

Dear Parents and Carers,  
Since January 2017 I have had the absolute honour and privilege of being the headteacher of Guildford Nursery School and Family Centre.

An honour and privilege that comes with a huge responsibility that I take very seriously. A responsibility to the children, their families, our staff and the local community.

Who better then to guide my work than **Friedrich Froebel**? A man who argued that the most important part of education was the child's first seven years. Someone who had ultimate respect for each child and their family. Someone who understood the true value of childhood and that through play the greatest learning takes place.



Froebel argued that we must view each child within the context of their family and wider community. We all need to feel we belong and that we are valued for who we are, just as we are. I truly believe that without significant relationships there can be no significant learning.

Guildford Nursery School and Family Centre has committed to be a Froebelian organisation and I am so grateful to and proud of all the staff for their continued enthusiasm, reflective practice and sheer hard work.

### As a Froebelian school:

- Your children are able to spend as much time as they like outside and they choose whether they spend time indoors or outdoors.
- Experiences such as gardening, cooking, woodwork, sewing, climbing trees, lighting a fire, using clay are all features of our curriculum.
- Children are given the freedom to make choices with adults present to guide them when necessary.
- We accept each child exactly as they are and build on their strengths, providing the right support at the right time.
- The resources offered for children provide them with opportunities to really think and use their imagination, are often reusable and recycled, and are always beautifully presented.
- Children are given plenty of time and space to play and communicate.
- Staff look for the good intentions behind every child's actions.
- Adults observe each child carefully so that they can respond to their interests. They teach the skills and knowledge that the children need.
- Relationships between staff and children are always warm and respectful; together they share in the joy and delight that is discovery and learning.

**INSPIRING · LEARNING · ACHIEVING**

Froebel wanted to “*educate people to be free, to think, to take action for themselves.*” We would love every child everywhere to be educated so that they too can have the freedom to make choices; to think creatively and critically; and to be able to make their dreams a reality. Froebel knew that you are never too young or too old to start.

If you would like to become a **governor of our wonderful nursery school and family centre**, please take a look at the attached information.

**Dates for your diary:**

Week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> February: Come and play sessions in nursery, primarily for parents.

13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> February: half-term, nursery closed.

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February: Parent meetings.

1<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> March: 30 days Froebel. One activity a day for you to do with your family. More details to follow.

6<sup>th</sup> March: chicks arrive in nursery!

Week beginning 20<sup>th</sup> March: Come and play sessions in nursery, any adult member of the family is welcome.

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March: Term ends at 12pm.

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April: Children return to nursery.

If you have any queries, concerns or just want to know more about Guildford Nursery School and Family Centre, please do get in contact with me via reception or by emailing Trini on [pa@guildfordnscc.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:pa@guildfordnscc.surrey.sch.uk)

Kind regards

*Sally*

(Headteacher)