



# ST MICHAEL'S MAIL

St. Michael's Nursery Newsletter

13th October 2024

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

Dear parents and carers,

Wow! We have an amazing Pumpkin, donated by a green fingered parent, which we are going to use this week as a base for creating playdough characters - like pumpkin carving, but without the knives! We will also be using the lovely conkers for a maths table activity and for creating conker critters or conker vehicles. Keep those conkers coming in, as we might be able to make conker soap next week too! Children will be able to use some of our construction resources to make Halloween houses and - following a weekend of bonfire building in Westhumble - we will have the play farm out with tractors and mini twigs /branches, to re-create what some children have been playing at the weekend. We will also be helping children to recognise syllables in words, by clapping out their names or syllables for selected objects. We also plan on reading our autumn yoga story, and in Forest school hope to make a broom and act out Room on the Broom.

Do you have any spare socks?? Our stock is somewhat depleted with loans not being returned (it's ok we understand... we don't label socks either, but could do with a few pairs being re-donated please!) Thank you for your snack contributions, we have had a lovely varied snack bowl. To the person who contributes the ritz cracker snack pack ~ sorry we can't use these because we have no ingredient list on the pack.

Please remember when your child is the star of the day, two or three photos or a short landscape video is plenty. Too many photos means your child will just list/label and not get a chance to really talk about them.

Please note we have had cases of both hand foot and mouth and chicken pox in the nursery ~ if your child doesn't seem 100%, please look out for more symptoms!

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/hand-foot-mouth-disease/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/chickenpox/>

Did you know that children can have an eyesight test at any age? They do not need to be able to read, or even speak! Most parents will take children to visit the dentist in their preschool years, but many do not realise an eyesight test can also be valuable at this age. Optometrists are recommending eyesight tests for children from the age of three, they will also be able to advise on how much screen time a child should be limited to on a daily basis. An eyesight test is particularly important if there's a history of childhood eye problems, such as a squint or lazy eye in your family.

Hilary

# This week...

## Physical Development:

Getting ready for mark-making!

Get your child involved in creating birthday, Christmas or thank you cards. The perfect opportunity to mark-make, draw and colour, use scissors, stickers and stamps - and exercise those fine motor muscles - they might even like to have a go at signing their name. Ask your child if they have a special message, transcribe their words and read the message back to them.



**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:

It seems to be a good year for fungi...a walk in the woods provides plenty of opportunity for fungi spotting - remember 'no pick, no lick'! The Jelly Ear is one of the most common and easily identifiable of the jelly fungi. These remarkable fungi can freeze solid, dehydrate, defrost and rehydrate and still maintain their form. We are beginning to notice lots of fungi at forest school, and this is one of our favourites!



## 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 14th: Nancy**

**Tuesday 15th: Henry**

**Wednesday 16th: Woody**

**Thursday 17th: No star today!**

**Friday 18th: Niko**

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