

Gamesley Early Excellence Centre

Nursery School

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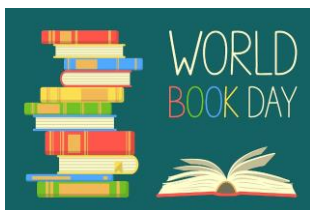


27th February 2023

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

We hope that you've had a lovely week with your little people.

Below you will find further information about what is happening at Nursery:



World Book Day- Thursday 2nd March

As per the letter we sent before half term, children are invited to come in dressed up as a character they can talk about and ideally bring in their favourite book with their name in it.

Also don't forget to upload onto Tapestry photos of you and your child reading together, for our Book Reading Challenge- there will be prizes!



Funathon- Thursday 23rd March

Building on the success of last year's Funathon we will be holding this event again, in Nursery on Thursday 23rd March. You will shortly be receiving a sponsor form so that your child can collect sponsors to raise much needed funds for Nursery. The money raised last year has helped to subsidise trips out and bought new waterproofs and coats for outdoor provision.



Baking and Maths session- Wednesday 15th March

Fleur, from Derbyshire County Council's Family Learning Team, will be running a baking and maths session on Wednesday 15th March from 9-11am a £10 Love to shop voucher will be given. If you would like to attend, please let Beth or Hannah in the office know as places are limited due to needing cooking equipment.



The Toy Library

It has been great to see a number of you using the Toy Library with your children, however we would like even more families to make use of this, including children who live on the estate but aren't attending Nursery yet. Toy Library runs from the small hall in the Geoffrey Allen Centre from 11am-1pm every Friday. To borrow a toy, just bring your child along, choose a toy together to borrow and return it the next week. The aim of borrowing the toys is to support your child's early play skills, by you supporting their play, you will make such a difference to your child's development.



Red Nose Day

On Friday 17th March it is Red Nose Day. This year the theme is Mr Men and Little Miss. Therefore, if your child would like to dress up as one of the Mr Men or Little Misses they are very welcome to do so. We will be collecting any donations on the doors. We will be talking with the children on the day about the work that Comic Relief carries out with the monies raised.



G52 Parent & Toddler Group

Don't forget G52 run a Parent and Toddler Group from 9:00-10:30am every Tuesday in the Geoffrey Allen Centre.



Reading

Thank you to those of you who are reading regularly at home with your children- it makes a huge difference to their progress. Children who share books know more words and a large vocabulary at the age of five is an indicator of success in life- so please keep reading with your children! It is always great to hear how some of you are watching the Book of the Week together with your child at home and supporting our teaching at Nursery at home.



Bookbags

Please ensure that your child brings their bookbag to Nursery every day so that they don't miss out on bringing a book home after their weekly reading session. Books only go home in bookbags to keep them safe. Thank you for the comments you make in your child's reading record books, they help us know how your child is engaging with reading at home.



Family Support Worker

Many of you know Hannah our Family Support Worker. Hannah is available to offer help with any problems you may be experiencing- being a parent is a hard job and we all have difficulties from time to time. If you do need any help you can contact Hannah by phoning Nursery or emailing h.forde@gamesleyeec.derbyshire.sch.uk



Parent App

Thank you to all of you have downloaded the Parent App- PA Connect. Hopefully you are finding it useful in holding all the information linked to Nursery in one place. You can also use the app to report your child's absence from Nursery. If you need help with the app, please do not hesitate in speaking with Beth in the office.



Parent Pay

Please can I remind you that all meals, snacks and daycare should be paid for in advance. This means you should put the total amounts on for the week **before** the Monday morning.



Birthdays in Nursery

Please can I remind you that we cannot give out sweets on the children's birthdays. Since September 2021, the curriculum for the Early Years Foundation Stage now incorporates dental hygiene and as part of this we cannot be promoting the regular eating of sweets.



Attendance and Punctuality

Thank you so much for ensuring that your children's attendance at Nursery is good. It really makes a difference to their progress when they attend every session. We appreciate it when you let us know if your child cannot attend Nursery and thank you to those of you who are using the Parent App for this.

Please ensure that you drop your children and collect them on time. Lateness causes issues for the children and staff as it is unsettling and means routines are disturbed.

Safeguarding



SAFEGUARDING

As you are aware at the Nursery we are committed to safeguarding all children and families. Please keep us informed of any changes at home, so that we can best support your children.

Last term we highlighted the risks around online safety on Internet Safety Day, but please can we remind you of the importance of keeping your children safe online. As parents it is important to monitor your child's use of technology to ensure they stay safe.



Spare clothes

Please could you ensure that your child has a set of spare labelled clothes (including socks) at Nursery, ideally these will be kept in a drawstring bag.



Phone numbers

Please ensure we have up to date contact numbers for yourself and your emergency contacts. This is something you will soon be able to keep up to date yourself using the ParentApp.



School Dates

Below are the dates that we currently have for you:

Date	
Monday 27 th February	Return to Nursery Meet and Greet for children starting Nursery after Easter
Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day
Friday 17 th March	Red Nose Day
Thursday 23 rd March	Funathon
Friday 31 st March	Break up for Easter
Monday 17 th April	Inset day and transition visits
Tuesday 18 th April	Nursery reopens to all children

New dates will be to the PA Connect app calendar as they are arranged.

As always if you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us; your child's key person in the first instance.

With kind regards,

Anna Portman

Headteacher

