



## Newsletter Spring Term 1

### Contact

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### Welcome back

Wishing all our families a happy, healthy and peaceful new year. Our newsletter keeps you updated with news and events and what we have planned for this half term. You can also follow us on Facebook and visit our school website;

[Goodway Nursery](#)

[\(3\) Goodway Nursery School | Birmingham | Facebook](#)

### Reception class places September 2023

You must submit your application for a place in reception class for September 2023 by 15th January 2023 at the latest.

If your child will be 4 on or before 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023 you should apply now for a place in a reception class.

It is important that you find the right school for your child, so please do go and have a look at any school you are interested in, look on their school website and read their latest Ofsted report, so that you can make an informed choice. You can find out about school open days and apply for a place online by following the link below.

[Apply online | Apply for reception class or primary school | Birmingham City Council](#)

### Library books

Please remember to return your child's library book on the designated day (if you are unsure, please ask your child's key worker), so that your child can enjoy a new story every week. Reading with your child helps to develop their vocabulary and is an important bonding time.

### Core books we will be reading this half term

We focus upon particular books each half term to read to the children regularly so that children develop a bank of well known and loved stories.

You can help by getting the story from your local library and reading it at home to your child.

These stories will be a stimulus for imaginative role play, mark making, creating models and many other learning opportunities.

#### Poppies & Sunflowers (3-4 year olds) :

Goldilocks and The Three Bears  
The Gingerbread man  
Lanterns & Firecrackers

#### Daisies (2-3 year olds):

Froggy Gets Dressed  
Maisy Goes to bed

### Safety week Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> – Fri 27<sup>th</sup> January

We will be talking to children about staying safe

#### Parent Workshops: Internet Safety & PANTS

Find out how to keep your child safe on-line

9am Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January and 9am Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January

### Welcome to our new Goodway Nursery team members

We are really pleased to welcome new members to our Good way Nursery team.

We have a new teacher, Alicia, who will be teaching in the Sunflowers & Poppies classrooms.

We have three new Early Years Educators; Shaun, Courtney and Zarina, who will be supporting teaching and learning across the nursery school.

Lewis has joined our admin team and will be working with Sue in the main office.

We have a new cleaner, Sharon, who will work with Richard to keep our nursery school beautiful and clean. Welcome to team Goodway!

### Staffing Changes

Tamar has returned to her substantive post at Bloomsbury Nursery School. On behalf of all at Good way, we would like to say a big thank you for the support Tamar has given to the children, families and team.

Lucy is our newly appointed SENCo. Please do feel free to contact Lucy if you have any concerns or queries about your child's development.

### Forest School

Forest School sessions have commenced. Please ensure your child is wearing suitable clothes and has a pair of wellington boots clearly labelled with their name, when it is their turn for Forest School.

### Goodway Nursery

Woodland Trust website

There is a wide range of excellent activities to carry out with your child at home which you can access through the Woodland Trust website.

Click on the following links to access Woodland Trust website;

[www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives/activities](http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives/activities)

### We're learning to say 'hello' in Cantonese

We teach children to say hello in a different language each half term.

This half term we are learning to say hello in Cantonese

你好 'Nǐ hǎo'

### Core Rhymes

Singing rhymes helps children learn about rhythm and rhyme to help with pre reading skills. It is also great fun! This half term we will be singing:

**Poppies & Sunflowers (3-4 year olds):** 'Isn't it Funny How a Bear Likes Honey?', 'Teddy Bear Teddy Bear Turn Around', 'When Goldilocks went to the house of the Bears', 'Five Little Teddy Bears Jumping on the Bed'

#### Daisies (2-3 year olds):

'Round and Round the Garden, Like Teddy Bear' Humpty Dumpty; Hickory Dickory; Incy Wincy Spider

## Makaton signs

Makaton is designed to support spoken language – signs are used alongside speech to help children to communicate.

We are teaching children the following signs:  
New year; Chinese; Dragon; No; Safe

We will also learn the signs linked to our core books.

Follow the link below to find more about Makaton  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/makaton>

## This half term we will be learning.....

### Personal, social & emotional development

- o Making Relationships – circle time games
- o Leadership roles
- o Ring games
- o Vocabulary of emotions & feelings
- o Learning about staying safe

### Communication & Language

- o Respond to simple instructions e.g. put your coat on.
- o Understand prepositions- under, through, over
- o Understand 'why' and 'how' questions
- o Recall and relive past experiences
- o Question why things happen and give explanations

### Physical development

- o Outdoor Play – creating obstacle courses
- o Painting – Chinese patterns – year of the rat
- o Independently using bikes with road markings
- o Tasting Chinese Food
- o Introduce NSPCC PANTS information (safety week)
- o Introduce Road Safety activities (safety week)

### Literacy

- o Attempting writing names
- o Finding own names at registration
- o Give meaning to marks made
- o Spot known signs and familiar words
- o Handle books carefully
- o Listen to stories with increasing attention and recall
- o Join in with repeated refrains - "We can't go over it....."
- o Anticipate key events and phrases in rhymes and stories.

### Maths

- o Nursery rhymes that subtract– Teddy Bears jumping on bed,
- o Shapes in the environment
- o Mark making numbers
- o Physical play- exploring counting jumps, steps etc
- o Block play- making arrangements with blocks – making bear caves/homes
- o Outdoor play- look for shapes in the environment
- o Compare weight and length of objects

### Understanding the World

- o Role play- Chinese home/foods/utensils – taste Chinese foods
- o Safety week- meet visitor to talk about occupations
- o Planting, observing changes in weather and growth in garden
- o Draw picture on I board and send to printer
- o Safety week-Read 'Chicken Clickin'

### Expressive arts & design

- o Key songs and rhymes-
- o Mixing colours
- o Use instrument cards to follow a steady beat
- o Music played daily to widen musical repertoires
- o Making a Chinese dragon and painting Chinese script
- o Listening to Chinese music and moving to it

## Unicef Rights Respecting School

We are very proud to have achieved our Gold Unicef Rights Respecting School award which demonstrates our commitment to Children's Rights.

This half term we will focus upon the following rights:

### Article 19: Protection from violence abuse and neglect

**Governments** must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them

- o NSPCC PANTS materials
- o Use of Group time friend puppets to talk about staying safe

**Article 29: Goals of education** Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

- o Applied Theatre students work
- o We're Going on a Bear Hunt theatre trip
- o Visit from mobile library

**Article 30: Culture** Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, regardless of whether these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.

- o Chinese New Year
- o Learning to say hello in Cantonese

## Stay & Play

We have a **Stay & Play** session here at Goodway Nursery School, each Tuesday between 9:30-11am. No booking is required, and the session is suitable for children 0-5years.

## Coffee Morning – 9:00-10:00am Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January

We are a Rights Respecting School, children's rights thread through our school ethos and culture.

Parents are invited to attend a coffee morning on the 20<sup>th</sup> January. We will be sharing information about our commitment to promoting and protecting children's rights.

[The Rights Respecting Schools Award | UNICEF UK](#)

## Learning at home

More ideas for learning at home are available on our website under the 'Teaching & Learning' section.  
[www.goodwayn.bham.sch.uk](http://www.goodwayn.bham.sch.uk)

Please choose a book each week to read with your child and read with them every day. Sharing a story together every day is the most important thing you can do to support your child's early reading development.

## Chinese New Year celebrations Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January

We will be learning about Chinese New Year and tasting Chinese food. We will also listen to music from China and create our own dragon dances!



## Half Term break

We close for the half term break on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February. Children return to school on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023.