



# Grafton Childcare

## The Adventures of Paddington Bear - 6th Nov. - 1st Dec. 2017

6th - 10th  
November 2017



We shall be sending home a label for you to attach to a 'small teddy bear' which your child would like to bring into Nursery for Children in Need Week between the 13th-17th November. Whilst we are enjoying our topic around the adventures of Paddington Bear, we have plans to raise some money for Children in Need. By holding our Teddy Bears Picnic, complete with our own Marmalade Sandwiches! Please don't send in a family heirloom, or one which your child is very attached to, as we shall keep it here for the whole week and asking for a £5 donation for Children in Need 2017.

### Phonics Pots

6th November - 'B' for Blue

inspired by Paddington's blue duffle coat

13th November - 'R' for Red

inspired by Paddington's red welly boots

20th November - 'O' for Orange

inspired by Paddington's marmalade sandwiches

27th November - 'H' for Hats

inspired by his various Black, Red and Yellow Hats

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

## Physical Development

### Aspects of Moving and Handling; Health and Self-care



Our topic for November will be loosely based around the series of Paddington Bear books written by the late Michael Bond who sadly passed away this Summer.

Paddington Bear is a much loved fictional character in British culture, a spectacled bear wearing a duffle coat and squashy hat. He is always polite - addressing people as "Mr", "Mrs" and "Miss", rarely by first names - and kindhearted, though he inflicts hard stares on those who incur his disapproval.

He has an endless capacity for innocently getting into trouble, but he is known to "try so hard to get things right." He was discovered in Paddington Station, London, by the (human) Brown family who adopted him, and thus he gives his full name as "Paddington Brown".

The first Paddington Story was written way back in 1958 after Michael Bond bought a small bear in Selfridges as a Christmas Present for his wife and the rest as they say is history. Since then dozens of books, annuals, cartons, toys and finally two films have followed and have been enjoyed by countless generations of families and now we hope they will be enjoyed by the Grafton Childcare family as well.



6th - 10th November 2017

### Five Things you didn't know about Michael Bond

1. As a boy growing up in Reading, he loved to visit Reading Station to watch the Cornish Riviera Express go steaming by. This would inspire his love of trains.
2. Some of his visits were rather more poignant, however, as he watched evacuees flood in by train during World War II. The evacuees wore labels around their necks which read 'thank you'. This would be the inspiration for the label Paddington wears around his neck when he first arrives at Paddington Station.



3. He'd been gradually building up the inspiration to write the Paddington Bear books, but the final spark came almost 60 years ago, when Michael was looking for a Christmas gift for his wife in Selfridges. He saw a forlorn-looking teddy bear, sitting alone on a shelf. He felt rather sorry for it and was inspired to write a book about a stranded little bear who finds a new family.
4. Beginning in 1958, Michael wrote more than 150 Paddington Bear tales. They've been translated into more than 40 languages.
5. The success of the series led to the release of two feature-length films, in 2014 and 2017. Which has brought Paddington back into the limelight for a whole new generation of children.

## Physical Development

### Aspects of Moving and Handling; Health and Self-care



Here at Grafton Childcare we plan to support the children's Physical Development this week by providing opportunities for them to be active and interactive; and to develop their co-ordination, control, and movement. We believe it is vital that Children are helped to understand the importance of physical activity, and encouraged to make healthy choices in relation to the foods they eat.

#### Moving and Handling:

We have lots of Paddington Bear inspired fun planned for this week such as supporting the children to design and build their own obstacle course in the playground, making use of our tires, planks and giant Community Playthings wooden blocks to recreate our very own version of Paddington Railway Station. The children will then take their own teddy bears around their obstacle course to recreate when Mr Brown first met Paddington. This will support the children to show good control and co-ordination in large and small movements and gain the confidence to move in a range of ways, hopefully safely negotiating the space with their teddies.

We shall be supporting the children to handle equipment and tools effectively, by developing our 'scissor skills' when the children help to create our giant Paddington Bear collage to brighten up the walls at Grafton. We will have lots of 'mark making' materials available for the children to dip in and out of and create their own pieces of art.

