



Nursery Spring Term Newsletter 2024

Dear Nursery Parents, Carers and Friends,

Welcome back to an exciting spring term. We have already got off to a wonderful start with our children really enjoying the snow, re-enacting the Three Billy Goats Gruff and planning new adventures (they have mentioned the beach, park and going shopping!) All the children are now settled and ready to start the next step in their exciting learning journey. They are becoming so confident and independent in their morning routine, it is wonderful to see.

Personal, Emotional and Social Development – This half term, we will be following the Jigsaw unit 'Dreams and Goals', which teaches children about challenges and perseverance. After the half term holiday, we will be following the unit 'Healthy Me' which helps the children to find out about ways to keep both their bodies and minds healthy. Sharing and turn taking will be continued to be practised through small group games and modelled by adults.

Communication and Language – We will continue to focus on Communication and Language as it is fundamental to all areas of learning. Through all areas of learning, we ensure children are accessing a huge range of vocabulary to develop their understanding. There are also opportunities all day for the children to talk to adults and their peers. We will continue to use the WellComm programme which ensures we are targeting individual needs, so they make the best progress possible.

Physical Development – As a key part of learning, we will continue to have a big focus on developing children's physical skills both on a large (gross motor) and small (fine motor) scale. This will be done throughout the provision and at Forest School where the children love to challenge themselves. If children have good physical development, this will help them with their physical ability to mark make. They will also have a PE lesson each week. I will let you know the day once it has been confirmed.

Linked to our JIGSAW topic in the second half of the term, we are going to talk about how to keep our bodies healthy. Getting into good habits at a young age will help them through life. We would really appreciate your support with this and encourage you to provide a healthy lunchbox that does not include too many sugary or salty items. Please also ensure your child brings in a water bottle each day.

Literacy – We will have 'Drawing Club' each week so the children become familiar with a story and develop the skill of re-telling. In our phonics programme, we are going to have a large focus on rhyme and alliteration. Every week, the children will have the opportunity to tell their own stories in the form of 'Helicopter Stories'. This is where they tell a story, I scribe it and then at the end of the session, they act it out with their friends. The stories give the children the opportunity to express themselves, share their ideas and see writing happening. The more children are read to, the better their own stories become.

Mathematics – In the autumn term, we had a large focus on sorting and noticing things around us to support number sense. We teach a skill called subitising which supports the development of calculation. We look closely at numbers and how we can represent them. As the children become more confident, we will move onto using 5 frames to develop their understanding further.

If you would like to find out more, please watch this video from Karen Wilding. (It was filmed at the beginning of lockdown, so I advise that you start from about 40 seconds in!)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4KtifCNIYy4>

Children will develop their skills of measure through a variety of activities in 'real-life' situations.

Understanding the World – As last term, this area is mainly led by the children and their interests. As the weather warms up, we will start developing the garden ready for growing. We will look at People who help us and find out the different roles people play in the community. The children will be completing programmes on the ipads and interactive whiteboard. They will also be programming the BeeBots independently. We are also planning a variety of trips to ensure the children have as many 'Real-life' experiences as possible. Please make sure your child knows how to be safe when out and about. For example, holding hands to cross roads and car parks, stopping when asked and following instructions.

Expressive Arts and Design – We will continue to have our role play as a home corner as this is where children are at their most comfortable. However, we also have alternative role plays, such as a hospital or a shop, that the children are familiar with. These are situations where most children have had real-life experiences. We will be developing the children's colour mixing skills and teaching the children key skills in sticking, cutting and joining to enable them to make their own models and pictures.

Trips – We are hopeful to go a number of trips. We will let you know as and when these are planned. These will hopefully include, The Maritime Museum, the beach and hopefully a park. We will also visit St Catherine's Woods again to look at seasonal changes.

Visitors – We already have a performance of 'Little Red Riding Hood' confirmed for Tuesday 30th January. Flair Entertainment come into school and perform a fantastic show (the children loved 'Goldilocks' last term. This play is going to be performed in Portuguese and English.

Home-learning tasks – As last term, please read at least one story a night to your child. This is a good calming activity before they go to sleep. Reading to your child has been proven to benefit their learning and development. Please see below information regarding library books
Please encourage your child to put on their own coat and begin to do up the zip. They also need to be able to put on their own socks and shoes, so please **NO LACES**.

Seesaw - Thank you so much to the parents who Check Seesaw frequently and those who post the lovely things they have done at home. It is a wonderful opportunity for us to link school and home life. The children get very excited when seeing their photos up on the big screen. Please let us know if you are having any trouble accessing this.

We will also use Seesaw to communicate events, trips and other news.

Library – From next week, the children will be bringing home a library book. This will be changed on a Wednesday. Please make sure they have their book in school ready to change. This will now be managed in school rather than parents coming in to change the books. We might also send 'Busy Bags' home. All the information is in the bag about how to use them!

Clothing – **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!** All children need to have a bag of spare clothes in school at all times. Please could you also put a packet of wipes in too just in case we need them.

If you have any old clothes age 4+ that your child no longer wears, please consider donating them to us.

We would also really appreciate it if your child has shoes they can put on independently – therefore **no laces**.

As always, we are a partnership. If you have any worries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us before or after school or through email: j.prouten@grandsvaux.sch.je

Kind Regards
Mrs Prouten and Mrs Cunningham
The Nursery Team

