



## March Newsletter, 2019

Dear Families,

If your child is three years or above you will have had access to Easy peasy for a few weeks now. Some of you, I don't think have had a go yet. If you are still unsure what it is all about then please either ask me or your child's key person. Many of you have left comments for us to read. This is really great for us to see who has been accessing the games at home and how they are going.



I have put together a simple questionnaire on this link as I am keen to get some feedback from you on how it is going. It should only take a minute or two to complete. Thank you in advance.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfXcfYBYF2nlZorjFgMfqZadfuKdFQ1m8xiGsMD4RD9EQIbCg/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfXcfYBYF2nlZorjFgMfqZadfuKdFQ1m8xiGsMD4RD9EQIbCg/viewform?usp=sf_link)

**Lisa Fern**

Headteacher

### For Information

**Car Parking-** St Ebbes children are embarking on various projects over the next few months with regard to the impact the parking issue is having on the local environment. This has come about as several cars are left with idling engines running at drop off and collection times. **Please turn off your engines** if this also applies to you.

The city and county council are also getting involved in looking at the traffic and parking problems that we face at certain times of the day down Whitehouse Road. There will soon be new signage and cones set up down the road around both schools to ensure safer parking. Please support us in ensuring you park safely. This may require patience and possibly some disruption to your normal routines but the safety of our children is our priority.

If you can walk to nursery or use public transport, then please do.

I often see parents parking awkwardly outside the Grandpont gates and by the double yellow lines and we have also had local residents complain to us that they are blocked in their driveways. Care and consideration is required. Thank you.

### The School Lunch Company

<http://www.theschoollunchcompany.co.uk/>

We are really excited to inform you that we will be changing our food provider at Grandpont. From Monday 3rd June 2019 we will be working with 'The School Lunch Company' to provide Grandpont children with delicious and home cooked meals, where the food is locally sourced.



We are currently working with them to agree a well balanced and nutritious menu and we are asking some parents to be involved in this process. The new company works very closely with a nutritionist to ensure children are receiving the right food types for their age and they have been very keen to support us knowing that we are providing meals for very young children.

Attached with this newsletter is a parent information sheet, that is also displayed in the entrance hall for you to read.

As we develop our relationship with this new company we will be listening to their advice around what we also offer at tea and breakfast and there will be more information about what the menus look like soon.

**Outdoor Learning evening with Annie Davy-** This staff and parent meeting is happening on **Monday 25th March from 6.00PM**. Please do take this opportunity to come along and find out more about how being outside can benefit us all and what we do at Grandpont to ensure all of our families and children have the opportunity to get outside.

Annie has just published her book- 'A Sense of Place' where some of her research took place at Grandpont and the book contains many pictures of our children, staff and some parents. Please email us or let a member of staff know if you are coming, so that we can have an idea of the numbers on the night. I have also invited the Reception children's parents at St Ebbes so please do pass this message on to any of our past parents too if you know them.

**Illness-** Unfortunately last week we had a lot of children and staff ill with a nasty fever type bug that in some cases has also led to sickness. We all appreciate that families find it hard to organise their lives around ill children and disrupted routines can be stressful but, please keep children at home until they are well enough to come back to nursery. If our staffing numbers drop too low then we could be in danger of not being able to meet the statutory requirements of staffing ratios.

If you have given your child some Calpol or other medication before arriving at Nursery, please can you let your child's key person know and what time you gave it, so they can monitor your child's health.

#### **Dates reminder and holiday club bookings-**

- We break up in the nursery school on Friday 5th April
- New term starts back on Wednesday 24th April
- Holiday club will run during the break but places are filling up (Some sessions are already full) so please get any bookings in quickly.
- Grandpont will be closed on Friday 19th and Monday 22nd April for the Easter week end but there will be a holiday club day on Tuesday 23rd April. This is an INSET day for the nursery School.

#### **Nursery School**

**Book Week-**next week will be having another focus book week on one of our core texts. This time we will be reading and exploring the delightful story of 'Handa's Surprise'. You can see it here on Youtube if you would like to share the story with your children too. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XyIV\\_xYi0as](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XyIV_xYi0as)

**Parent meetings-** Thank you to everyone who has attended the parent meetings so far this term. Here is a reminder of the dates of those key groups that have not had a meeting yet. Please put these in your diary.

Jennifer	Tuesday 19th March	8.30-9.30AM
Anne W and Lucy D	Tuesday 2nd April	8.30-9.30AM
Lucy D- PM Children	Tuesday 2nd April	12.30-1.30PM

The meetings take place from 8.30-9.30am in the family room (SOFR). We need to finish on time to allow staff to get back in to the Nursery. If you are very keen to meet with your child's key person, we recommend that you arrive early.

## **Blossom Room**

**Staffing-** We have successfully appointed Luisa Boheimer to replace Tracy in Blossom Room. Lu will start with us on 1st April. We are excited about this appointment. We are currently looking to appoint a childcare assistant to support us at lunch times and we hope to have some news on that appointment soon.

**The Garden-** The U3's are really enjoying playing in the garden at the moment. Please make sure they have suitable clothing with them for this changeable weather we are having at the moment.

## **Friends of Grandpont (FOG)**

**Half Term treasure Hunt-** Thank you to all who joined in with this. We raised about £40 for the nursery and will use this little extra to put towards having some eggs to hatch in the nursery next term.

**70 year Celebration of Grandpont-** Grandpont Maintained Nursery School opened its doors for the first time 70 years ago in 1949. We are currently discussing how we can celebrate this event. If anyone has any ideas or would like to be involved then please let us know.

## **Community News**

**SOFR-** Please follow 'South Oxford Family Room' Facebook page to keep up to date with events and information about what is happening in SOFR.