



September Newsletter, 2018

Dear Families,

A very warm welcome to our new families joining us at Grandpont this term and a welcome back to those who were with us before the summer. I have enjoyed hearing your stories from your summer adventures. Our new children have now settled in the main and we are enjoying getting to know each one. They are an amazing group and we are looking forward to an exciting year ahead.

I will be emailing out a monthly newsletter for you to read and you can also access this letter from our website, so keep up to date with what we are doing. Chelsea also emails out other various community events and information for you from time to time.

Please come along to our Family BBQ next Friday. It would be great to see you there.

Best Wishes

Lisa Fern

Headteacher

Message from Blossom Room

Firstly a big welcome back to everyone! We hope you all had a good summer?

We have had a few staffing changes during the summer break.

Chloe left at the end of August to return to working with older children in her previous setting, and we would like to wish her well in her new role.

Katharina will be leaving mid-September to take on another post and we would like to wish her well in her new job.

Priya has left to begin her teacher training. She will be greatly missed by all the staff and children! We wish her well in her new adventure.

We currently have a new temporary member of staff, Tracy Perkin, who used to work here at Grandpont a few years ago. She is a qualified teacher and is very experienced and we are very lucky to have her back here with us for a few months. Zahra will also be starting with us as bank staff this week but will soon become a familiar face to the children and families.

Routines in Blossom Room- With the new term starting, we are trying out a new routine for the children, which is to have special times with their key person (or buddy) throughout the day; starting at 9.50am. It is therefore extremely important to arrive promptly with your child for their session, otherwise it means they are missing out on their these times which includes lovely learning opportunities and experiences, as well time spent playing with their friends and building relationships. It can also be very disruptive for the other children if we have to keep stopping to answer the door.

We understand that there may sometimes be a reason why you are late arriving, in which case please do let us know, but prompt attendance is invaluable for your child’s learning and wellbeing.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to talk to your child’s key person, or if they are not available, come and chat with us.

Thank you; **Sam or Lynne**

Nursery School Daily Routines

Following on from Lynne and Sam’s message, it is also important for the children in the Nursery School to also arrive promptly for the start of the sessions so that we can run smooth and successful group times that include all of the children. As mentioned above, late arrivals can mean the children are missing out on their these special times which includes valuable learning opportunities and experiences, as well time spent playing with their friends and building relationships. It can also be very disruptive for the other children if we have to keep stopping to welcome a new arrival into the group..

We also understand that there may sometimes be a reason why you are late arriving, in which case please do let us know, but prompt attendance is invaluable for your child’s learning and wellbeing.

Here is a reminder of the daily routine and times;

9.00AM	Door is open. Children go to their Key person for welcomes for the start of the day.
9.15AM	Group time starts- We ask that parents have said their goodbyes by this time.
9.40-45AM	Time to choose
11.30AM	Tidy up
11.45AM	Get ready for lunch
12.00Noon	Lunch and Home time for morning children (door open for pick up from 11.50)
12.30PM	Garden time
1.00PM	Relax time

1.15PM	Time to choose
3.00PM	Tidy up
3.15-3.30PM	Home time

If you arrive after 9.15AM then please let the office staff know so that your child's attendance can be recorded.

If you need to collect your child early, please also ensure that you fill in the early collection book so that we know your child is no longer on the premises. This is crucial for H&S procedures.

For Action

Waterproofs and wellies- Please ensure your child has a pair of NAMED wellies and a jacket at nursery for when we go outside to play. These can be left with us, so your child is ready to play outdoors.

Named clothing- Please ensure all of your child's clothing is named to ensure a safe return if it comes off during the session.

Website- don't forget there is lots of useful information on our website, including dates and various news items. Please also follow our Grandpont Facebook Page @grandpontnursery and follow us on Twitter @1010grandpont.

Friends of Grandpont (FOG)

FOG is a group of people from the community who are willing and keen to help us to organise some fun events and raise some extra cash for Grandpont- we are looking for new parents to support us and join this group.

FOG Family BBQ- You should have received a flier about our BBQ next Friday. Don't worry about what to have for tea, come along to our Family BBQ at Grandpont next **Friday, 21st September from 4.30-6.30pm**. All Burgers and Hot dogs priced at £2.00 each, donations for drinks will be happily received and we would also be grateful for donations of Salads (and perhaps some cakes!).

We have a small group of volunteers who are organising this event but if you feel that you could help too then please come along to Grandpont at 2.30pm on the day to help us set up or volunteer to do some cooking or organising during the event.

This will be a great opportunity for you to meet other Grandpont families and have some fun.

We are holding a meeting on **Monday 25th June at 7.00PM at nursery** to explore and decide on some possible fundraising opportunities for Grandpont.

We will be starting to plan our Christmas Market, planned for the 7th December, so would like lots of help with this event.

With school budgets being squeezed so much it is important that we are able to raise some funds to ensure all of the enrichment opportunities (such as hatching the chicks) that we want to offer are still available. Please come along and share your ideas. If you are unable to attend and want to be involved then please give your suggestions to myself, Teresa or Yan Wong or Emily Lucas, or email us at office.1010@grandpont-nurs.oxon.sch.uk.

For Information

Book Week- We will be holding regular BOOK WEEKS this year at nursery. Our first one is the week beginning 1st October, where we will be exploring the book; **We're Going on a Bear Hunt**. All the children will be listening to and taking part in various activities related to the well-loved story. During the day, children will have the opportunity to explore different activities based upon the story such as hunting for bears in the woods, making dens and maps, small world play and much more.

Community News

SOFR- has a busy program of events this term, including sessions at the weekends too. The timetable of their sessions can be found on their Facebook Page- <https://www.facebook.com/SouthOxfordFamilyRoom>

Everyone is welcome and it would be great to see more Grandpont Nursery School families attending sessions at SOFR.

More information about SOFR can also be found on our website; https://www.grandpontnurseryschool.co.uk/website/about_us/291098