

Welcome to Nursery



Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back to the Spring term! We hope you all enjoyed your Christmas holidays and that you are looking forward to the exciting activities planned for this half term. We hope that by working together we can make this term a happy and very productive one for your child, offering them interesting and challenging activities and experiences and ensuring that they make the best possible progress with their learning.

This term we have started a new topic called '**Superheroes**'. We have lots of exciting activities planned over the coming term including a people who help us role play area and even a superhero day.

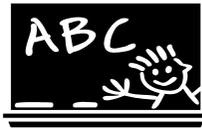
If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to pop in for a chat and we will be more than happy to speak to you. If you would prefer, an appointment can be made.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Hanlon & Mrs Mitchell (Teachers)
Miss Davison (Teaching Assistant)



Some Important Reminders...



Attendance and Punctuality. Please ensure that your child arrives on time for school. The doors open at 9am for a morning/ full day session and our afternoon Nursery session begins at 12.15pm. Good **attendance and punctuality** is important, as it has a direct effect on learning. Children should not take time-off unless absolutely necessary. We are aiming for 98%-100% - please play your part in helping us to meet this ambitious target!

End of the session. School finishes at 12pm for morning Nursery and 3.15pm for afternoon/ full day Nursery. All children must be collected by an adult. It is important that you inform us if someone new is collecting your child. If they are unknown to us we may not allow your child to go with them. If you are late collecting your child (12:10pm or 3:25pm) please go to the office.

Uniforms and Coats. We would be grateful if these could be clearly named. Please ensure children bring a coat to school everyday. We have also asked if wellies can be kept at school too. Please ensure your child comes to school with spare clothes in case of accidents or getting messy during play. Children should also bring in fresh water everyday in their water bottles.

School Website and Tapestry journals. We have lots of information on our school website. We have a nursery page where we will regularly put on photos and updates. Please also remember to log in and check your child's Tapestry online learning journal as all observations and photos are posted on there. We also use Class Dojo, an app that can be used to send messages/ reminders. You should have received an email with a link to this. If you need support accessing the website, Tapestry or Class Dojo, please see a member of staff.

Outdoor Learning

We adopt a forest school approach to learning outdoors. We plan a range of activities to engage our children with the natural environment. The children will be taking part in Muddy Mondays and Forest Fridays where we will be learning outdoors. Some of the activities planned include; collecting objects to make natural art masterpieces, making natural paint and magic potion making. We have daily access to the outdoor area so it is important that your child is dressed suitably for the outdoors, as we really do go out in all weather.

Thank you for your continued support, it really makes a difference!

This terms 'Learning Theme' (topic) is 'Superhero'. We will be basing our topic on people who help us and superhero stories such as: Supertato, Supertato Veggies assemble, 10 Little Superheroes and Emergency.

Literacy. We will be looking at non-fiction texts to begin with, linked to everyday superheroes—people who help us. We will link this to TV characters that we are already familiar with as well, e.g. Bob the Builder, Postman Pat, Dr Ranj, Firemen Sam. We will look at tools they will need to help them do their job and think about why we would call upon each of them for help. We will read Supertato and help to rescue the fruit and vegetables from evil pea. We will write shopping lists before taking these to our new role play shop and we will name and label different fruit and vegetables.

Maths. We will be beginning to count on our fingers up to 5 and touching the objects as we practise counting up to 5. We will be subitising (recognising on sight) 1 or 2 objects. We will count how many vegetables evil pea has captured and then take some away because they have escaped. We will compare groups of fruit and vegetables, using the vocabulary of more and less, then counting how many we have altogether. We will then be taking photographs of each child as a superhero and we will use our positional language to describe where they are in relation to the buildings. We will extend the positional language that they already know by including above as in above the buildings. We will also be naming the 3 main 2d shapes (square, triangle and circle).

Understanding the World. We will be talking about what we did over Christmas, including thinking about and telling us about their favourite present. We will be linking the story 'Dear Zoo' to people who help us, starting with a zoo keeper job. We will be looking at different jobs and thinking about the role that they carry out. We will be using the iPad, using photo apps such as Morfo and Superhero Me to take a photo of ourselves or a friend and placing different disguises on each other. We have also introduced using QR codes to scan using the iPad so that familiar stories can be read.

Expressive Arts and Design. We will have various creative resources linked to our topics to encourage and stimulate children to create various models and creations across a range of media. We'll use paper plates to make our own evil peas and make capes and eye masks to be used for role play around the classroom! We will make secret messages using candle wax and UV light pens to write messages from superheroes or evil villains!

Physical Development.

This half term we will be practising getting our jumpers on and off and being independent to get our coat and shoes on and off. We will continue to work in our finger gym with topic related resources to develop fine motor skills. We will continue to use Jumpstart Johnny which is an exciting exercise/ dance program delivered through different types of music.

Communication and Language.

All children will be encouraged to use their speaking and listening skills to talk about the topics we are covering and prior experiences they might have, e.g. what did we do in the holidays/get for Christmas? We will practise taking turns to speak and to listen to each other. We will listen to stories and answer questions about them.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

We will ensure children settle back into the school routine after having two weeks off and we will welcome our new January starters. We will encourage children to take turns and share all the resources in the classroom. During tidy up time, we will encourage the children to be independent and look at the pictures on shelves to help find where resources are kept. We will be encouraging independence with putting on and taking off coats and hanging these



Ideas for activities to complete at home

- Read texts at home with your child such as story books, magazines, labels on food packaging, signs in the environment.
- When going to the shops, let your child make a shopping list!
- Rip up paper together and play with lego strengthening wrist and finger movements.
- Encourage your child to dress and undress themselves, even with clothes that have zips and buttons.
- There are many things that you can do with playdough too - cutting/snips with scissors, cutting with a pizza cutter, rolling and manipulating it, making models.
- Maths should be learnt in a practical manner e.g. counting the stairs to bed and socks into the washing machine, recognising numbers on buses and doors and so on.
- Play games which allow your child to take turns such as Frustration, snap and any board game.
- If you have an iPad, some fantastic apps which aid learning are; Little digits, twinkl phonics, toca boca apps, lego apps, sand write, magnetic letters.
- Finally, school can be tiring! Please ensure that your child gets enough sleep. Bedtime and morning routines are key to a productive and enjoyable day.

GPS on Social Media

 Facebook: @grangetownprimary

 Twitter: @Grangetown_PS

 Instagram: grangetown_ps

Spring 1 Dates

Week commencing 23rd January–
Chinese New Year themed week

Walk to Backhouse Park– Tuesday 31st
January (am) & Thursday 2nd February
(pm)

Back on the Map– Monday 6th February
(am)

Superhero themed day (dress up)-
Wednesday 15th February (all day)

End of term– Friday 17th February.