

ST MICHAEL'S MAIL

St. Michael's Nursery Newsletter

22nd September 2024

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

Dear parents and carers,

This week at nursery we will be singing some of our action songs and clapping rhymes, great for supporting physical coordination, introducing new words and helping children learn new words more quickly. We will have resources - the trampoline and wobble boards - to support developing balancing skills and will also bring out the football goals to help with ball kicking direction skills. Our malleable play will be kinetic sand. We may also start making items for a Halloween display too.

Those of you that visit the shops with your children will undoubtedly have seen that Halloween decorations and goodies are starting to fill the shelves. Halloween can be a little controversial, some families celebrate it, especially if there are older siblings and others do not, however, it has become an autumn 'festival' that we cannot ignore. Halloween can be a little scary for some children and we understand that some families specifically choose not to celebrate it. At nursery we tend to use this time of year to read our witch based stories, for example most children will be familiar with Room on the Broom etc, this is fantasy play. Fantasy play helps children to unpack all the usual 'baddies' in fairy tales, witches, wolves, skeletons etc. and confront things that may scare them in a play-based way. At Nursery, we will gradually introduce Halloween through crafting, various play resources and fantasy play themes. You may find the phrase 'some people believe' helpful in managing differences whilst remaining respectful to the opinions of others. Please let us know if your child is especially anxious with regard to this particular play theme.

Please note our banking details have changed to the below. But don't worry we have not sent out this terms bills yet!

- Co-op Business Banking
- St Michael's Community Nursery
- Sort code 08-92-99
- Account number 67354702

Please remember to name outer clothing and footwear with YOUR child's name!

Finally ~ If you have a tractor-mad child, you may want to pop down to Brockham on a Sunday. Bonfire building has started and there are usually numerous tractors on and around the Green!

Hilary

This week...

Communication, Language & Literacy:

Books aren't just for bedtime! If your child loves being outside take reading outside too. They may connect more with books in the garden or another outdoor space. Try matching the book to their current interests...the farm, construction, bug hunting, plants etc.



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

Number of the week:



Woodland Wonder:

Our Forest School children are spending time familiarising with our important Forest School rules and exploring the new environment.

Identifying poisonous plants...many common woodland plants are toxic to some degree. Our Forest School children are taught how to identify yew trees (which are common to our local woodland and forest school areas). These trees are identified with red ribbon if on site, and the children are shown the leaves and berries. All parts of the Yew tree are toxic. Remember 'no pick, no lick' - this rule keeps everyone safe. Would you be able to identify the UK's common toxic plants? Here's a useful link to [The Woodland Trust's guide](#).



Star of the Day

Please upload to Tapestry a photo or short video of something special that your child would like to share with us at nursery. Two or three photos/videos is plenty!

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 23rd: Nora

Tuesday 24th: Freddie

Wednesday 25th: Seth

Thursday 26th: Willa

Friday 27th: Mimi

Our star of the day schedule is also displayed in the nursery window for future dates