




Gracelands
Nursery School

SPRING 2023

NEWSLETTER

Sowing the seeds for lifelong learning

Dates for your diary

FEBRUARY

17th - Break up for the half term holiday
20th-24th - HALF TERM HOLIDAY (1 week)
27th - Back to school (spring 2)

MARCH

1st - Planned teacher strike action day (potential partial school closure)
2nd - World Book Day celebration (parents welcome)
22nd—World Water Day
31st—Break up for the Easter holiday

APRIL

3rd-14th - EASTER HOLIDAY (2 weeks)
17th - STAFF TRAINING DAY (closed to chn)
18th - Back to school (Summer 1)

MAY

1st - Bank Holiday (school closed)
8th - Bank Holiday King's Coronation (closed)
26th - Break up for the half term holiday
29th-2nd - HALF TERM HOLIDAY (1 week)

JUNE

5th - STAFF TRAINING DAY (closed to chn)
6th - Back to school (Summer 2)

JULY

25th - Break up for the summer holiday



Head Teacher's message

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have settled into the spring term beautifully and are starting to enjoy the lighter days and slightly warmer temperatures. The children are very much enjoying the outdoor learning environment at the moment... we are even ready to carry out our spring planting later in February.

I'd like to welcome all of our new January starter children—it has been lovely getting to know new faces and families over the last few weeks. We are always so amazed by how quickly children settle into nursery and pick up our routine.

We have some exciting events and workshops coming up after half term so do jot down the dates for your diary—these will always be on the website calendar too.

<https://www.grclands.bham.sch.uk/Page/Calendar>

We have spent the last few months developing our curriculum further; our curriculum and pedagogy document is also on the website should you want to take a look. You can always talk to any member of our staff about our curriculum, particularly about what is happening in nursery at the moment.

We recently had a GOLD Rights Respecting School award assessment and are looking forward to sharing the outcome with you once the report has been finalised. We continue to put children's rights (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child) at the forefront of our practice and teach children about the their rights and their role as rights holders. When you can, talk to your child about their rights and find out more about how children access their rights at school.

As always, reach out if you need anything, have a query or have any feedback for us. *Sam*



If you have not yet activated your child's online learning platform (Tapestry), please speak to a member of our office team who will be happy to help with this.

THE 'ABCDE' OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

Rights are for ALL
Rights are there at BIRTH
Rights CANNOT be taken away
Rights DO NOT have to be earned
All rights are EQUALLY important

OUR RIGHTS RESPECTING PLEDGE

We have the right to rest and play,
We have the right to learn our way,
We have the right to food and drink,
We have the right to talk and think,
We teach each other about our rights,
To help all children have a choice.

Executive Head Teacher: Samantha Richards

Deputy Head Teacher: Gail Goldberg

Teacher: Harshila Parmar

Office Admin Assistant: Reem Taleb

Nursery Practitioners:

Salma Mushtaq, Sughra Sattar, Rifat Shaheen,
Sonia Parvaz, Zaryab Mahmood

MEET REEM

Reem Taleb will be working for us at Gracelands in the office, carrying out the admin role. She will take any phone calls, greet you at the door and look after attendance.

A bit about Reem: likes swimming and exercising, has a degree in theology and religion and speaks Arabic. Reem is looking forward to getting to know you all.



Contact Us
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 SCHOOL
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 Birmingham, B11 1ED
 ☎ 0121 772 3124

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 TWITTER
 @GracelandsNurs1



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 Maintained Nursery School'



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ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Attendance autumn term	
	Attendance %
Big nursery	77%
Little nursery	61%
All	74%
Attendance spring term so far	
	Attendance %
Big nursery	80%
Little nursery	69%
All	76%

We understand children get ill. See left for the NHS advice of when children are too ill for school. Whilst attendance is far lower than we would like, we have seen gradual improvements since January. Well done to red group whose attendance has been 90% so far this term 😊

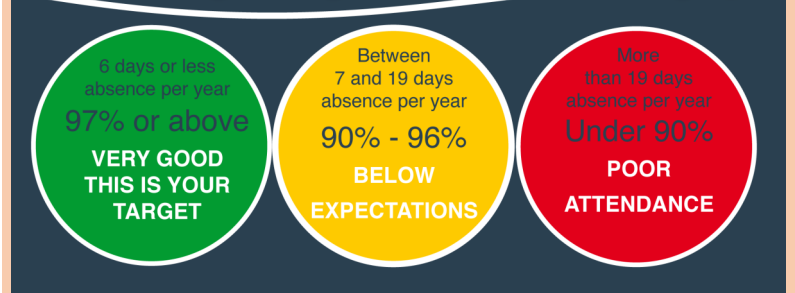
RRSA links:
 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
Article 3: best interests of the child
Article 28: right to an education

NHS IS MY CHILD TOO ILL FOR SCHOOL?