#### Health and Self-care:

We will be instilling the importance for good health, physical exercise, and a healthy diet, and talk about ways to keep healthy and safe. This will be part of our planned activity where the children will be able to create their very own Marmalade Sandwiches, which we will then eat for am or pm snack

13th - 17th November - 2017

### Heads up for Children in Need

Last week we sent home a label which we asked you to attach to a small teddy bear and send in along with hopefully a £5 donation for Children in Need.

We are planning two Teddy Bears Picnics one on Wednesday 15th and another on Friday 17th, when the children and teddies will be enjoying their Marmalade Sandwiches and other goodies they have made.

The Children will also be baking Cookies and Cakes for Children in Need and selling them to our parents for £1.

### Loaning Grafton's Carpet Cleaner



As a fundraiser for **Children in Need 2017** we are happy to loan our carpet cleaner out to our parents for £20, for 48 hours usage. This

does not include cleaning solutions, sorry! However we have found somebody selling the cleaning solution on Ebay for £9.50 for 5 Litres, so can sell you some or you can purchase your own. We are aware that you can hire carpet cleaners for between £27 - £34 for 48 hours, so £20 is a bargain. Speak to Denise if you would like to loan our Carpet Cleaner and help us to raise some pennies for **Children in Need 2017**.

## Personal, Social & Emotional Development



Self-confidence & Self-awareness: Managing Feelings & Behaviour: Making Relationships:

**Personal, social and emotional development PSED** here at Grafton Childcare we believe this involves helping children to develop a positive sense of themselves, and others; to form positive relationships and develop respect for others; to develop social skills and learn how to manage their feelings; to understand appropriate behaviour in groups; and to have confidence in their own abilities. We shall be supporting the aspects of PSED this week by focusing on some of the following:-

**Self-confidence and self-awareness:** Providing family friendly small groups where the children gain the confidence to try new activities, and say why they like some activities more than others. Where they are able to gain the confidence to speak in familiar groups, to talk about their ideas, and choose the resources they need for their chosen activities. For example during our daily Circle Time and Phonics Pot Sessions, when the children share their 'Wow Cards' and discuss the contents of their Phonics Pots with their peers.

**Managing feelings and behaviour:** We will be providing the children with opportunities to talk about how they and others show feelings, using some of the Paddington stories to demonstrate their own and others' behaviour, and its consequences, learning that some behaviour is unacceptable. They will be working in small groups, to learn about, understand and follow our rules. Learning to adjust their behaviour to different situations, and take changes of routine in their stride. We do this with the use of our Table Top Toy sessions with our Orchard Toy Games and Puzzles, our vast array of Stories and Role-play opportunities such as this weeks Teddy Bears Picnic and of course our normal daily routines here at Grafton.

**Making relationships:** We will be supporting the children to play co-operatively, encouraging taking turns with others. So that they can develop the skills to take account of one another's ideas about how to organise their activities. This will develop their understanding of the need for sensitivity to others' needs and feelings, and help them form positive relationships with others in life.

20th - 24th November - 2017

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### Reading

So not surprisingly as our developmental focus this week is on Literacy we will be enjoying lots of opportunities to read some of the Paddington Bear stories with the children.

We will also be developing the children's listening skills and encouraging those who are interested to listen to some of our audio versions of the books.

### Writing

Which is the second aspect of the Literacy developmental area includes lots of opportunities for the children to take part in mark making and water painting both inside and out.

We will be noticing and encouraging the marks children make and the meanings that they give to them, such as when a child covers a whole piece of paper and says, "I'm writing". As well as talking to the children about the letters that represent the sounds they hear at the beginning of their own names and other familiar words and demonstrating writing so that children can see spelling in action.

# Literacy Development



## Reading & Writing:

**Literacy Development** here at Grafton involves encouraging our children to link sounds and letters and to begin to read and write. We use a combination of the DofE's Phases 1 and 2 'Letters and Sounds' as well as the 'Jolly Phonics' systems. Both of which are used by most of the Primary schools into which our children feed. Our children are provided with access to a very wide range of reading materials such as books and poems, to ignite their interest, including our 200 Going Home Book Bags.

**Letters and Sounds:** Phase 1 falls largely within the Communication and Language and Literacy areas of learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). In particular, it supports linking sounds and letters in the order in which they occur in words, and naming and sounding the letters of the alphabet. It also draws on and promotes other areas of learning described in the (EYFS), particularly Personal, Social and Emotional Development and Creative Development, where, for example, music plays a key part in developing children's language.

