



ST MICHAEL'S MAIL

Nursery Newsletter

6th September 2020

Hello from the nursery team: Hilary, Elaine, Gemma, Georgie, Hollie, Jennie, Lisa, Lizzie, Louise, Natacha and Tiff

Welcome back!

The children have very quickly settled back into nursery. They enjoyed watching the grass installation being completed and whilst the staff all marvelled at the newness, like a new carpet, the children took it all very much in their stride and proceeded to make sandy and muddy footprints, quite unconcerned! Unfortunately, the climbing frame is out of use at the moment. There is wasp activity in the Forest school area, so we have fenced off the top of the garden for the moment whilst allowing time for the wasp traps to take effect!

Last week the children enjoyed using the tubes for racing balls down and we will continue with those this week, along with the requested train track, playdough and free craft activities. Establishing new handwashing practices and our usual rules, both in the nursery and forest school, will also be an underlying focus.

Our new children will start joining us for their settling in days which will continue until the end of the month as we gradually introduce them to nursery. Please do make them socially distanced welcome! We have been unable to have new parent evenings and some parents were also unable to have their initial 'look see' visits so it's going to be an unusual start for us all.

The external handwashing and side door entry will continue as we trial handwashing under the canopy with new starters. We aim to have an external sink installed, which will have warm running water, much better for the autumn and winter! Please remember, that handwashing is one of the key COVID control factors we are implementing. Not coming into nursery if your child or any other household member has any one of the recognised symptoms is another.

The Star of the Day will no longer be able to bring in items from home. Instead we ask that parents post photos and perhaps a short explanation onto Tapestry.

You may have heard that we have fish! The children have really enjoyed spotting our new pond residents. There are no names yet... we may have to have a competition!

Lastly, some children will have a new key person as both staff and children's days at nursery may have changed since last year.



PLAYING NATURALLY, LEARNING NATURALLY

PLAY IDEAS

Reading tip of the week

When you come across a new word in a book, explain what it means and ask your child to repeat it to help expand their vocabulary.

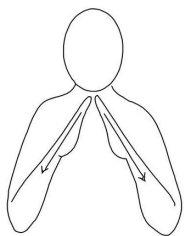
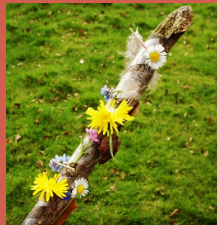
Writing tip of the week

Play simple games like pairs and snap where your child needs to pick up and turn over the cards. This helps develop fine motor control.

Woodland wonder

Make a woodland wand. Put double sided sticky tape around a stick then go on a walk outside and stick on the interesting things you find.

You can use these for story telling and imaginative play.



House / Home

Makaton

At nursery each week we introduce a Makaton sign and symbol. These help children communicate their needs and supports spoken language.

Sound of the week: **s**

Number of the week: **3**



Squirrel

Can you find any squirrels or evidence of them this week?

This link shows you how to pronounce the sounds of the different letters.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqhXUW_v-1s

Creative activity

Paint bubble wrap in autumnal colours and print onto paper. Later your child can have a go at drawing a tree trunk on and branches. Discuss as you paint what colour leaves are on the trees and if either of you has spotted any autumnal leaves yet.

