

ST MICHAEL'S MAIL

St. Michael's Nursery Newsletter

3rd November 2024

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

Dear parents and carers,

We hope you had a lovely half term, it's now a countdown to Christmas, and we will soon be learning our Christmas nativity songs!

But first...more autumnal festivals! We will talk about the Hindu Diwali story of Rama and Sita (like many traditional tales there is a baddie, a 10 headed monster called Ravana, who dies at the end) and tradition of cleaning the home, creating welcoming rangoli patterns and lighting candles to welcome in the goddess of wealth and beauty. We will talk about bonfire night, fireworks and how to be safe around a fire. Please remember that sparklers are NOT harmless! They burn at fierce temperatures, equivalent to a welding torch, children under 5 should never be given sparklers, and if you do decide to allow older children to hold sparklers, RoSPA has a list of top tips to keep sparkler safe. At nursery we will be using glitter and metallic paints to explore painting techniques and create our own firework pictures. We will also begin to talk about Remembrance. Children may start to notice the poppies appearing around the towns and villages, older siblings may be involved in parades. At nursery, we talk to the children about why we wear poppies at this time of year, we try to answer any questions in a simple and factual way but our underlying message is 'we wear poppies to say thank-you to the soldiers/service people who help to keep us safe'. Depending upon questions, we may expand this, but what we really seek to do is introduce remembrance in a way that our children can understand. We will also have paper poppies for children to explore respectfully.

Before half term a parent reported finding a tick on their child. So whilst this is not peak tick season, the autumn is mild and they are clearly still about so do remain vigilant.

Please note that the Annual Parent Meeting is on Tuesday 12th November, 7.30p.m. at the Running Horses.

Hilary

This week...

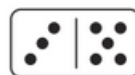
Physical Development:

Being physically active every day is important for 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!

If it's time for a pre-winter tidy up in the garden, get your child involved! Helping in the garden by raking leaves, pushing a wheelbarrow, weeding, planting and watering is a fun way to develop the general strength (gross motor skills) which helps when it comes to writing later on and counts towards that 180 minutes.



Number of the week:



8
eight



Woodland Wonder:

A popular game at forest school is "1, 2, 3...where are you?" Similar to hide and seek, the 'seeker' counts and then calls "1, 2, 3...where are you?". The 'hiders' then respond with "1, 2, 3...I'm over here!". The seeker continues to call and follow the voices of the hiders to find their hiding spot.

This version of hide and seek builds on children's listening skills and can be played anywhere.

Remember, it's important to establish boundaries before you start playing!



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 4th: Henry

Tuesday 5th: Dolcie

Wednesday 6th: Lara

Thursday 7th: No star today!

Friday 8th: Oscar B

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