



Grafton Childcare - Day Nursery & Preschool



The Very Hungry Caterpillar - Tuesday 7th May - Friday 31st May 2019



9th May - Is Lost Sock Memorial Day

Is a special day for mourning all our Lost Socks. Of course this is very much an unofficial holiday, but why shouldn't your lost socks be remembered. Let's face it we've all got a pile of odd socks lurking in the back of the sock drawer. Some of us even like to make a big thing about wearing them. But does anyone know where all the other odd socks go?

Who Decided There Should be a National Lost Sock Day?

There have been hours spent pondering the origin of this quirky celebration, and so far nobody seems to know. But does it really matter who thought of the idea? It's a great one whoever it was.

We shall be reading the fabulous Jane Hissey's book 'Hoot' which may well solve this age long mystery. It would be great if the children could wear Odd Socks each day next week. Please could your child bring in a couple of 'Odd Socks' for some craft activities which we have planned, thank you.



The Very Hungry Caterpillar

Our topic this month will be based on the book written in 1969, 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' as well as lots of other mini beast books written by Eric Carle who will be 90 in June!

It's considered one of the most-loved children's books of all time. Eric uses collage to create his distinctive artwork and has illustrated over 70 other books many using the same techniques. He's actually sold 162 million books over the course of his career. We can't imagine there can be many families who haven't owned a copy of this classic!

We shall be enjoying lots of caterpillar inspired mischievous shenanigans with the children and our very own giant cuddly 'Very Hungry Caterpillar' is very pleased to be able to come down from the loft for a short visit!

Please Remember to Recycle Your Empty Bread, Bagel & Baguette Bags

We find them very useful for sending home nappies and soiled clothing. Please save yours up and send them in for us to reuse, carrier bags are just a tad too large for the job.

As part of our Ethical Philosophy we no longer purchase single use plastic bags and prefer to reduce, reuse and recycle all plastic products whenever possible. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Printed on 100% recycled paper





Congratulations

We would like to congratulate our class of 2018/19 who will be leaving us this year to start 'Big School' at the start of their next big adventure.

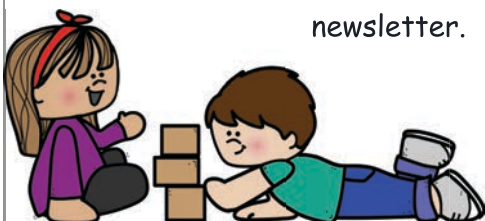
Our leavers this year will be going to Bradley Barton (2), Kingskerswell (1), Canada Hill (2), Bearnes (1), Kingsteignton (1), Stokeinteignhead (2), Sherwell Valley (1) and Highweek (1).

This very nicely shows how far and wide the catchment of Grafton Childcare is!

School Readiness Skills

During June our topic focus will be based around the lovely 'Goose & Sophie' books written by local author and artist Laura Wall.

Lara will also be thinking about and practicing lots of those all important 'School Readiness Skills' with our children to ensure that they are ready socially, physically, and intellectually, to start 'Big School' in September. More info in our June newsletter.



Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

As always we are very grateful for bits



and bobs which our parents pass onto us to make use of here at Grafton Childcare. In no particular order we would like to thank Noah, Lena, Phoebe, Willow, Emily, Evelyn, Rebecca, Ellyre and Ella:- for the following much appreciated items:- Baby Soft Blocks, Toddler Toys, Cloth Bodied Dolls, Wooden Elephants, Early Years Books, Easter Eggs, Whicker Baskets, Fresh Flowers, Chickens, Dried Coconut Flakes, Baby Board Books, Ribbons, Russian Dolls, a Fezz, Shells, Strong Dumby Cardboard Tubes, Wooden Bungs, Little Pottery Tea Set, Envelopes & Writing Paper, Bubble Blower, Pencils, Crayons, Cardboard Sheets from Shirts, Funky Tea Bags, Herbs, Spices, Dried Brown Rice and Food Colouring (all for use in our Potion Station & Playdough).

Note: We do not need any Junk Modelling Items at the moment, until we start our Recycling & Earth Friendly Super Heroes Topic in July, thank you.

Loose Parts Wanted Please

If parents, grandparents and carers would like support us we would be very grateful for donations of any of the following items, please don't go and buy anything we are very happy to have bits and bobs you find on your walks, or items you may have lurking in the back of your cupboards which may be out of date or no longer used, but are ideal for us to use with playdough, for small world play and transient art:- Dried seeds & flowers; small brass & wooden ornamental animals; wooden clogs & Russian dolls; silk scarfs; lace; ribbons; metal bangles biscuit cutters teabag squeezers and garlic presses etc.

Summer Term Phonics Pots

Please remember that all items must fit inside your child's Phonics Pot with the lid on, to help ensure we do not lose any of your items at Nursery thank you.

April's Phonics Letters are all inspired by The Squash & Squeeze

Wk. 14 - 1st April -

'D' for Julia Donaldson!

Wk. 15 - 8th April -

'E' for Egg

Wk. 16 - 15th April -

Closed Reopen Tuesday 23rd

Wk. 17 - 23rd April -

'F' for Farmyard

Wk. 18 - 29th April -

'G' for Goat

May's Phonics Letters are all inspired by The Hungry Caterpillar

Wk. 19 - 7th May



'H' for Hungry

Wk. 20 - 13th May

'I' for Ice Cream

Wk. 21 - 20th May

'J' for Juicy Fruit!

