Nursery, we endeavour to have lots of engagement with our families! We use Parent Mail, Marvellous Me and Tapestry to send messages, reminders and observations. If you do not have access to any of these, please let a member of the Nursery team know and we will get this sorted for you.

Theme

The theme in Nursery this half term is 'Bears Around the World'. Our key focus texts are:

- **Fiction** – Goldilocks and the Three Bears
- **Non-fiction** – A Book of Bears: At Home with Bears Around the World by Kate Vickers

We will also be sharing lots of other traditional tales, including: The Three Little Pigs, Three Billy Goats Gruff, plus many more!

EYFS - Nursery Spring 1 2022

The Nursery day

8:45am - Morning session begins

11:45pm - Morning session ends

12:30pm - Afternoon session begins

3:20-3:30pm - End of day. Children must be collected between these times.

On a Thursday, children can be collected early 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.

Reading books



We hope you and your child continue to enjoy the books for sharing selections at home. 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 of times, so they can begin to remember the events and retell the story themselves!

Remember, your child may keep their book for as little or long as they would like, but we recommend changing it weekly. Bookbags should be returned when a book change is required.

Labelling of clothes

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

Please note: If your child brings a water bottle to Nursery, this must contain water, not juice.

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

<p><u>Personal Social and Emotional Development</u></p> <p>In Nursery this half term we will welcome lots of new friends into our setting.</p> <p>The children, both current and new, will continue to develop friendships and they will be increasingly able to talk about and manage their emotions.</p> <p>Following on from the autumn term, the children will be able to increasingly follow the routines and rules of the Nursery and develop a good understanding of why they are important. The children will support our new friends in learning the routines and expectations of the setting.</p> <p>In circle times, the children will discuss their dreams and goals. At home, you could talk to your child about their dreams and goals; ask them what they would like to be when they grow up and why.</p>	<p><u>Understanding the World</u></p> <p>As part of their learning in this area, the children will enjoy listening to stories with fictional characters and will engage in discussions about them.</p> <p>We will use the stories we share to observe and explain features of other homes and talk about how life may be different for other children.</p> <p>As well as this, the children will begin to explore how things work and will even discover forces (pushes and pulls).</p> <p>At home, you could go on a push and pull hunt! Look out for household items which can be pushed, pulled or both! Why not take some photographs of your findings and upload them to Tapestry?</p>	<p><u>Physical Development</u></p> <p>Within the Nursery, children will have daily opportunities to develop manipulation and control, explore different materials and use tools e.g. clay, brushes, pencils and dough.</p> <p>The children will also enjoy clapping and stamping to music and will take part in lots of action songs with various movements. This will help to develop their upper body strength.</p> <p>Outdoors, the children will continue to develop their gross motor skills through playing games such as throwing and catching or by climbing on apparatus.</p> <p>Practising both gross and fine motor skills and developing upper body strength is essential in helping your child to develop the skills they will need to become a writer later on.</p>	<p><u>Literacy</u></p> <p>Throughout the environment we will continue to have lots of opportunities for your child to mark make, both indoors and outdoors. Each day, your child will practise writing their name, starting with the first letter and moving on to the next letter when they are ready.</p> <p>To further support your child, why not practise name writing at home too? Remember to add photographs to Tapestry; we would love to see their hard work!</p> <p>Some of the Phase 1 Phonics activities we will enjoy this half term focus on developing our skills in rhythm and rhyme, alliteration, voice sounds and body percussion. 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.</p>
<p>Spring 1 – Nursery</p>			
<p><u>How to help at home</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read together as often as possible; daily if you are able to. • Sing nursery rhymes, counting songs and action songs regularly. • 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. • Ask your child questions. • Look at the world around them and explore the weather, plants and insects. • Draw and paint together. Get messy and creative! • Practise writing their first name. 	<p><u>Expressive Arts and Design</u></p> <p>The children will enjoy using paints and will be able to name all of the colours they use. They will begin to draw things they observe and tell their friends or an adult what they have drawn.</p> <p>The children will continue to enjoy listening to music and will sing together in a small group. They will explore a variety of musical instruments and begin to name them.</p> <p>Children will continue to engage in small world, imaginative play with the vehicles, train tracks, puppets and people figures.</p>	<p><u>Communication and Language</u></p> <p>Your child will enjoy listening to longer stories and will understand what is happening with the help of pictures.</p> <p>We will continue to develop and extend vocabulary, with a focus on words for function, for example, knows a sponge is for washing.</p> <p>Children will develop their imaginative, pretend play; 'driving to the shops' or 'putting baby bear to bed'.</p>	<p><u>Mathematics</u></p> <p>In Maths we will focus on the number three; finding out 'what is three?' and understanding that three is the number after two (one more than). The children will begin to represent three in different ways and know that two is one less than three.</p> <p>The children will also explore 2d shape, with a focus on triangles. They will begin to name a triangle when shown and use triangles appropriately in their pictures and models. Children will learn that triangles have three corners and three sides.</p> <p>The children will also enjoy sorting into groups and will later explore length and height, ordering three items.</p>