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>
 It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or playgroup when they're unwell. There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities>

- Coughs and colds**
 It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or cold. But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes.
- Sore throat**
 You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away.
- Conjunctivitis**
 You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis. Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.
- Ringworm**
 If your child has ringworm, see a pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case, see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.
- Vomiting and diarrhoea**
 Children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).
- High temperature**
 If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.
- Chickenpox**
 If your child has chickenpox, keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.
- Ear infection**
 If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.
- Scarlet fever**
 If your child has scarlet fever, they'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone us on the first day. Let us know that your child won't be in, giving the reason. If the phone is engaged, please leave a message.

EARLY PROVISION AND END OF DAY PROVISION FOR FULL TIME CHILDREN

Did you know we offer early provision from 8:30am - 9:00am and afterschool provision from 3:00pm - 3:30pm? This is an option for all full time children that currently attend nursery from 9am - 3pm. Speak to a member of the team if you would like further information.



PLACES AVAILABLE

We currently have places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. Places can be government funded, college funded or fee paying. Please spread the word if you know anyone with young children who may want a place.



PARKING

Parking outside Gracelands and Montgomery School continues to be a problem. Please park responsibly. Last week, 16 penalty charges were issued in one morning for illegal parking on yellow zigzags/double yellow lines.



COMMUNICATION WITH DOOR STAFF

We'd like to politely ask that if you have a message to share with staff who are attending the front doors, you wait until later or call school afterwards when there is only 1 member of staff at the door.

CAUTION CHILDREN AT PLAY

Almost a quarter of 5 year olds have tooth decay



Source: Public Health England

ORAL HEALTH FOR UNDER 5 YEAR OLDS

Smiley Shen encourages us to keep our teeth clean and healthy.



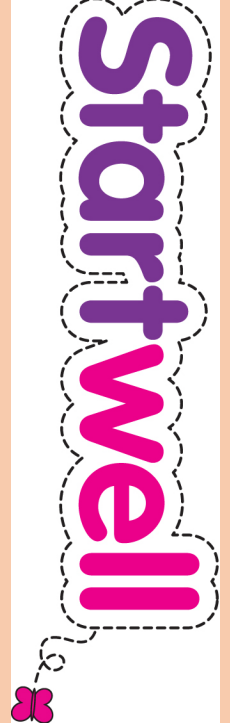
Help your child/children to:

- Brush their teeth for two minutes, twice a day from (6 months of age or as soon as the first tooth erupts)
- Use horizontal brush strokes or circular movements around teeth and gums (vertical up & down movements can damage the gums)
- Use an age appropriate tooth brush and toothpaste
- Avoid rinsing with water after brushing, just spit out any excess toothpaste
- Visit the dentist regularly
- Make sensible choices around sugary foods and drinks
- Use age appropriate drinking vessels such as free flow beakers
- Talk about oral health and keeping their teeth healthy

The majority of tooth decay in children under 6 is untreated



Source: Public Health England



SAFEGUARDING AND ONLINE SAFETY

If you have any concerns regarding children's welfare, please let us know. Safeguarding is of the utmost importance to us. All our policies can be found on our website, including our safeguarding and child protection policy. <https://www.grclands.bham.sch.uk/>

Keeping children safe online

We all have a part to play in keeping children safe online. Find out how with our online safety guides.

Internet safety (e-safety) is constantly in the news and is growing in relevance for us all. You may find these websites helpful in supporting your child when using the internet.

www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents

<https://www.o2.co.uk/help/online-safety>



Let's keep kids safe online

Shaping US



SHAPING US CAMPAIGN

The Princess of Wales has launched the 'Shaping Us' campaign to raise awareness of the importance of Early Childhood. Here you can take a look at the campaign website:

<https://shapingus.centreforearlychildhood.org/>

During early childhood, from pregnancy to the age of five, brains develop at an amazing rate – faster than at any other time in our lives.

The video of the campaign can be found here:

https://youtu.be/3Y_5N1bDWB4

If you are interested in learning more about the science of early childhood, try this video: Early Childhood Science Explained

<https://youtu.be/TVN1DJbzAUM>