

Newsletter

April 2025



Welcome to our latest Newsletter, we hope you find it useful!

You will find lots more information on our website, so please do take the time to have a look:

www.grasmerenursery.co.uk

Easter Holiday

Term-time children: Nursery will be closed to children from Monday 7th April to Tuesday 22nd April.
Children return on Wednesday 23rd April.

Year-round children: Nursery will be closed from Monday 14th April to Tuesday 22nd April.
Children return on Wednesday 23rd April.

For all holiday dates, see the academic calendar on our website: [24/25 Academic Calendar](#)

May Half Term Holiday

Monday 26th May – Bank Holiday – nursery closed to all children

Tuesday 27th to Friday 30th May – nursery closed to term-time children

Monday 2nd June inset day – nursery closed to all children

All children return on Tuesday 3rd June

Next Half Term's Curriculum

0-3s (Purple, Red and Silver Rooms)

Purple Class - Next half term our value will be 'Respect' and we will be encouraging our children to look after the environment by helping to water our flowers outside in the garden and developing their signing by singing our 'Please and thank-you' song! Our theme will be 'Recycling' and we will be supporting our youngest children to help participate at tidy up time and reading some books all about recycling! We will be celebrating International Dance day on 29th April by dancing to different music from around the world. We will also be trying some different healthy foods at snack time, as our children have loved reading 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. We will be tasting some strawberries, plums and juicy oranges! We hope you have a lovely Easter break.

Red & Silver Class - Our theme for the next half-term is Recycling and looking after our environment. Our children will be learning what materials are recyclable and what materials are not. We would like to ask all parents/carers to continue this learning at home. Our key text is 'Busy Recycle' and our value is 'Respect'. We will be introducing and learning a new key rhyme - 'Wind the Bobbin Up'. The key vocabulary we will be focusing on are 'respect', 'recycle' and 'summer', and we will continue to embed the signs for 'please' and 'thank you'.

Red class and Silver class are planning a trip to the Community Garden and we are excited to see all the plants that have been growing. The week commencing 20th May is 'Walk to School' week. We will also be continuing the Lending Library this half-term. We hope you have a lovely Easter break.

3-5s (Yellow, Blue and Green Rooms)

We have had a wonderful half-term, and it is great to finally see the sunshine! The children have been making the most of the garden and orchard, enjoying more time outdoors. Even our tortoises are slowly waking up from their long winter rest!

We have been learning all about growing and have been planting and looking after the seeds and watching them grow into bean shoots, cress and even grass. We have celebrated Eid, St Patrick's Day and we hope you liked your Mother's Day cards.

Our Theme for the next half term is Recycling and the Environment and our Value is Respect. The season is Spring/Summer. Our key text is 'Tidy' by Emily Gravett, which focuses on the importance of looking after our environment. Our other text is 'Handa's Surprise' by Eileen Browne. If you do not have the book at home, here is a link to Handa's Surprise so you can listen to the story with your child at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XyIV_xYiOas

Through our Grasmere Grassroot Goal for all children to have a love of books and language, we hope you will join us in sharing these books at home. We will also be learning a lovely rhyme which was written by our own Mrs Jarvis called 'The Recycling Song', all about the importance of looking after our environment.

During the half term we will be learning about healthy eating and the importance of looking after ourselves. We will be celebrating International Dance Day on 29th April, where the children will learn about, and take part in, different forms of dance. It is exciting to have lots of lovely experiences ahead for the children to enjoy in Summer 1 term.

We hope you all have a lovely Easter break and we look forward to welcoming the children back on Wednesday 23rd April.

Parent Consultation Dates

A reminder that Parent Consultations will take place on the following dates:-

Green, Blue and Yellow: Thursday 24th April from 3.45 to 5.15pm. If you have not already done so, please book a time with your child's keyworker.

Purple, Red and Silver: Week commencing 28th April during the school day.

Appointments are available throughout the week. If you have not already booked a slot, please speak to your class to arrange a suitable time/date.



Nursery in a Box

We're excited to announce that we are currently trialling 'Nursery in a Box', a new admissions and finance management app, with parents in our 0-3s unit. This innovative platform allows us to streamline invoicing, manage funding codes, and handle booking patterns more efficiently. It also provides a convenient way to keep you updated on your child's daily activities if your child is in the 0-3s unit.



As part of this trial, you may have received a registration form via email to update your child's record on our new system. This is an exciting first step, and we hope to expand the system more widely towards the end of the year.

