

Grove Road Primary School



14th September 2016

Welcome

Dear Parent/Carer,

A very big warm welcome to Grove Road Nursery! We are very excited that you have decided to join us here at Grove Road. The children have settled in very well.

The nursery team consists of myself Miss Holland, (the Nursery teacher) as well as Mrs Dunham, Mrs Thomas and Mrs Cox. If you haven't already done so please come in and introduce yourselves, we promise we aren't scary!

Within the nursery foyer you will find a parent information board. This conveys any information relevant to parents and regularly changes, so please come in and take a look around.

Key worker groups

As you will have already noticed from the parent information board, Nursery has 4 colour groups each with an allocated Key Worker. Your child will have been placed into one of these groups to allow them to settle in and feel comfortable within the environment. Pupils will be able to participate in adult-led activities with their Key Worker as well as being given the opportunity to work with and get to know all the nursery team. If you wish to share any information pertaining to your child, regardless of how small, please inform any member of the nursery team.

With regard to pupil collection, if your child is to be collected by someone other than yourself or by someone we have not met before you must inform a member of the nursery team. Please give us a password for the person collecting to say to us. We will not let your child leave the building if we are not aware of the adult collecting your child. If your child is collected by a childminder, please ensure this has been given in writing to a member of the nursery team, the office or to Sharon Wheeler, our Nursery administrator.

Routine

Each child has been allocated a peg in the nursery entrance. We encourage parents to leave coats and a change of clothing on your child's peg (please ensure that all clothing and shoes are labelled as we cannot be responsible for any clothing not appropriately labelled). Your child will also have an allocated shoe area. We encourage pupils to sit down and change their shoes to help them become familiar with their indoor and outdoor shoe routine whilst also promoting independence. The team will work to support your child become more independent when changing their shoes and also when toileting. If you have any questions about how to help your child be more independent in these areas at home please do not hesitate to ask. Book bags are to be placed in the colour-coded book bag boxes according to your child's Key Worker group. Below the book bag area is also a box where pupils will place any work they would like to take home and the bottom drawer contains any letters to go home. Letters will be individually labelled with your child's initials. Although we do our best to let you know when there are letters to be collected, we do encourage you to check the drawer regularly.

Please remember a water bottle to put on the shelf for your child to access in the day.

Busy Fingers

Both morning and afternoon sessions begin with a Busy Fingers session. The morning session is between 8.30am and 9.00am and if you get the chance we love to see you as much as the children participating in Busy Fingers. We ask that children stay in the classroom for busy fingers. They can explore the set up activities outside within their 'Choosing and Learning' time. The children take great pride in showing you their Nursery and what they are doing. Nursery doors close at 9.00am, so please try to be in by then. It is at this point that we say goodbye to the Mummies and Daddies and shake our tambourine ready to start our exciting day. Afternoon Busy Fingers takes place from 12:30 to 1:00.

PE Days

PE takes place on a Monday afternoon and Friday Morning. During PE we have the opportunity to go to the KS1 hall. Whilst we do not ask pupils to bring in a change of clothes we do ask them to remove their socks and shoes. It would be helpful if girls do not wear tights on these days. Our PE sessions can be quite active and regularly include the chance to use the apparatus. For this reason we ask that pupils wear clothing that allows them to move freely. Where possible please avoid tights, skirts, and hooded tops/jumpers, although we appreciate this is not always possible - particularly in the winter months.

Topic

Our topic for the autumn term is 'All About Me.' In accordance with the EYFS framework we cannot provide specific details about what we cover in advance as we alter our activities according to pupil interest. For example; pupils this week expressed an interest in exploring the 'Home Corner'. We therefore will begin to learn about the different homes we live and our families.

To keep you informed about what we are doing at nursery, we have a curriculum board which includes key dates this term as well as information provided by pupils that is of interest to them. We will place these onto the board for you to see how we incorporate pupil interests into our topic. You are always welcome to come in and have a look at this, as well as at the learning wall which conveys completed pupil work.

Wow Board

On entering the nursery (to the left) we have a 'Wow Moments' board. Our 'Wow Moments' board is an opportunity for you to complete one of the star forms when your child has done something that they, or you are particularly proud of. When the star form has been completed, please return it to a member of the Nursery staff and we will put it in our 'super star' sky for everyone to see. If you have any evidence such as a drawing or photograph we would love to place these on the board too. These are then added to their Learning Journals.

Some polite reminders

We understand that throughout the year there will be lots of birthdays to celebrate. Please can we ask parents to give invitations to the parents of the children invited.

We politely ask that children's toys are left at home (comforters can stay in bags for when they're needed). We will have a time in the Summer term when children can start 'Show and Tell' related to our topic.

On a final note, we are always after cardboard boxes (the larger the better as the children will tell you they make excellent hiding places) and newspaper for our junk modelling area. Any donations are always gratefully received.

I would like to take this opportunity to again welcome you to Grove Road Nursery and remind you that our door is always open - no query or question is too small. We look forward to working with you over this academic year to give your children the best possible start in their school life.

Yours sincerely, Miss Holland