



ST MICHAEL'S MAIL

Nursery Newsletter

1st November 2020

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

We hope you have had a great half term. How many of you have entered the BBC puddle jumping competition? There were and still are plenty of puddles to choose from!

As yet we have not received any sector-specific guidance with the new lockdown so we will continue with nursery as usual! Over half term some of our on-site Forest School trees have been cut so our Forest school ladies will spend a couple of mornings preparing the area for on-site Forest School sessions to start from W/C 9th November. Our afternoon sessions should continue as normal. We hope to have a fire at the end of this week to celebrate Bonfire Night with sausages and marshmallows and also so we can introduce fire safety rules for all the children. We will be encouraging children to create firework spinner pictures and will have some firework inspired fine motor activities on offer (think colander and pipe cleaners!), fire engine small world play (not that we are anticipating any accidents!) and outdoor singing.

Children may notice the poppies that have been put up around the village. At nursery we talk to the children about why we wear poppies at this time of year. We try to answer any questions in a simple and factual way but our underlying message is 'we wear poppies to say thankyou to the soldiers and service people who help to keep us safe'.

Do you know we have a 'Rug Buddy'? Whilst we continue to have the door and windows open for ventilation, having the radiators on seems somewhat pointless, so we have invested in a 'Rug Buddy'. In essence it is an electric blanket that goes under the nursery carpet. So far we have found that for register and star of the day time as well as for the children who are 'sedentary' whilst playing there, they don't get too cold and sometimes even have a toasty bottom!

Plans are still in place for installing a permanent outdoor sink but in the meantime we will carry on with our outdoor handwashing station. In light of increasing cases in the country, we ask that parents continue to be vigilant with social distancing at drop-offs and pickups, handwashing, the wiping of lunch boxes and please restrict home toys coming into nursery (we know the children who need their comforters, they are ok!).

We are aware that presently one of the Dorking senior schools will be closed for an additional week, only open to vulnerable children and children of critical workers. Our staff are considered as critical workers but may also have childcare challenges should they themselves or their children need to self-isolate. This may have an impact on the number of individual observations you receive through Tapestry. Our priority will always be to play with your children and support their learning - individual documentation is a bonus!

Please continue to email the nursery at stmichaelsnursery@btinternet.com if you have any concerns or if you need to have a face to face chat! Date for your zoom diary is the Nursery AGM on Tuesday 10th November @7.30p.m.

PLAY IDEAS

Reading tip of the week

Turn off the TV and music when reading as too much background noise can be distracting for both of you.

Writing tip of the week

Put hair gel, bubble bath, corn flour and water or paint in a sealed plastic bag and let your child make marks on it with their finger.

Sound of the week: **e**
Number of the week: **10**



Evergreen

Can you spot trees that have kept their leaves this Autumn?

Woodland wonder

Get digging & plant some bulbs ready for spring!



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

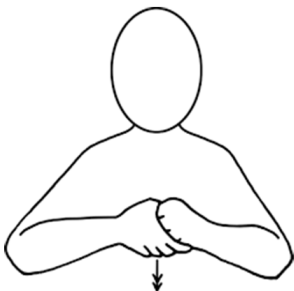
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqhXUW_v-1s

Star of the day

Please take a photo or short video of something special that your child would like to share with the children during carpet time and upload to Tapestry. Due to coronavirus we cannot show items that have been brought in from home.



2nd - Jamie
3rd - Thomas C
4th - Ivy



Friends

Makaton

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