Wk. 22 - 28th May

'K' for Kiwi

June's Phonics Letters are all inspired by Goose & Sophie & School Readiness

Wk. 23 - 3rd June



'L' for Lunchbox

Wk. 24 - 10th June

'M' for Maths Bags

Wk. 25 - 17th June

'N' for Good Night Goose

Wk. 26 - 24th June

'O' for GOOSE!

July's Phonics Letters are all inspired by Recycling & Earth Friendly Superheros

Wk. 27 - 1st July

'P' for Plastic Heros

Wk. 28 - 8th July

'Q' for Queen Bee

Wk. 29 - 15th July

'R' for Recycling

Wk. 30 - 15th July

'S' for Superman

Wk. 31 - 29th July

'T' for TerraCycle



May - August's out & about around Newton Abbot

Bakers & Decoy Woodland Experiences; Newton Abbot Library, Jacksons Fishmongers; Hoopers Family Butchers & Ashfords Greengrocers.

Here at Grafton Childcare we like to get involved with activities and trips out and about in our local community and know that our parents love that we take our children out and about regularly.

Below we have provided a list of just a few of the **confirmed** dates when we plan on getting out and about around Newton Abbot, with our children, this term.

These outings are predominantly planned with our Preschool Children in mind, so our three and four years olds. However weather permitting we hope to take our under threes as well. The decision to include our under three's will be made on a weekly basis.

May - Whole Nursery Trip to Totnes Rare Breeds Farm

7th May - Library, Jackson & Ashfords

17th May - Decoy Park Woodland Experience

22nd May - Library, Hoopers & Ashfords

30th May - Bradley Woods Woodland Experience

4th June - Library, Jackson & Ashfords

14th June - Decoy Park Woodland Experience

19th June - Library, Hoopers & Ashfords

27th June - Bradley Woods Woodland Experience

2nd July - Library, Jackson & Ashfords

12th July - Decoy Park Woodland Experience

17th July - Library, Hoopers & Ashfords

25th July - Bradley Woods Woodland Experience

30th July - Library, Jackson & Ashfords

9th August - Decoy Park Woodland Experience














14th August - Library, Hoopers & Ashfords

22nd - Superhero Adventure to Teignmouth

Parents please remember to always send your children equipped with changes of clothes, a suitable lightweight showerproof coat, shoes and or welly boots for our regular educational excursions to Decoy Park and Bradley. So they can enjoy our high jinks, childish buffoonery and mischievous shenanigans to the full.



Grafton Childcare's Short Term Topics & Themes Summer Term

A Squash and a Squeeze				
1 April Yoga	2 Library, Jacksons & Ashfords	3	4	5
8	9 Yoga, Unicorn Day!	10	11 Chicks Return	12 Decoy Woodland Experience
Mon. 15th April - Mon. 22nd April Grafton Childcare will be closed for our Easter Holiday and will reopen on Tuesday 23rd April 2019 for the beginning of our Summer Term. 2019				
22 Closed	23 St George's Day	24 Library, Hoopers & Ashfords	25	26
29 International Dance Day	30	1 May	2 Trip - Totnes Rare Breeds Farm	3
The Hungry Caterpillar				
6 May Day Bank Holiday Closed	7 Library, Jacksons & Ashfords	8 No Socks Day	9 Lost Sock Memorial Day	10 Mother Ocean Day
13 Yoga National Vegetarian Week	14 	15 Nat Dinosaur & Numeracy Day	16 World Baking Day	17 Decoy Woodland Experience
20 Yoga	21 	22 Library, Hoopers & Ashfords	23	24 
27 Spring Bank Holiday Closed	28	29 National Biscuit Day	30 Bradley Woodland Experience	31 
Goose & Sophie - Getting Ready for School				
3 June Yoga	4 Library, Jacksons & Ashfords	5 Child Bike Safety Week	6 World Environment Day	7
10 Yoga - Healthy Eating Week	11 World Music Day	12	13 	14 Decoy Woodland Experience
17 Yoga	18 	19 Library, Hoopers & Ashfords	20	21
24 Yoga - Fairy Day	25 	26	27 Bradley Woodland Experience	28 National Sunglasses Day
Recycling & Earth Friendly Super Heroes				
1 July Yoga	2 Library, Jacksons & Ashfords	3 World UFO Day	4	5
8 Yoga - Bee's Needs Week	9 	10	11	12 Decoy Woodland Experience Stay, Play & Chat 13
15 Yoga	16 	17 Library, Hoopers & Ashfords	18	19 Big Butterfly Count
22 Yoga	23	24	25 Bradley Woodland Experience	26 
29	30 Library, Jacksons & Ashfords	31	1 August	2 
5	6	7	8	9 Decoy Woodland Experience
12 	13	14 Library, Hoopers & Ashfords	15	16
19 	20	21	22 Whole Nursery Superhero Adventure to Teignmouth	23
Mon. 26th August - Friday 30th August Grafton Childcare will be closed for our Summer Holiday and will reopen on Monday 2nd September 2019 for the beginning of our Autumn Term. 2019				

Parents please remember to always send your children equipped with changes of clothes, a suitable lightweight showerproof coat, shoes and or welly boots for our regular educational excursions to Decoy Park and Bradley Woods. So they can enjoy our high jinks, childish buffoonery and mischievous shenanigans to the full.