



Nursery Autumn Term Newsletter 2023

Dear Nursery Parents, Carers and Friends,

Welcome to Grands Vaux Nursery! We are really excited to be working with you and your child this academic year. The children are beginning to settle and understand what Nursery life is like! They are a wonderful little group of children.

This autumn term, we will be focusing on the three Prime areas of learning from 'Development Matters' which is the curriculum for the Foundation Stage. These are the key areas that contribute to your child feeling safe, secure and ready to learn.

Every child is unique and has different interests and needs. We ensure that we provide rich learning opportunities through play and playful teaching.

In the Early Years, our teaching ethos is completely child-centred; we do not set out to teach any specific topic but are led by the children's interests and stories. We find that when the children are more engaged and their interests are tapped into, they are more likely to open themselves up to a variety of learning opportunities.

Here is an overview of our key focuses for the term:

Personal, Emotional and Social Development – The important focus for us this half term is making sure that all the children are settled, happy and feel safe. We will be learning all about the 'Zones of Regulation'. The children will be learning that they have a range of emotions. They will start to find out how their behaviour affects them and those around them. They will become aware of the tools they can use to help self-regulation.

Communication and Language – Ensuring children have many opportunities to develop their Speech and Language skills in Nursery is key to children's development and learning. We will look at many different topics and learn the key vocabulary related. We will also start a programme called 'WellComm'. This identifies specific areas that children need support within their language and communication.

Physical Development – Children will develop their physical abilities both inside and out. We will show the children how to use the areas both inside and out appropriately. The children will have daily free-flow access to outside where they can climb, build, ride wheeled toys and many other physical activities. We will also be using the big playground for ball games and P.E type activities.

The children will be strengthening their hands through a variety of activities which in turn will support their readiness for more mark making and writing.

Please ensure your child comes to school in appropriate clothing for physical activity.

English – We will focus on some 'core texts' so that children become familiar with the stories. They will then be able to re-tell the stories independently. We will begin Phase 1 of our 'Letters and Sounds' programme which develops key skills in readiness for reading and writing.

The children will be actively encouraged to look at books independently and we will share stories in whole class time, small groups and one to one. We will have story telling areas where the children can re-tell the story from the focus text of the week.

Mathematics – We will begin to develop an awareness of numbers through songs and games. We will start to learn how to subitise and use the maths resources to develop number sense. We will be developing awareness of shape and encouraging children to talk about the shapes they can see in the environment.

If you would like to find out more about subitising, I can recommend following Karen Wilding on YouTube (please note this is for adults, not children).

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCF7b31eemNHalOm6UIG6eiQ>

Understanding the World – This area is mainly led by the children and their interests. There has already been a keen interest in transport, dinosaurs and babies! The children will also be introduced to Beebots so they can begin to explore programming.

Expressive Arts and Design – Our role play will always be a home corner as this is where children are at their most comfortable. It is also where they can share real-life experiences. This supports their development in Communication and Language. We will add and change things to the role play as the year goes on. We will be learning lots of new songs and making sure we have opportunities for dancing and making up our own routines. The children will explore a wide range of creative activities such as painting, drawing and collage.

Trips – Once the children are settled, we will start to go on little school trips using the school minibus. We will inform you of the date and any further information nearer the time.

Home-learning tasks– Please read at least one story a night to your child. This is a good calming activity before they go to sleep. It would also be helpful if you could teach your child to put on their socks and shoes independently. We also request that children **do not have shoelaces** as they are unable to tie them without an adult.

Lending Library- Our Lending Library will be open from Monday 25th September. You can access this at the top of the Nursery decking. Each child has their own folder where you can record what you have borrowed. Initially, we will just be lending books but keep an eye out as we will add busy bags, games and other resources. Please change the item with your child either before school or at the end of the day. It is only a small room, so I imagine it might be a bit busy to start with! You are welcome to change as regularly as you wish. When you return an item, please try and put it back in the correct place so that the room stays tidy. Ensure you have dated that you have done so.

Seesaw – A letter has been sent home explain how to access your child's Seesaw account. There will be updates about your child's learning. We will post notices, activities and other school information here. Please ensure you access regularly as it is a valuable form of communication. You are welcome and encouraged to add to your child's Journal. Any problems, please let me know.

Proud Wall – In the classroom, we have a special 'Proud Wall'. Every child has their own space where they can display work they are proud of. They already know that they can ask us to take a photo if they want everyone to see what they have done. If they have something they have made at home that they would like to put up, they are very welcome.

Clothing – Please make sure that your child is wearing appropriate clothing that will enable them to run and climb. It will get dirty, so please ensure they do not wear their favourite outfits!

Name labels - Please, please, please, **make sure everything has a name label** – it is impossible to keep track of all the items children have if they do not have a name on them! This includes water bottles, spare clothes, pots, coats, shoes and bags.

Morning Routine – The children are getting so good at organising themselves in the morning. We encourage them to hang their items on their peg and place their water bottle in the kitchen so they have easy access to them throughout the day. The children also have their own tray to put things in.

As always, we are a partnership. If you have any worries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.
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Kind Regards

Mrs Prouten and Mrs Cunningham

The Nursery Team

