



Garretts Green Nursery School

Autumn Newsletter 2019

Dear Parents,

September 2019

Thank you for all your support during the induction period you have done a superb job preparing your children for the start of their schooling. The majority of them are settled and having fun as they find their way around the building, meet the staff and other children and enjoy the activities. It is a pleasure to see them so happy. Nursery really is a lovely place to learn and grow and your children are a joy!

Over the next few weeks we will be completing our initial assessments and we will share these with you at parental consultations in October. We will shortly send out a brief questionnaire about the induction process and how it worked for you and your child.

Thank you everyone for bringing in fruit for the children to share at snack time and for the School Fund contributions you have sent in, we really appreciate your support in all of our fund raising activities. We will be collecting Harvest donations next week to send to the local foodbank and we will be holding our MacMillan Coffee event on 27th September which we hope that you will attend.

Thank you again for your support.

Claire and the Nursery Staff Team

Before School Breakfast Club / After School Club

We offer a breakfast club from 8.25-8.55 am at a cost of £2 per session. Please let us know if you would like to use this facility, either regularly or on the odd occasion.

If a 3.00pm collection causes you some difficulties, why not consider After School Club? We also run an after-school provision from 2.55pm to 3.30pm at a cost of £2 per session for children who are eligible for a 30 hour place. Please let us know if you would like to make use of this. Speak to Claire or Trish for details.

REMINDER 30 HOUR CODES

Please can we remind all of the parents receiving the 30 hours funded childcare that the code will need to be renewed **every three months otherwise your eligibility may stop**. Childcare Choices should send you an email to remind you, but it maybe worth you checking when your code is due for renewal.

This applies whether you have a 30 hour full time place or if you split your 30 hours with another provider e.g. a childminder or private nursery. Please make sure that you have informed us if you are splitting your hours with another setting / childminder.

Could we please ask parents to let Trish know when the code has been renewed by sending a screenshot of the new renewal date to **enquiry@garretts.bham.sch.uk**

Thank you.

Parental Consultations

During October we will be holding our Parental Consultations. These are extremely important meetings about your child's attainment and how he or she has settled in school. You are all urged to attend, we ask however, that **no children attend if possible** in order that staff are able to talk to parents / carers freely.

Each Family Group (Colour Group) has a specific date for consultations, details below. In addition, we also offer **one after-school consultation for parents who are unable to attend during the day which is on**

Wednesday 16th October 3.45—5.30

Should you have any concerns regarding your child's attainment or progress, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's Key Worker or Claire, and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Purple Group appointments are on **16th October** after Nursery, please see the key workers to arrange an appointment.

Monday 14th October : Green Group, morning and afternoon appointments

Tuesday 15th October: Yellow Group, morning and afternoon appointments

Wednesday 16th October: Orange Group, morning appointments only / Blue afternoon appointments only

After School Consultations : Wednesday 16th October 2019 3.45-5.30. Limited appointments

Appointments will be available for booking at the beginning of next week. Sheets will be with each Key Worker. Please sign up early to ensure that you are able to book a convenient appointment. Thank you.

Attendance

We were all very pleased with the attendance of the children across the Nursery during the first few weeks of the new term. Thank you.

We do appreciate that this is your child's first year in school and that they will be mixing with large numbers of other children who share germs! If your child is ill, the best place to be is at home but please remember to:

- **Phone school or email (enquiry@garretts.bham.sch.uk) on the first day of absence so that we know your child is ill and what the illness is.**
- **Let us know if your child has a contagious illness such as chicken pox (it may be necessary to inform parents as some childhood illnesses may be dangerous during pregnancy).**
- **Tell us if your child has a more serious illness such as measles.**
- **Keep your child at home until the illness has subsided. There are different guidelines for different illnesses so please ask for advice when you call us.**
- **Vomiting and diarrhoea always requires 48 hours at home after the last bout.**

Absence for Holidays

Several parents have asked me what they should do about holidays during the school term which were booked prior to their child starting at Nursery.

There is an expectation that all children will be in school every day. However, if you have booked a holiday and your child is likely to be absent from Nursery school please ask a member of staff for the appropriate document to fill in.

I must stress that I am no longer allowed to **authorise** any absence due to holidays in term-time and your child's holiday will be recorded as unauthorised. Please try to avoid booking holidays in term-time if possible. Thank you for your support.

Please could you make sure that you have returned all of your permission forms and the pink funding form, we may be unable to have your child in Nursery if we do not receive the forms. Thank you.

Tapestry

In order for you to be able to see and add to your child's on-line learning journey via Tapestry, please make sure that you **email the address below with your name, your child's name and colour Group**. This will then ensure that your secure access can be set up.

You will be able to see what your child has been doing in Nursery and also to add photographs or make comments on the posted observations by teachers. Emma will be responding over the next week.

tapestry@garretts.bham.sch.uk

My First Week in Nursery School

Your child's 'My First Week in Nursery' will be available on Tapestry from October 1st if you have sent an email to the above address and Emma has set up your secure access.

If you have any questions about this or any other issue please speak to your child's Key Worker.

Harvest Celebrations

We will be **collecting food for the Harvest Celebration** from **Monday 23rd September** and we would be grateful for any donations of tins, packets, jars, etc.

Please hand your donations to any member of staff or put them in the box in the corridor.

The food is passed on to the local food bank to provide aid for families in need and is appreciated by all involved. Thank you in advance for your support.



School Fund and Fruit



Parents are asked to contribute to School Fund which enables staff to offer a range of activities which we would be unable to offer without parental support.

