



October Newsletter

Dear Families,

Autumn is now certainly upon us and we are appreciating the beautiful autumn colours in nursery through the different play opportunities that are available for the children. Whether it's the colour of the paints we have out or exploring leaves on the light box as well as lots of leaf collecting in the garden and harvesting the last of the produce that was grown over the summer.

Our Harvest celebration day was a great success. All of the children enjoyed the apple pressing and everyone who tried it thought the apple juice tasted delicious. There are some photographs up in the nursery for you to see as well as some on the website.

Best Wishes

Lisa Fern

Headteacher

FOR INFORMATION

Congratulations- to Chelsea who has completed L2 of her apprenticeship. We are all delighted for her. She starts her L3 in January, so good luck with that.

Also, well done to Becky, our Cook who regained a 5 star kitchen rating after a spot inspection last month.

Forest Fridays- have been a great success. We are pleased that the majority of the children are bringing in appropriate clothing for this. Each Key group has a different coloured bucket in the cloak areas now where wellies should be kept. This is to help the children to be independent in getting ready for outdoor learning. We also strongly recommend each child has waterproof trousers and coats. Some parents have told me that Decathlon have some very affordable items in stock at the moment; <https://www.decathlon.co.uk/Buy/waterproof+clothing+for+kids>

As part of our Forest Fridays we are opening up the woods to allow children the opportunity for sustained play and Fiona has brilliantly set up a small kitchen area and roleplay that the children have been enjoying.

We are also very excited that Annie Davy is also joining us on Fridays. She is carrying out a project called 'A sense of Place' and she has successfully been awarded lottery funding for this project to run. Annie and Fiona will be using this to support our Forest Fridays, taking all of the children out on local walks to Hogacre and Grandpont nature reserve. Overtime this will include the U3's children as well as offering an opportunity to some parents to engage in the project. Please see the press release that is on a news article on our website-

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http://www.grandpontnurseryschool.co.uk/website/press_release/309164

Website- Have you seen our new website? <http://www.grandpontnurseryschool.co.uk>

Please consider this one of our main forms of communication. Newsletters and recent news items will be included as well as information about the nursery school, the U3's and wrap around provision, SOFR and our PTA-Friends of Grandpont (FOG). The calendar will be kept up to date and there is lots of other information that can also be found. Please mark the site in your favourites!

Facebook- Please like and follow our Facebook page. I will use it for reminders and information. You can find us here; <https://www.facebook.com/grandpontnursery/>

Children in Need- we will be joining in with Children in Need fun on **Friday 17th November**. On this day children are welcome to come into nursery wearing spots, crazy hair or backwards clothing and make a small donation to children in need for the privilege of doing so! There will be a giant Pudsey in the entrance hall where we will be collecting coins to cover him (old, round pounds are also accepted). Leanne from the U3's team is also organising a cake sale on this day so any cake donations to Leanne would be gratefully received.

FOR ACTION

Absences- As I mentioned in the last newsletter we are working on reducing the absence rates of children who attend the Nursery School at Grandpont. If your child will not be attending their sessions at Nursery, for whatever reason then it is imperative that you let us know before the session starts. You can do this by;

- Calling us- 01865 242900
- Emailing us- office.1010@grandpont-nurs.oxon.sch.uk
- Or sending in a written note.

As from 30th October we will be calling any parents of children who have not arrived at nursery and who we have not heard from.

Boxes and packaging for our DT area- we are running out of things for our children to use for their creations. Cereal boxes, tubes, egg boxes etc would be gratefully received please!

COMMUNITY NEWS

South Oxford Family Room- have a tab on our website- <http://www.grandpontnurseryschool.co.uk/website/sofr/290567> and also have an active Facebook page <https://en-gb.facebook.com/SouthOxfordFamilyRoom> where you can find out what is happening.

We are especially looking forward to their '**In the Light Garden**' event aimed at younger children and proposed for Saturday 4th November 5-7p.m, tickets @ £5 per family. All kinds of lights, tunnels and things that glow-in-the dark, plus the fire pit!

South Oxford Adventure Playground (SOAP): South Oxford Adventure Playground (SOAP) is looking for a part-time volunteer treasurer to start within the next 6 months or as soon as possible. Book keeping skills required; knowledge of SAGE payroll desirable; should live locally. SOAP is a charity and popular adventure playground located just behind Grandpont Nursery, off White House Rd. Managed by a Committee of local volunteers, it provides inclusive, free, after

school and holiday play sessions. We promote outdoor active, inclusive play with an element of risk and adventure. Please contact hiresoap@gmail.com for more detail if you are interested in investing your time and skills to help SOAP flourish.

Fireworks 2017 - Planning for this year's South Oxford Adventure Playground (SOAP)/Lake Street Playgroup Fireworks extravaganza is well under way. It will be on Sunday 5th November at SOAP and we aim to sell 750 tickets. We need volunteers to help us run it safely. If you can help to set up before the event; with stewarding on the night; or clearing up after the event please contact Megan at hiresoap@gmail.com. Full training/briefing provided. Profits from the event are split 50/50 between SOAP and Playgroup.

Diary Dates-

	<p>October 4th Centre tours for new families 23rd Half term week-Nursery School closed, Mulberry Room open</p>
<p>November 3rd- Blossom Room-Under 3's Soup and Sparklers 4th SOFR 'In the Light Garden' 17th Children in need. Can we cover Pudsey with coins?</p>	<p>December 6th Centre tours 19th Break up for Christmas- school closes at 1:15pm. There is no PM session.</p>

Dates may change and be added from time to time.