We carry out lots of short focused activities with our 2, 3 and 4 year olds which are mainly adult-led with the intention of teaching the important basic elements of the Letters and Sounds programme such as oral segmenting and blending of familiar words. However, we will also draw upon many of the child led activities that are provided here at Grafton. With the aim to embed the Phase 1 adult-led activities in a language-rich provision that serves the best interests of the children by fully recognising their propensity for play based learning and its importance in their development. It follows that Grafton's high quality play activities offer lots of opportunities to enrich the children's language across the (EYFS) and that staff need to be alert to the opportunities afforded for language development through the children's play based learning.

27th Nov. - 1st Dec 2017

## Shape, Space & Measure

For this aspect the children are encouraged to use everyday language to talk about size, weight, capacity, position, distance, time and money to compare quantities and objects and to solve simple problems. For example we can introduce our selection of pegged and tricky shaped puzzles, and compare our Teddy Bears. Is Grafton's Paddington Bear the biggest, tallest, heaviest bear? Not sure what do you think we can we do to find out the answer?

They are encouraged to recognise, create and describe patterns as they play. We do this by exploring the characteristics of everyday objects and shapes and we use mathematical language to describe them. You don't need lots of fancy 'special' equipment to 'teach' mathematics and we certainly don't have anything like that here at Grafton Childcare, but we do have a good combination of what is known as 'loose parts' and of course some specific equipment such as our sets of scales, rules, tape measures as well as various jugs and measuring ladles which the children can use outside in our water centre, mud kitchen and sand areas. Not to mention of course when they are enjoying our weekly cooking activities.

Quite simply maths is all around us, everywhere everyday. Between the 13th November and the 22nd December we shall be converting the 'Kid's Shed' into our Post Office where the children will be weighing, and measuring their Christmas Parcels. They will be selling stamps and comparing the sizes of their letters, are any 'large letters' and which are not? Oh and delivering them all of course.



# Mathematics Development



## Numbers; Shape, Space and Measure:

**Mathematics Development** here at Grafton involves giving the children numerous opportunities to develop and improve their skills in counting, understanding and using numbers, calculating simple addition and subtraction problems; and to describe shapes, spaces, and measures.

**Numbers:** to support the development of this aspect of mathematics we will provide opportunities and activities both adult and child led where the children can develop their counting skills with numbers from 1 to 30 and higher for the more able.

So this week we will be using our Compare Bears to link in with our Paddington Theme and will be supporting the children to place them in preset orders and saying which number is one more or one less than a given number. By using quantities and objects, they will begin to develop the skills to add and subtract two single-digit numbers and count on or back to find the answers they are looking for.



To further support activities like this, we shall be introducing our threading beads and shapes and possibly our dry Pudsey Pasta as we know how much the children enjoyed a similar activity last month using our Halloween Pasta so would like to extend this activity for them as we always try to be guided by their current interests and fascinations. What may look like simple activities like these help develop early numeracy skills such as counting, sorting, patterning as well as problem solving skills, including doubling, halving and quartering.

### Grafton's Weekly Blog

Remember to read our weekly blog to learn more about what we have planned for each specific week. You will also find more examples and suggestions of games and activities which you may like to do at home to help support yours child's ongoing learning.

## Grafton Childcare's Short Term Topics & Themes Autumn Term (3)

<b>Paddington Bear</b>				
6	7	8 	9	10
13 	14	15	16	17 Children in Need 2017
20	21	22 	23	24
27	28	29	30	1 December
<b>The Jolly Christmas Postman</b>				
4 	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21 	22
<p>Monday 25th December - Monday 1st January - Grafton Childcare will be closed for our Christmas Holiday and will reopen on Tuesday 2nd January for the beginning of the Spring Term 2018.</p>				
<b>We're Going on a Bear Hunt</b>				
New Years Day Closed	2 January	3 	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
<p>Mon. 15th - Fri. 19th January 'Headcount Week' for Funded Children Attendance is essential to secure funding</p>				
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26 
<b>Fairytales</b>				
29 	30	31	1 February	2
5 	6	7	8	9
<p>Mon. 12th - Fri. 16th February is Half-term for our handful of Term-time only Funded Children</p>				
12	13	14 	15	16
19	20	21 	22	23 
26	27	28	1 March	2 