Thank you for all of the contributions you have already sent into Nursery. The money goes towards many things to enhance the children's learning such as visits from Austin the clay artist, Animals in Hands, Roy the magician, food and equipment for celebrations and gardening and growing activities.

You should have received some donation envelopes in your child's drawer, if you require additional envelopes please see Trish in the office.

School Fund accounts which show how the Fund is spent are displayed on the Parents' Notice board and accounts are audited each year.

In keeping with our aim to promote healthy eating, we ask families to help us by bringing in some fruit each week so that all of the children are able to share fruit when they have their milk or water at snack time. Due to allergies, please avoid kiwi fruit. Thank you.



Safety and security

Please remember to close the gates behind you!



It is extremely important that the gates are bolted as you enter and leave, failing to do so this would put our children in danger. Please do not assume that if a person is following you they will close the gate.

May we also remind parents and carers that, in order to protect the children, **the use of mobile phones is not allowed on this site.**

Please advise the school if you change your mobile number this will enable us to contact you in an emergency. Thank you.





Garretts Green Nursery School & Resource Base

117 Garretts Green Lane
Sheldon
Birmingham B26 2JL

Phone: 0121 675 2284
Fax: 0121 675 7547
E-mail:
enquiry@garretts.bham.sch.uk



£5* Text Donations

This year MacMillan are offering the facility for text donations if you prefer this to donating cash on the day, or if you are unable to attend our event.

Our school code is **PIE DAJ1** and this can be text to **70550** and MacMillan will receive a **£5 donation** from you in our name.

*Texts cost **£5 + standard network charge**. MacMillan receive 100% of every £1 donated in this way.

This is voluntary donation, please do not feel that you have to donate in this way

Thank you.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

In order to raise money for MacMillan Cancer Support we are asking for cake donations to support our MacMillan family Coffee Morning or afternoon on

Friday 27th September 2019.



The coffee **morning** runs for one hour from **8.55am to 9.55am for the morning and full time children.**

The coffee **afternoon** runs from **1.55pm to 2.55pm for the afternoon children.**

Everyone is welcome! If you are unable to join us yourself, any member of the family may come along to spend some time with your child. Please note that younger children are welcome but we have **no crèche** facilities so parents are responsible for their care.

We are **unable to have pushchairs indoors** as they presents a hazard in the narrow corridors or busy classrooms.

Please could we ask for boxed cake donations from Monday 23rd September and fresh cakes from Thursday 26th.

Please try to attend on 27th September to support MacMillan. Last year we raised £122.48.

Thank you



Wanted— Boxes, tubes and bottle tops for junk modelling

Please could you send in empty cereal boxes, toothpaste cartons, kitchen roll tubes and plastic tops etc for the children to use for their junk modelling. We are unable to accept toilet roll tubes due to health and safety rules. Please put them in the containers in the classrooms or give them to the key workers.

Thank you.

**We break up for the half term holiday on
Friday 25th October
and return on
Tuesday 5th November
Monday 4th Nursery is closed for Staff Training**

Thank you again for all your support!

Claire and the Nursery Staff Team



Garretts Green Nursery School Dates for your Diary 2019 / 2020



Monday 23rd September	Harvest Celebrations. Donations collected this week for the local Foodbank
Friday 27th September	MacMillan Coffee event. Breakfast 8.55am—9.55am or Afternoon Tea 1.55pm—2.55pm
14th—16th October	Parental consultations (lists will be available with key workers from 30th September)
Monday 14th October	Green groups am & pm appointments
Tuesday 15th October	Yellow Groups am & pm appointments
Wednesday 16th October	Orange Group morning appointments / Blue Group afternoon appointments
Wednesday 16th October	Purple Group appointments, after Nursery only
Wednesday 16th October	3.45—5.30pm Parental Evening Consultations all groups. (Limited appointments)
Wednesday 23rd October	Individual photographs to be taken during Nursery session
Friday 25th October	Diwali Party. Children may dress up in party clothes.
Friday 25th October	Break up for half term
Monday 4th November	Staff Training Day—Nursery closed
Tuesday 5th November	Children return to Nursery
Friday 15th November	Children in Need Day. Children to dress up or wear something spotty or yellow
Wednesday 4th December	Christmas Family Workshop 8.55am—9.55am / 1.55pm—2.55pm
Friday December 13th	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day. Children to wear something Christmassy (not fancy dress)
Monday 16th December	Children's Christmas Party
Thursday 19th December	Break up for Christmas holiday
Friday 20th December	Staff Training Day—Nursery closed
Monday 6th January 2020	Children return to Nursery
Monday 27th January	Chinese New Year Celebrations
Friday 14th February	Break up for half term
Monday 24th February	Children return to Nursery
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day. Children can dress up as storybook characters
Friday 13th March	Sport Relief Day. Children dress up in sports clothes (no studded boots)/ or wear red
Friday 3rd April	Break up for Easter holiday
Monday 20th April	Staff Training Day—Nursery closed
Tuesday 21st April	Children return to Nursery
Thursday 7th May	Local Elections—Nursery closed
Friday 8th May	Bank holiday—Nursery closed
Wednesday 13th May	Group photographs to be taken
Thursday 14th May	Life Caravan to visit
Friday 22nd May	Break up for Whitsun holiday
Monday 1st June	Children return to Nursery
Friday 17th July	Break up for Summer holiday
Monday 20th July	Staff Training Day—Nursery closed

Dates may be subject to change.

Details and further information to follow about events throughout the year.