



ST. MICHAEL'S MAIL

St. Michael's Nursery Newsletter

18th February 2024

**Hello from the nursery team:
Hilary, Jennie, Georgie, Kelly, Lizzie, Louise and Sophie**

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to nursery, we hope you have enjoyed the half term! We have 4 new families joining us this week, I'm sure you will welcome them and show them the ropes!

Please can I remind parents/grandparents to queue alongside the building when dropping off. This helps with the one way flow and supports the person on the door to register children accurately. Also any wow cards need to be given to staff rather than left in the box for us to find three weeks later! thank you!

For the children staying with us in September 2024, thank you for returning your hours requests. We are significantly over subscribed on some days and under on others, hence we will need to make some 'best fit' adjustments to the hours/days we can offer. Initially we are suggesting that we will open Monday afternoons to younger children, but retain a session for older children only on Thursday's. Offered hours will sent out at the end of this month.

We have had a bit of a furniture move around in the nursery, which we hope will create more space to play. Your child's peg will be in the same 'block' but may now be alongside the wall rather than in the middle. We are also going to introduce library book selection in the afternoons for children who stay for longer days. All children are welcome to borrow books and we really want to encourage a love of books, more reading and story times at home, so we hope this small change will at least encourage more regular habits.

Regular reading of both fiction and nonfiction books will support :

2&3 year olds to:

Enjoy sharing books with an adult. Pay attention and respond to the pictures or the words. Have favourite books and seek them out, to share with an adult, with another child, or to look at alone. Repeat words and phrases from familiar stories. Ask questions about the book. Make comments and shares their own ideas. Develop play around favourite stories using props. Notice some print, such as the first letter of their name, a bus or door number, or a familiar logo.

3&4 year olds to:

Understand the concepts about print ~ When reading to children, sensitively draw their attention to the parts of the books, for example, the cover, the author, the page number. Show children how to handle books and to turn the pages one at a time. Show children where the text is, and how English print is read left to right and top to bottom. Show children how sentences start with capital letters and end with full stops. Explain the idea of a 'word' to children, pointing out how some words are longer than others and how there is always a space before and after a word. Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary ~

continued...

Regular sharing of books and discussion of children's ideas and responses helps children to develop their early enjoyment and understanding of books. Simple picture books, including those with no text, can be powerful ways of learning new vocabulary (for example, naming what's in the picture). More complex stories will help children to learn a wider range of vocabulary. Reading also helps children use some of their print and letter knowledge in their early writing.

At nursery this week we will be dressing up with hats, manipulating with playdough, exploring with PVA on the glue table, playing with cars and ramps and small world fairies. We will continue with the soft play in the Gingerbread House and also have scooters, ramps and wobble boards for developing our balance, speed and ability to stop!

Messy play will be held in The Village Hall on Thursday 22nd February at 3.00pm - 4.45pm.

Hilary

This week...

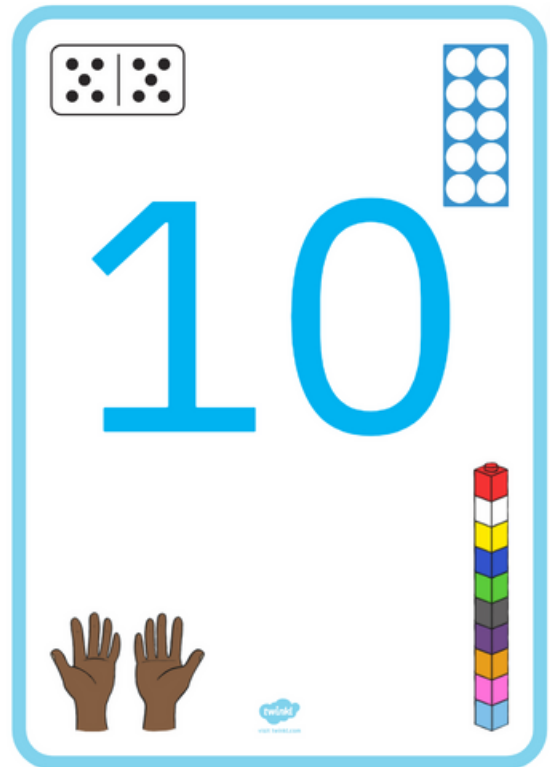
Communication, Language and Literacy:

Introduce and match books to your child's play to extend their interests and foster a love of reading...add a book about transport with the toy cars, construction books with duplo blocks, books that complement your child's favourite dressing up and role play.



Did you know that we focus on phonic letter sounds (rather than letter names) at Nursery? Click on [THIS LINK](#) for a video demonstrating how to correctly pronounce the phonic sounds

Number of the week:



Woodland Wonder:

We're going on a...flower hunt! Late Winter and early Spring flowers are beginning to pop up everywhere (some earlier than expected)...from snowdrops to daffodils there are pockets of colour appearing all around. A scavenger hunt brings a new dimension to a walk in our beautiful countryside, take photos of what you spot (remember 'no pick/no lick') and talk about what you have seen and found.



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 19th: Sebastian

Tuesday 20th: Harry

Wednesday 21st: Skye

Thursday 22nd: Dougie

Friday 23rd: Alice

Our Star of the Day schedule is also displayed in the nursery window for future dates