



# ST MICHAEL'S MAIL

St. Michael's Nursery Newsletter

20th October 2024

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

Dear parents and carers,

In our final week before half term, we will continue to celebrate autumnal festivals, making a spooky den, using fine motor skills to hammer golf tees into our pumpkins, making potions with our donated herbs and spices and exploring slime! Our homemade slime is washable, but clothing that has been 'slimed' may need a soak before popping in the washing machine! We also plan on making several broomsticks to 'fly' around the garden and maybe a few additional obstacles too. We have some Room on the Broom sequencing stones and will be adding small world Room on the Broom figures to our woodland animals play tray. Maybe the witch can create a potion to shoo the fox away from our chickens! Sadly we had a visit last week and the fox took two of our chickens, they were the ones that have been laying too. We presently have three chickens left, two are currently broody (but that does mean they are safe in their pen), the third escaped the fox, but is now a little wary and appears to have stopped laying for now, possibly shock, or she has decided to go broody too, either way, it is likely to mean no eggs for the star of the day to collect for a while!

We have two new faces joining us after half term. Justyn is planning on volunteering two mornings a week until Christmas, and Faith is joining us on Wednesday and Friday's after half term as a new staff member. We are also advertising for a Nursery practitioner & SENCO, the link to the vacancy is on our website.

Please do remember to check our website for things such as past newsletters (under news tab) and term dates. The WhatsApp group is very useful, but some questions can be answered by a little search first!

I hope to finalise billing this week, invoices for the term will then be emailed to parents by our bookkeeper.

Have a great half term!

Hilary

# This week...

## Physical Development:

Being physically active every day is important for overall healthy growth and development. NHS guidelines suggest that preschoolers should be physically active for at least 180 minutes a day, including active outdoor play...all movement counts!

Gross motor skills and strength are also vital for getting ready for writing. Trips out to the playground or soft play, and having fun outdoors provide plenty of opportunity to work on those important physical skills. Run, jump, climb to get ready for writing!



**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:

Weave a stick spider web: Collect three fallen sticks (sticks with buds or nodes work best to stop the string from slipping down as you weave) and tie together securely in the centre, making a star shape. Tie string or wool to the middle and start to twist the string around the sticks to make a spiral. Support your child to keep the string pulled tight between each twirl around each stick. Tie the string off when you get to the end, hang them up outdoors and watch the wind twirl them around!

<https://mothernatured.com/nature-crafts/stick-spider-web/>

These will make great no-cost Halloween decorations too!



## 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 21st: Poppy**

**Tuesday 22nd: Frankie**

**Wednesday 23rd: Callie**

**Thursday 24th: No star today!**

**Friday 25th: Benji**

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