



## Newsletter Issue 1 Friday 19th November 2021



Dear Parents/ Carers,

A very warm welcome to the first newsletter for Grace Cook Primary School. Over the coming weeks I will be sharing progress with the school building, more about the curriculum and events that are coming up - including an opportunity to meet myself as the New Headteacher. (Please contact me using the details listed below)

Mr Richard Dedicoat (Headteacher)



We are very excited to welcome children to Grace Cook Primary School in September 2022. We will be offering places for children in:

Nursery (date of birth 1st September 2018 – 31st August 2019)

Reception (Date of birth 1st September 2017 — 31st August 2018)

Year 1 (Date of birth 1st September 2016 — 31st August 2017)

Year 2 (Date of birth 1st September 2015 — 31st August 2016)

### General enquiries:

[office@gracecook.omat.org.uk](mailto:office@gracecook.omat.org.uk)

### Admission enquiries:

[admissions@gracecook.omat.org.uk](mailto:admissions@gracecook.omat.org.uk)

**Telephone:** 01473 684922 (please note the office is open term time only)



### November

This month long celebration of non fiction books takes place every November. The theme this year is Heroes! Heroes take many forms and are in all walks of life. Check out these top non fiction texts about amazing heroes!



### Ways of keeping in touch with us:



<https://www.facebook.com/GraceCookPrimarySchool>



[@gracecookps](https://twitter.com/gracecookps)

Or through the website [www.gracecook.omat.org.uk](http://www.gracecook.omat.org.uk)



## Diary Dates:

Tuesday 30th  
November

Topping out ceremony  
(The day the roof  
construction starts at  
Grace Cook Primary

### Family support for the community

If you or your family would benefit from any support please let us know and we will aim to signpost you the right place. This will form part of our **Early Help offer** at Grace Cook Primary within the school. This may include support with:

**Parenting**

**Family learning course**

**Family support** (The sleep council, Parent Hub, Well-being hub, Children's centres or the School Nursing Team)



## **Time to talk**

The importance of talk has been discussed in schools for many years. I will regularly be sharing ideas and opportunities for you to talk to your children as they develop in their early years. Below are some starting points that will eventually mirror some of the learning that will be happening at Grace Cook Primary school from September 2022.

<b>Pre School Age Children</b> Can you tell adults at home about home many leaves you can see/ find that are different colours? What are these colours?	<b>Reception</b> Tell the people at home why we have been talking about poppies recently
<b>Year 1</b> Use objects around the house to make a subtraction number sentence.	<b>Year 2</b> Tell the adults at home what you have learnt at school this week.

**Michael Rosen children's author and previous Laureate has written about the importance of talk too.**

It may seem an obvious thing to say, but one of the best things we can do with young children is to have interesting and enjoyable conversations with them. What this means is that as we go about our activities, whether at home or at nursery, playgroups, playgrounds, the childminding situation, or out and about, we should make a special effort to answer children's questions, point out things that interest us, involve children in helping and planning what to do next – whether that's putting out things to play, tidying up, where to visit or whatever. When reading a book with children, make a special effort to read slowly, with lots of fun and expression. Don't worry about stopping if the children ask you questions. Encourage them to join in with the sounds and rhythms of the story.

We should also think carefully about how we speak to children – do we spend too much of the day issuing commands: 'do this', 'do that'? Do we ever say things that make children seem small by telling them that they're slow or not good enough? We all need to think how we can keep being positive, encouraging them as they try to say things. And we can find ways of showing them how the things they say can end up as writing, by writing what they say and displaying it. When we do this, this has to include everyone. No one can be missed out. All this is crucial for how young children develop their powers of thinking and understanding. At the same time, it's how they get to feel good about themselves. The two things are intertwined – feeling good about yourself, feeling confident enough to develop your thinking and understanding.