



Grafton Childcare

Goose and Sophie - Tuesday 18th April - Friday 12th May 2017

18th - 21st April

Phonics Pots

18th April - Letter 'G'
for Goose & other
objects

24th April - Letter 'S'
for Sophie & other
objects

2nd May - Letter 'B' for
Ben & other objects

8th May - Letter 'T' for
Tess & other objects

We want your old Bread Bags

These are really useful
for sending home wet,
soggy and soiled clothing.

If you would like to save
up all of your empty bread
bags we would be delighted to
give them a new home, here at
Grafton Childcare.

Just pop them into
the top of your
child's Nursery bag
and we will take
them out and add
them to our stash.



Physical Development

Moving & Handling, Health & Self-care

We have a short four day week this week but it will be action packed as always. On Tuesday morning our 2, 3 and 4 years old will all be walking down to the Mad Hatters Cafe beside the Clock Tower in the morning, so that the team from the Cafe and Mrs B's Bonnets can judge the children's amazing Easter Bonnets. We expect to be strolling down between 10 - 11 am, so keep your eyes peeled for us if you are in the area, and watch our Blog and Facebook page for details of our winners.

Check out our blog for in depth details of our plans this week, we will all be getting very Physical painting with feathers and using our welly boots to print with. As well as enjoying some finger gym activities, to help develop those vital 'fine motor skills', the children all need to develop as part of their pencil skills desirable for school in September.

Our 'preschool' children will be creating and eating their very own fruity Knickerbocker Glories, hopefully just like the ones which Goose and Sophie created in one of their adventures together. Our 'little ones' will be enjoying our treasure baskets with an added Goose and Sophie dimension. Check out their webpage.....

24th - 28th April 2017

Suncream Reminder

Now that the days are getting longer and we seem to be getting a bit more sunshine, could we remind parents that we do need the following items to be left at Grafton Childcare for the sole use of your child at ALL times:-

- 1 sunhat(not a baseball cap)
- 1 pair of Welly Boots
- 1 Jacket e.g pack-a-mac style
- 2 complete changes of clothes, for your child. 6 if they are toilet training.
- 1 labelled bottle of suncream, (if you wish to supply it)
- 2 or 3 labelled sachets of Calpol (to be stored in your child's Daily Diary folder)

It is vital that you supply all these labelled items to ensure that your child can be fully included in all our quite often spontaneous activities which we carry out. This will prevent your child from having to be excluded or not being able to change afterwards because you have not provided us with the necessary equipment or suitable clothing for them to be able to fully participate in all of our fun and games.

We reapply suncream at 1pm on the assumption that children arrived wearing suncream for the am sessions.

Remember we include lots of messy, mucky, muddy and grubby but fun activities. Please don't send your child in any special clothing if you would be upset about it coming home soggy, dirty and possibly stained.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

Self-confidence & self-awareness; Managing Feelings & Behaviour; Making Relationships

We shall be enjoying the book 'Goose Goes Shopping' and planning our own shopping trip down to 'Sainsburys Local' to purchase some of the ingredients the children will need to bake their own Cupcakes and create their own invitations for our own Tea Party.



We also hope to get out and about to possibly feed the Geese and Ducks at Decoy during the week. Please make sure your child has a pair of welly boots left at Grafton at all times for our regular adventures out and about in our local community.

We will be using the 'Kids Shed' and our inside 'Role-play Area' opposite the Classroom so that the children can use them as areas to act out some of the stories they have been enjoying from the Goose series. Role-play is so important for the children's developing self-confidence and self-awareness as it allows them to try out scenarios in a safe and non judgemental environment. This is such an important part of developing a secure basis for their PSED, please read more about this in this weeks blog.

The 'Little Ones' will be enjoying lots of fun during our regular Rhyme Time sessions. Luckily they are not that bothered that we can't actually sing, they just enjoy the opportunity to join in and try out our range of musical instruments and make some noise, sorry I mean music!

2nd - 5th May 2017

Drop off & Collections

If you drop off or collect your child from our front door it would be very helpful if you could please try to remember to look into our video camera so that where possible we can direct the correct staff member to answer the door. If we take a few moments to come to the door after we have spoken to you via the intercom, any delay will usually be your child's Key Worker gathering together your child and their belongings so that s/he can bring them to the door. If you would like to collect your child early for whatever reason, it would be hugely appreciated if you could send a little note via the Parent's just a note pages in the front of your child's Daily Diary or Communication Booklet in the morning or phone us giving us sufficient time ideally 15 minutes to ensure your child has been changed out of our washable nappies, if still in nappies. Your full cooperation would be massively appreciated by all of our staff and children thank you. We hate having to rush them along at the end of the day. Please don't be offended if you collect early and we have not had time to finish completing your child's Daily Diary or Communication Book for the day.



