

Today is a very exciting day for Sophie – it is her first day in Reception at Ghyllgrove Primary School! Sophie is very excited to start and has been very busy learning lots about Ghyllgrove by looking on the school website and watching the videos of her new teacher. Sophie held onto Daddy's hand as they walked to school. She had a funny feeling in her tummy – she felt a bit excited, a bit scared and a bit sad all at once. Daddy told her it was ok for her to feel all of these things. As they arrived at the school, Sophie saw her new teacher. She was talking to a little boy and his mummy. After a moment, the teacher turned and smiled.

> "Hello Sophie, lovely to see you!" she said. Sophie smiled but still held onto Daddy's hand tightly. "Let me show you where to hang up your coat."

In the classroom, there were lots of other children with their parents. Daddy helped Sophie to hang up her coat. She had her own peg and written above it was her name. "My name is Mrs Jones and over there is Mrs Lee. We are going to have lots of fun today! Come and sit on the carpet for the register and then we're going to start our learning! Sophie nodded and took Mrs Jones' hand. She felt a little sad as she waved goodbye to Daddy. "See you soon, Sophie," smiled Daddy. "Have fun! I'll pick you up later after school and you can tell me about your first day!" Sophie came to sit on the carpet and listened as Mrs Jones called the register and all the children said, "Good morning." Then, Mrs Jones told the class that it was time for assembly. They needed to line up to go to the hall. In assembly, they listened carefully to a story from the Headteacher. Her name is Mrs Gibbon. When they got back to the classroom, it was time to play with the toys. Some children were playing in the house, some were playing with playdough, some were drawing and some were playing with some small world farm toys. Sophie looked at the tray of building bricks. There were lots of bricks of different colours.



"This is Dylan," said Mrs Jones. "He likes building bricks too. Maybe you could build something together?" Sophie sat down quietly. She was feeling a bit sad and missed Daddy. Just then, the little boy, Dylan, held out a big green brick towards her. "You can have this one," he said.



"Thank you,' said Sophie, and began pushing the pieces together. Soon, Sophie and Dylan had built a really big castle together. Some more children came to play and they all had fun adding more and more bricks to build a giant castle together. Soon, Mrs Jones came to see what they were doing. "Wow! What a great castle!" he smiled. "You have been playing really nicely together and your castle looks amazing! We need to tidy up for playtime soon but we can take a picture of your castle first."

After taking the photo, Mrs Jones helped Sophie and the other children to put all the bricks into a big box. Then, in a loud voice, she said that it was time to tidy up and to come and sit on the carpet. Sophie sat down next to Dylan, and a little girl called Amy came and sat next to Sophie too. Mrs Jones told the children that it was playtime and all the children could go and play in the playground. Everyone could also have a drink and a piece of fruit. Sophie put her hand up and asked if she could go to the toilet. "Well done for asking," said Mrs Jones. "Mrs Lee will show you where the toilets are. Don't forget to wash your hands too! We all need to wash our hands before our snack."

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Milk

250m



Then, Sophie went outside to play. There were lots of children in the playground from the other Reception classes. She had fun playing with a skipping rope and running around with her new friends. When Mr Smith, the teacher in the class next door rang the bell, it was time to go back to the classroom for more learning time.

Sophie decided to play with the small world farm toys first. Amy came to play with them too. They had fun playing together. Then, they went outside to play and had fun playing with some musical instruments and on some little bikes. After a little while, Mrs Jones called Amy and Sophie inside to do their self-portraits. They sat at the table and had fun pulling funny faces in the mirrors before drawing!

Sophie enjoyed drawing her picture and then Mrs Jones helped her to write her name on it by copying a name card. "Lovely!" said Mrs Jones. "It's time to tidy up for a story before lunch," she said. "Can you help me put all the pencils in the pots?" Then it was lunchtime! All the children went to the toilet and washed their hands. Then they lined up for lunch. Sophie was having a packed lunch and had a brand new lunchbox with butterflies on it. Some children were having hot dinners instead. In the dinner hall, Sophie enjoyed eating her lunch and sat next to Amy and Dylan. Then it was time to play in the playground again.



After lunch and play, all the children came back to the classroom. Mrs Jones did the register again. Mrs Lee asked Sophie if she would like to do some painting. "Yes please," smiled Sophie. Sophie had lots of fun painting a picture of a cat. Sophie had lots more fun playing inside and outside. She played with some crayons and colouring pictures, then enjoyed some jigsaw puzzles and playing with some hoops and balls outside.

"Wow! What a great day," said Mrs Lee. "We've had lots of fun today, but soon it's time for mummies and daddies to collect you. It's home time already!" Sophie was very surprised. It had gone very quickly and she had had lots of fun. Sophie helped to tidy up and came to sit back on the carpet. The children sang some songs before getting ready for home time.

Then a bell rang. "Home time!" said Mrs Jones, "Everyone needs to sit quietly until I call your name, then you can come over to the door. Don't forget to take all your things home." When Mrs Jones called out Sophie's name, she stood up and picked up her lunchbox, painting and special certificate. Daddy gave her a big hug.

"Did you have a nice time?" he asked. Sophie nodded and showed Daddy her painting.

"Wow! And you got a sticker too!" said Daddy. "I'm glad you had fun. Say goodbye to Mrs Jones and Mrs Lee. We are going home for dinner now but you can see them and your new friends again tomorrow." Sophie said, "Goodbye," and waved to Mrs Lee and her friends. As they walked home, Sophie told Daddy about playing on the bikes, building a castle and drawing her self-portrait. She felt very happy and excited for the next time she would go to school. "School is fun," she thought. "I wonder what we will do tomorrow – I hope we can have the building bricks out again!'

We look forward to meeting you all in September!

For more information about our school, please look at the rest of our school website: https://www.ghyllgroveprimaryschool.co.uk/

> You can also follow us on Twitter: @Ghyllgrove

