



Goodrich, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire HR9 6HY
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Headteacher: Mrs K. Miles

Friday 5th September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the Autumn Term

We are looking forward to helping the children settle into Goldcrests as they learn many new things and develop skills throughout the year.

In the Nursery, the children are exploring with Ally, Amber, Karen, and Sara. Throughout the year we will be following the children's interests as we engage in a range of activities based on the seasons and festivals of the year.

Drop off and pick up times

When dropping and picking up your child please come to the Goldcrests gate. Can we ask that you form a clear queue as it is difficult for us to see from the building who is next. Please also leave a space between the person at the gate and the next person in the line to allow staff to be able to talk to parents confidentially. All children have their own key worker and whenever possible they will meet you at the gate, giving you the chance to pass on any information that they may need to know. Of course anything passed on will be shared with all staff.

Collection

If your child is being collected by someone different from normal, then please tell us in the morning or telephone the school office to let us know. If you do not arrive to pick up your child before the end of nursery sessions (15:15), they will join 'Smiles' club in the school hall, and you will be contacted. If we are unable to contact you, then we will telephone the next person on the list of people authorised to collect your child. Therefore, it is important that the school are informed of any changes to contact details.

Packed Lunches

If your child is staying for lunch, please ensure they have a water bottle.

Please always be vigilant with your child's lunch boxes and do not provide nuts or other foods containing nuts in lunch boxes. Nut allergy is the second most common allergy, and we have children and adults within our setting who suffer from severe nut allergies. Should these pupils have contact with a nut product, it could have life threatening consequences. It can be easily contracted from a simple handshake or touching of a pupil's table who may have had some nuts in their food.

We ask that you do not provide the following foods for your child:

- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Chocolate bars or sweets containing nuts
- Cakes made with nuts
- Sesame seed rolls (children allergic to nuts may also have a severe reaction to sesame)
- Nutella
- Chocolates
- Muesli bars
- Peanut butter
- Baklava
- Any nuts
- Nougat
- Biscuits



No Shoes

We like the children not to wear shoes, whilst playing indoors at Nursery. This provides a wealth of benefits- strengthening the muscles in children's feet, improving ankle range of motion, and enhancing proprioception, or body awareness. Barefoot children are also more likely to develop proper arches, which is critical before age 6. Additionally, sensory stimulation from different textures improves cognitive development and a stronger connection with the environment. During their day the children are very physical and may benefit from non-slip socks. To also aid the children's independence when needing to change into footwear could you please provide your children with Slip on or Velcro shoes, that they can do themselves.

Change of Clothes

Please provide your child with a named bag enclosing a full change of clothes. Your child may require changing for a variety of reasons i.e., messy/water play or toileting accidents. To assist your child with toileting, please dress them in clothes that they can pull up and down easily, i.e. loose-fitting jogging bottoms. This will help them to become more independent and help them to avoid accidents. As we use the garden and the covered area all year round, we ask that you provide your child with a named coat, hat, scarf, gloves, and wellies, to ensure they can stay warm when playing outdoors. If your child comes to Nursery in wellies, please bring in a change of footwear too.

Forest School Sessions

Our sessions will take place on alternate Monday and Wednesday mornings so please send your child in wearing appropriate clothes for the weather, but this should always include a long sleeve top and long trousers to protect against nettles. Dresses are not suitable for Forest School and long hair needs to be tied up. We will always try and send out reminders of the day your child will be attending Forest School but it will be on OurSchoolsApp. The children need to wear wellies whatever the weather as they are sturdy for the uneven ground and they protect against stinging nettles, ideally, we would like each child to bring in a spare pair of wellies to keep at nursery, therefore they are always here for walks and playing on other days. If it is too wet/cold, or windy, Forest School will be held at Nursery where we will still do Forest School activities. Our first session will be on Wednesday 17th September then it will be every other Monday or Wednesday as follows: -

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|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| * Wednesday 17 th September | * Monday 22 nd September | * Wednesday 1 st October |
| * Monday 6 th October | * Wednesday 15 th October | * Monday 20 th October |
| * Wednesday 5 th November | * Monday 10 th November | * Wednesday 19 th November |
| * Monday 24 th November | * Wednesday 3 rd December | |

Seesaw

Every Friday afternoon/evening we will send out a snapshot of information and photographs of activities we have been doing throughout the week. Please spare a few minutes each week to look at this with your child. It is lovely for them to show you what they are doing in Goldcrests, and it is surprising how the photographs will prompt their memories. We will also let you know details of what is happening the following week; when Forest School is, what we will be exploring, how you can support your child at home and any other events that are happening. If you are having any trouble accessing Seesaw, please speak to a member of staff and we will endeavour to sort it out.

Jewellery

It is advised that you do not let your child wear jewellery to Nursery – necklaces or bracelets can cause problems if they become caught in toys and all jewellery is liable to go missing and be hard to find. If ears are pierced, studs only should be worn.

Marks on Arrival

Active children accumulate bumps, bruises, scratches and scrapes often through active play. If your child comes to Goldcrests with an injury, we have a duty under the statutory framework to safeguard your children. This is accomplished through your participation in completing an accident form with a brief explanation of how it happened.

Please speak to us in the morning or at the end of the school day if you have any concerns, queries or if there is any change that may affect your child through the day e.g. unsettled sleep, change in family situations etc.

Do not forget if you would like to discuss your child's development at Goldcrests with your child's key worker, please let us know and we will arrange a mutually convenient time.

Kind Regards

Ally, Amber, Karen, and Sara
Goldcrests Team