Literacy Development

Reading; Writing.

We have another short but action packed four day week, our developmental focus will be Literacy and the aspects of Reading and Writing.

The children will be enjoying our daily Phonics sessions and as you know with our topic we have been asking parents to fill their phonics pots with items beginning with the letters 'G', 'S', 'B', and 'T'. This week we are focusing on the letter B for Ben one of the characters from Laura Walls delightful *Goose* and *Sophie* books.

We will be encouraging lots of amazing mark marking among the children both inside and out in the playground. They will be using our sensory sand, gloop, water and good old fashioned paint but with an extra twist added by Gary.

We will of course be sharing our set of *Goose* and *Sophie* stories and if the weather is kind to us we can take our books outside and share them on our Literacy Bench in the front garden. Have the children told you yet about our amazing giant knitted *Goose* and *Sophie* complete with welly boots and hats? We have been using them as props to give our storytelling an added dimension which really help the children to engage with the wonderful stories. Check out this weekends blog for lots of lovely photos.

We are planning a trip down to Newton Abbot Library at some time during the week to return our library books and choose some new ones to bring back and share at Grafton.

The children will be enjoying lots of 'finger gym' activities which are so important for developing the fine motor skills the children will need as part of their school readiness e.g:- Threading Beads & Shapes onto shoelaces and pipe cleaners; chopping fruit for their fresh smoothies and tea bag painting etc.

8th 0 12th May 2017

Wanted Junk Modelling Items

Please can you save up any items which we could use for junk modelling during our 'Transport' topic which will run from Monday 15th May until Friday 2nd June.

We would love any **small** cardboard boxes, e.g. from toothpaste, pilchards, sweets etc which the children could use to create their own small scale forms of Transport.

We would also love to recycle any small plastic pots and lids which the children could use as wheels.

Please send in your empty and clean junk modelling items from Monday 15th May and we shall stash them away ready for the children to get creative and let their imaginations go wild.



Thank You

We would like to say a huge thank you to the parent's of the following children and staff:- Phil, Chris, Anna, Ella, and Minnie who have donated Hats for our Easter Bonnets, Card and Tissue Paper, Baby Toys, bread bags and junk modelling items and various craft items.

We are always very grateful to receive any loans or donations from parents. If you have any items which you think may be of use during our upcoming topics on Transport and Rumble in the Jungle, please speak to your child's Key Worker, thank you.

Mathematics Development

Number; Shape, Space and Measure.



This is the final week of our four week topic based on the delightful books written by Laura Wall, which are all about the adventures of Goose and Sophie. Our developmental focus this week is Mathematics.

There is much more to Mathematics than simply counting a number of objects, we will be providing the children with lots of opportunities for **Sorting** and finding things that go together according to their size, shape colour and other factors, for example, sorting a basket full of farm animals into family groups or a group of cars into colours or our wooden barrels into their various sizes.

We will be providing opportunities for **Matching** so that the children will need to find two things which have one or more factors in common, for instance matching pictures of their favourite characters from the Goose stories or matching natural objects such as shells, pebbles and beads.

We will be looking at **Patterns** and opportunities for the children to look for and form patterns for example, by printing with sponges, lining up the farm animals or arranging coloured bricks. Mathematics is all about seeing the patterns in numbers so seeing visual patterns in real objects is a great building block for their future mathematical learning.

We will also be exploring lots of **Shapes** and starting to name them correctly. These will include all of the common 2D shapes such as circles, squares, triangles and rectangles as well as 3D shapes, such as cuboids, spheres and cylinders. During our block play we will be encouraging the children to talk about the shapes as they build and encourage them to use the correct mathematical 2D and 3D names.

Grafton Childcare's Short Term Topics & Themes Summer Term (1)

Goose and Sophie

17 Easter Monday Closed	18 Summer Term Begins	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
1 May Day Bank Holiday Closed	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12



Transport

15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26



May - NO Early Years Funding next week for term-time only children

29 Spring Bank Holiday Closed	30	31	1	2
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Rumble in the Jungle

5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

