



October Newsletter, 2019

Dear Families,

Firstly a huge 'Thank You' to everyone who supported our harvest day with your fabulous donations. Our apple pressing was a great success and the Gatehouse were delighted with our food donations we were able to take them. Do look at our facebook page and website; <https://www.grandpontnurseryschool.co.uk> for pictures and more information.

You may also notice some information on our website regarding the 'Save our Nurseries' campaign that is happening on a national level. If you are interested then do have a read of the information I have added to a 'news' article. At Grandpont we are not exempt from feeling the financial squeeze and I will be writing to you again soon with more information regarding the Grandpont financial position.

Best Wishes

Lisa Fern

Headteacher

Staffing News- We are very sad to be saying 'Good-Bye' to our wonderful Chelsea next month.

Chelsea has a new position in an administration role working with adult social care, an area that she is particularly passionate about. Chelsea has been working at Grandpont for the past few years and during her time with us completed her Apprentice level 1 and 2. This is a wonderful opportunity for Chelsea and we are very proud of her achievements but as I am sure you will agree, she will be hugely missed from the Grandpont team. We are currently looking at a plan for her replacement and Nicky and Aga will continue to keep the office going in the meantime.

Childcare Admissions Policy and T & C's- We have updated our admissions policy. A new version can now be found on our website. There has been a slight alteration in the ranking criteria where we have removed the distance lived at between the school and home address.

With regard to our terms and conditions for existing customer priority **change/cancellation of booking** now need to be handed in at the office by the end of the second week of each large term (3 times a year). After this period of priority any spaces would then be offered to the waiting list. The new booking will then commence

at the start of the following large term. You can cancel or change your sessions at any other time by giving 2 calendar months written notice but any additional required sessions will be subject to availability. All existing bookings will be carried forward to the next term unless cancelled. If you have any questions, please ask or email the office.

and change of booking times for our Blossom Room families. A new amendment for this term is that we will only be offering a change of booking on a termly basis (3x per year) rather than 6 times. This brings all our admissions in line with a termly approach which fits well with the other admissions we manage at Grandpont. A copy of the policy can be found on our website.

Term Dates- Please see our website for this years term dates;

https://www.grandpontnurseryschool.co.uk/website/term_dates/327832

Please note that we are open for bookings for holiday clubs during the school holidays for our over 3s.

Autumn Planting- We are planning to do some planting this month in the Nursery and Blossom Room gardens, and are looking for any donations to help us out! We are looking for donations of spring flowering bulbs and winter bedding, such as Pansies. If you can help us out, we would be really grateful. Thank you to those who have already donated. However, more bulbs would be gratefully received!



Book week- This week we will be sharing the book; 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear' by Bill Martin Jnr and Eric carle, with all of the children. If you don't have a copy of this book at home, we have some copies in the entrance hall for you to read and this link is a nice animated version of the story; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0uyABOeD62w> When you are in the entrance hall, take time to search for all of the characters in the book with your children.

This book can encourage some great conversations about the characters. What do your children say about them?

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.

Family Christmas Market-We have set a provisional date of; **Saturday 7th December**

for our Christmas Market. I have had a few people offer to help out but in order to get things moving I think it would be useful to have a meeting. If you can offer a bit of time then please come along to a meeting next **monday 21st October at 2.30pm**

If you are unable to come along to the meeting but are keen to help out then please let Lisa, Teresa or leanne know asap. Thank you for your support.



Community News

Don't Forget.....

NEW - Generation Café and play in Grandpont Family Room

This autumn, Grandpont Family Room are opening their doors, welcoming the community in to their new “Generation Café and play sessions”. Are you looking for an afternoon activity? Are you looking for a friendly place to go where you can enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, meet other people and catch up with friends? Would you enjoy a play session where there may be offers of help to play with your toddler or entertain your baby or be read a story by others attending?

When?

1st & 3rd Friday afternoons from 12.30pm-2.30pm
starting **Friday 20th September.**



What is on offer?

- Stay and play in the afternoon for families with babies and toddlers.
- Refreshments, tea or coffee and sometimes cake.
- A warm and welcoming space to chat with friends
- Opportunities for your children to socialise with older generations. They may offer to hold and chat to your baby or play with your toddler or to read a story while you get yourself a drink or simply use the facilities!
- Explore practical skills such as knitting, sewing, mending items, woodwork & carpentry, gardening & cooking.

at the Grandpont family room on the Nursery school site Ring Karen (project co-ordinator) on 01865 254875 to find out more.