

Short Term Planning for January 2012

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
19	20	21	22	23 Grafton Childcare Closes at 7 pm for Christmas
26 	27 Grafton Childcare is Closed	28 Grafton Childcare is Closed	29 Grafton Childcare is Closed	30 Grafton Childcare is Closed
2 Bank Holiday Grafton Childcare is Closed	3 Grafton Reopen's at 7 am Senior Staff Meeting 6-7 pm	4	5 Twelfth Night	6 Epiphany
9	10 Staff Planning Meeting 6-7 pm	11	12	13
16 Headcount Week	17 For 3 & 4 Year	18 olds in Receipt of	19 Free Early Years	20 Education Funding
23 Chinese New Year, Year of the Dragon	24	25	26 Australia day	27

We have planning meetings on the 3rd and 10th January, when we shall sit down using each child's "My Favourite Things In.... Have Been" pages and Parent Quick Note sections, as part of our ongoing working in Partnership with Parents. Parents can help us by regularly completing them remembering that the info which you supply helps us to specifically gear some of our plans towards the current interests and developmental needs of your own child.

Our focus over the next few weeks so far will be Twelfth Night, Epiphany and Chinese New Year. We will plan a whole host of other activities for the children once we have read each child's "My Favourite Things In.... Have Been" pages and Parent Quick Note sections, next year. All of which will nicely link into Physical Development & Knowledge and Understanding of the World which will be our Developmental Matters, Skills & Processes focus for this half of the Spring Term. Watch out for those codes!



We have today sent five £20 M&S Vouchers to five parents who kindly recommended Grafton Childcare to seven of our new children during the past six months. Thank You, as they say recommendation is always the best form of Advertising.



Grafton Childcare

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We would like to thank each and every parent and of course the children as well for helping Grafton Childcare to raise the pretty amazing figure of £185.03 this year. 75% £131



went towards Children in Need and 25% £44 towards STARS. Syncope Trust And Reflex anoxic Seizures (STARS) works together with individuals, families and medical professionals to offer support and information on Syncope and Reflex Anoxic Seizures. We hope that many of you spotted the photo which we sent into both the Mid-Devon Advertiser and the Herald Express newspapers who very kindly printed them in recognition of our pretty impressive fundraising efforts. If you missed the photos, don't worry you can see a copy of it on the bottom of this years A3 Calendars which were sent home with all of the children this week. We think we have managed to send a copy home with each child. But if you have not as yet had your copy let us know in the new year and we shall pop one into your child's bag.

This is just a quick newsletter to round up bits and bobs for the year and to thank you all for the pretty amazing cards, and gifts that you have given to Grafton to share or gifts given directly to your own child's Key Worker.

We are as always totally overwhelmed by everybody's generosity thank you. Grafton Childcare is embarking on applying for Eco Early Years Status we shall let you know more about this award next year! But as our first commitment to this Grafton Childcare has not this year given any Christmas Cards and has instead made a donation to the Woodland Trust towards their Jubilee Woods scheme instead.

January 2012

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Please note that Grafton Childcare will **CLOSE** on Friday 23rd December and will reopen on Tuesday 3rd January 2012. We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas.



Child Paracetamol Dosages Have Been Revised

The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency have issued new instructions about how much pain-relief medicine parents and childcares can give to children.

Until now, children aged one to six could be given up to 10ml of paracetamol-based products such as Calpol up to four times a day. But the new guidance advises lower doses for all children under four.

An MHRA spokesman said the changes were not made because of safety concerns and the aim was to ensure children got the right dose for their age. About 84% of children in the UK have received paracetamol-based products by the age of six months.

Parents give the medications because their children are in pain or have a fever - because of illness, teething pains or vaccination-related temperatures.

But the MHRA said the age band, where children aged one to six could be given the same dose, was too wide. Its updated guidance says: "Younger children may have received a dose of paracetamol that was higher than necessary."

Product information is being updated on medications for children under-six (which are 120mg/5ml) so it is in line with the new guidance.

The change is to ensure children get the optimal dose of paracetamol suitable for their age. It is not because of safety concerns. The revised guidance says older babies can now be given a higher dose. Previously babies aged three months to one year could only receive 2.5ml four times a day. Those aged six to 24 months can now have up to 5ml at each dose.

2-3 months - 2.5ml usually once,

but a second dose permitted 4-6 hours later

3-6 months - 2.5ml up to four times a day

6-24 months - 5ml up to four times a day

2-4 years - 7.5ml up to four times a day

4-6 years - 10ml up to four times a day

Parents should avoid using household teaspoons to give children medicine as sizes can vary widely, leading to both under- and overdoses, a study warns. Pharmacists would always recommend that parents and carers only use spoons or syringes which are designed for the administration of medicines if they are giving liquid medicines to children.

Thank You

We would like to say a huge thank you again to the following people, it is because of these ongoing generous donations that the children are able to create such wonderful masterpieces to be taken home and admired by one and all.

We would like to say a huge thank you again to the parent's of the following children:- Isaac & Milly, Izabella, Thea, Sophie, Lewis, Joshua, Tyler & Warren. Who have donated carrier bags, play-dough, painting rollers, tissue & photo paper, canvas, pondweed, padded envelopes, craft paper, egg trays and calendars. Oh and not forgetting Ricky for a box of envelopes and A3 paper, which came in very handy for printing our Annual Calendars.

Donations of Resources

Donations of toys and resources help us keep our costs down, so if you have any of the following items on hand and are willing to donate them, it would be greatly appreciated.

- Dressing up clothing child sized not old adult clothing, costumes, hats etc.
- Magazines that depict other cultures, old Christmas & Birthday cards etc.
- Crayons, water colour paints, or any misc. art supplies, such as fabric scraps, glitter, pipe cleaners, paper plates, etc.
- Any odd shaped boxes or packages, especially if you can get a dozen or so of the same size and shape, maybe from your place of work, we are very happy to help you recycle, these come in very handy for our junk modelling.
- Any small clean tins from sweets and chocolates the more funky shaped the better, for heuristic play
- Anything that you think we might find useful for arts and crafts, just ask if your not sure.
- Any non treated wood, i.e. an old tree which we can chop up for our wood burners, we need extra this year as we are in the process of having one installed next door! Phil has a small chainsaw, so is happy to come and chop any large logs into moveable pieces!
- During Christmas time and just after when making room for all of your new gifts, please think of us before throwing out all that ribbon that wrapped up those parcels. We would love to have all of those fancy gift bags. Paper of any kind, brown, white, coloured, waxed, foil.