



ST MICHAEL'S MAIL

Nursery Newsletter

6th February 2022

Hello from the nursery team:

Hilary, Jennie, Charlotte, Elaine, Gemma, Georgie, Hollie, Lizzie, Louise & Sophie

Dear parents and carers,

A member of staff has tested positive for Covid-19, those of us who have been identified as close contacts are daily LFD testing.

Following the recent committee meeting, committee members felt it may be useful for parents to be aware of The Contingency Framework ~ mainly the procedures that may be necessary should the nursery have significant staff shortages.

We aim to keep the nursery open, but to do so safely, we may need to reduce the number of children, which will potentially vary daily. The number of children we can accommodate will be dependent on how many staff are available and the ages and level of need of the priority children.

Priority places will be offered in the following order:-

- Vulnerable children including those with additional needs at the discretion of the setting.
- FEET funded children and those in receipt of Early Years Pupil Premium.
- Children of critical workers.
- 3 & 4-year-old children who will be attending school in the next academic year.
- 3-year-old Children.
- 2-year-old Children.

We are fortunate to have not had a surge of cases to date. Your 'not quite 100%' vigilance and continued support in keeping children from 'positive' households at home, is I'm sure a contributory factor.

This week we are going all Winter Olympics! Our Duplo characters have been converted into Olympians for small world snow and ice play, we are being 'creative' with our resources to form Luge, Skeleton and Bobsleigh runs and we'll have a Curling track and scooter slaloms! We will also consider what exercises we need to do to get ready for our own Olympic activities, then for a little bit of R&R, children will be creating a little something to gift to a loved one!

For Children remaining at the nursery, academic year 2022/2023, please remember to ask for an hours form, or complete the one attached and return it by email to stmichaelsnursery@btinternet.com

Hilary

Little Minds Club, Epsom:

Sandra Peers was the head of St. Michael's School. Sandra is now using both her knowledge of early years and her teaching skills for parent & baby/toddler/preschool classes.

Live classes will start in Epsom 1st March, online classes are available too.

www.little-minds.co.uk/littlemindsclub - Instagram/Facebook: @littlemindsclub_epsom

This week...

Communication, Language & Literacy:

It's nearly Valentine's Day, and the perfect opportunity to provide some mark-making activities for your little one. Drawing, decorating and colouring provide important pencil hold practice. Ask your child what they love about the person they are sending a card to, or what message they would like to send, transcribe their words and invite them to mark-make their own name.



Woodland Wonder:

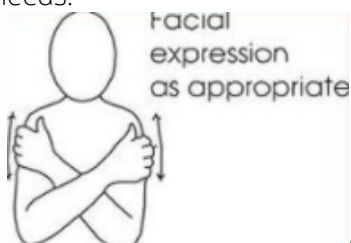
Did you know how woodpeckers prepare for winter? They find a dead tree and skillfully make holes in the trunk to store acorns. If the hole was too large then other birds could easily steal their acorns. If the hole was too narrow then the nut could break and deteriorate. By the end of the summer a woodpecker's work ends, and the acorns will be ripe and ready to see them through the winter. A large tree trunk could hold about 500,000 acorns!



Makaton

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

This week's sign is:
(To) cuddle / hug



Sound of the week:

f

Number of the week:

10

Click on [this link](#) for a video demonstrating how to pronounce the phonic sounds

F is for Fish:

Our fish pond area is a dedicated calm space at nursery, and fish-spotting is a popular activity. Did you know that over winter goldfish stop eating and hibernate at the bottom of the pond?



Star of the Day

Please take a photo or short video of something special that your child would like to share with us at nursery and upload it to Tapestry.

NB. please record videos in LANDSCAPE format (i.e. with phone/tablet held horizontally) so we are able to view them on the large screen.

Monday 7th: Leo D

Tuesday 8th: Leo H

Wednesday 9th: Alfie

Thursday 10th: Melody

Friday 11th: Jude