

Dear Parents and Carers,



At Guildford Nursery School, each child has their own **learning journey**. This is a book in which we document the **child's development and learning**. The children absolutely love their book. Please do ask them to share it with you when you come to the 'Come and play' sessions during the week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> October.

In each book, there are many photos, captions and stories describing the child's experiences at nursery. Here are just two examples:

I observed you playing quietly with the small-world people and the furniture. You were really absorbed in your play, carefully arranging the characters with purpose. You were talking throughout, giving your characters voices:

"I've got one more left." "Here's Daddy... wheee (in his car)... go faster... let's drive to London!"  
"Sit on the chair." "I can balance!"

It was lovely to see you making connections between your experiences at home with Mummy, Daddy and your big brother and your play.

I've noticed your language is developing and you are using longer sentences. This is something Mummy has observed at home too. I wonder how your play will develop when your baby brother arrives soon? I look forward to hearing more of your stories.

You tend to spend the majority of your time indoors when you are at nursery, often playing with your friend. One day, I encouraged you to come outside and see what was going on in the woodwork area. You were quite interested in what other children were doing and wanted to try yourself, but when you realised that you needed to wear safety glasses, you changed your mind and chose to go back indoors.

Last week we had the woodwork area open again and I encouraged you to come and have another try. This time you were happy to wear your hi-vis jacket and safety glasses. We had lots of metal bottle tops which some of the other children had been nailing on to their pieces of wood. You soon worked out how to hold the nail between your finger and thumb to keep it steady while you tapped it with your hammer. I know that you talk a lot to your friend, but you aren't usually so chatty with the adults so it was lovely to have the time and space to talk together.

"I think the hammer's too big for me."

"I'm just starting."

"Look, I did it, Carina!"

"Now we have a different colour."

"Oh, the same one... look at that, it's the same!"

"All the colours are for me."

"I think it's all the colours we need."

"I want to do hammering more."

"I'm very good at hammering."

"This is my job!"

We believe that our learning journeys are more meaningful for the children than sharing information with parents via an app. Our learning journeys make the learning visible for and to the children. They enable the children to reflect on their learning. The books themselves give the children lots to talk about. They are a treasured keepsake.

If you want to know more, please look at our website: [Learning Stories – Guildford Nursery School and Family Centre \(guildfordnurseryschoolandfamilycentre.surrey.sch.uk\)](http://guildfordnurseryschoolandfamilycentre.surrey.sch.uk)

And page 5 of this document: [Curriculum-document\\_combined.pdf \(guildfordnurseryschoolandfamilycentre.surrey.sch.uk\)](http://guildfordnurseryschoolandfamilycentre.surrey.sch.uk)

We would be very grateful if you felt able to **donate a box of tissues** please. As you can imagine, we go through many tissues with the children and any little helps. Many thanks.

I look forward to seeing and meeting you all in the coming weeks. Please always ask if you have any queries or concerns.

Kind regards

*Sally*

(Headteacher)



### **Dates for your diary:**

**11<sup>th</sup> October: Photographer at Hazel Avenue.**

Week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> October: Come and Play sessions in Nursery for parents.

Half term is 23<sup>rd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> October. Nursery closed.

Nursery will be closed for staff training on: 30<sup>th</sup> October, 30<sup>th</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December.

13<sup>th</sup> November: Parent meetings with Key Person.

17<sup>th</sup> November: Children in Need-come dressed in spots and/or stripes.

Week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> December: Come and Play Christmas craft sessions for families.

13<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am: Christmas sing-a-longs for all the family.

19<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas jumper day

Nursery sessions end on 19<sup>th</sup> December.

20<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas parties for children.