Easter Holidays

Kids Eat Free or for £1:

<https://moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free>

Easter Activities/Ideas:

<https://www.culturetrust.com/whats-on/easter-holidays>

<https://place.stepforwardluton.co.uk/>

<https://www.primarytimes.co.uk/bedfordshire/listings/>

<https://www.flyingstartluton.com/whats-on-for-parents/local-groups-services/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/activities>



Starting School in September 2025

(for children born between 01/09/2020-31/08/2021)

If your child turns 4 before 31st August 2025, you should already have applied for an Infant/Primary school place for September. If you have not yet done so, you must submit your application as soon as possible.



The outcome of applications will be sent to all parents/carers by the Luton Council Admissions Team on **16th April**.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please speak to Lois.

Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse can include controlling, coercive, threatening, degrading and violent behaviour, including sexual violence.

If you need help, information or support please visit the Bedfordshire Domestic Abuse Partnership website or see the links and numbers below - **BDAP**

24 Hour [National Domestic Abuse Helpline for Women](#) 0808 2000 247

[Men's Advice Line](#) 0808 8010 327 or [ManKind Initiative](#) 01823 334244

[LGBT+ Domestic Abuse Helpline](#) 0800 999 5428

If you need to report domestic abuse call 101. If someone is in immediate danger, phone the police on 999

If you cannot speak, use the Silent Solution. Dial 999 from a mobile and press 55 when prompted by the operator

Mental health support can be sought from NHS 111, option 2. Samaritans on 116 123 or Mind on 0300 123 3393



Safeguarding

If you have any urgent concerns about the welfare of a child, please contact the Luton Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub on 01582 547653 or out of hours 0300 300 8123. For further information or to make a referral,

please visit: **[MASH referral](#)**

Our safeguarding team work hard to safeguard your children whilst they are at nursery. If your child sustains any marks or injuries outside of nursery, please always let a member of staff know on arrival.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Barbara Tewe and our Deputy Safeguarding Leads are Lois Robins, Kim Buttle, Anne Keenan and Vijith Vijay. If you have any concerns or need any help or support, please come and speak to one of us.



Main Gate Opening Times

Just a reminder of the gate opening times:

8.45am – 9.05am

11.45am – 11.55am

12.30pm – 12.40pm

3.00pm – 3.10pm

3.30pm – 3.40pm



If you are going to be late for any reason when collecting your child, please call the office to let us know.

If the main gate from Icknield Way to the classrooms is closed, please drop or collect your child from Reception.

We do ask that you are on time when dropping and collecting your child, as this can impact on their learning and wellbeing.

Attendance & Illness

Our attendance target for all 15 or 30 hour funded children is 85%. For more information about the importance and benefit of regular attendance, please see our website: [Grasmere attendance information](#)

As a nursery, we understand the importance of regular attendance but appreciate how difficult this can be with children who are still building their immunity. If your child is going to be absent from nursery for any reason, please always let us know the reason first thing in the morning.

If your child needs medication of any kind whilst they are at nursery, please contact your Class Teacher or Room Lead to make an appointment to complete a Care Plan before they return to nursery. If your child has vomiting or diarrhoea, please ensure they are clear for 48 hours before they return to nursery. We know that sometimes children cannot come to school because they are really unwell, that's the right thing to do for them, other children and our staff. Medical advice is clear, however, that children with mild illness will often be well enough to attend, for example if they have a cough or cold, without a temperature. The NHS guidance [Is my child too ill for school](#) is designed to support parents in their decision-making about mild illness.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything further, please contact Lois.



Reminders

- To safeguard our children, please do not use your mobile phone, for any reason, whilst on the nursery premises.
- Please ensure that your child comes to nursery dressed appropriately to go outdoors whatever the weather.
- Please make sure all your child's clothes are named, including outdoor coats, hats, scarves and gloves (their name written on the label is good enough and it is a good idea to put gloves on elastic through your child's coat sleeves).
- Please bring a bag with at least one full spare change of clothes in case of accidents – this can be left at nursery and please name the outside of all bags.
- Please ensure that your child does not bring in toys from home; it is always upsetting for them if they get lost or broken and they are safer at home.
- Please do not bring any water bottles to nursery – unless there are special circumstances which have been agreed with your Class Teacher/Room Lead.
- Please do not open the gate to your child's class. For the children's safety, the gates should only be opened by a member of staff.
- Please ensure your child is handed over to a member of staff on arrival at nursery.
- Please ensure that your child does not have any food, drinks or medication in their bags.
- Please note that we are a **"nut-free setting"**, please do not bring any foods containing nuts into nursery for any reason.
- As the weather improves, please always ensure your child is appropriately dressed for the weather. Shoes should be suitable for running and climbing.
- If necessary, sun cream should be applied before coming to nursery and if your child stays for the whole day, then staff will reapply it after lunch. Please leave a named bottle of sun cream at nursery for your child.

