

St. Michael's Nursery Newsletter

7th September 2025

Hello from the nursery team: Hilary, Jennie, Aimee, Adnana, Eva, Faith, Hannah, Justyn, Katie, Kelly, Lizzie, Louise and Sophie

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the new Autumn term! It was lovely to see so many children and parents at the playdate last week, a welcome, gentle start to the new term.

All of our new starters will be joining gradually over the the month of September, and just into October. Please do chat and welcome each other as you start the new academic year. Connections parents make now are so valuable in creating a community and can often be life long.

This week at nursery we will be both learning and remembering nursery routines, finding out about the children's special interests and what they have been busy with over the summer. Some will make paper gingerbread men to exhibit into the Village Horticultural Show this Saturday 13th September. The nursery parents provide the refreshments and the event is a very useful little fundraiser for us. Please note that parents of children at the nursery are all eligible to enter as part of our community. So if you have green fingers, crafty or a bake off potential, have a look at the class schedule! <a href="https://www.hugofox.com/community/mickleham-and-westhumble-horticultural-society-15381/shows/">https://www.hugofox.com/community/mickleham-and-westhumble-horticultural-society-15381/shows/</a>

Alas, any excess home-baked sweet goods cannot be used for the nursery snack table. As mentioned on previous occasions, we have quite strict regulations on what can be provided for snacks. Fresh fruit or vegetables, breadsticks or cheese please. Items should be unprepared as staff will prepare these with the children. For snack times, Nursery provides cow's milk and water in nursery cups. Parents should provide a drink in a water bottle for those children staying for packed lunches. Please do let us know of any changes to dietary allergies and intolerances. We are currently NO NUTS, but our child with a sesame and haricot bean allergy has now left the nursery. We will continue to allergen update parents as new children starting may have allergies we are not yet aware of.

I'm sure all the new starters will be well prepared with named coats and footwear. Returners, please ensure that new items are named. Biro is absolutely fine. Please also ensure items are named with YOUR child's name, whilst some staff have been at the nursery and know the names of siblings and cousins...not all staff do! Named items are more easily returned to your child's tray or cubby. When it comes to gloves... honestly, unprecious cheap mittens and a bulk of them to account for losses, is a sensible option!

Star of the day ~ our ability to share photos and video is limited to the technology we have available. If parents send pictures to Tapestry, they will only show when in landscape format. Please remember to only send a few photos (two or three is ideal) or a short video (no more than two minutes).

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For families claiming government funding, please attempt to use either format of the form attached; this can then be emailed back to the nursery. Please do not complete and then send as pictures, if you are unable to complete using either format, speak to Hilary who will print a paper copy to be completed manually.

Also attached is a blank one page profile for parents of returning children to update if they so wish.

Past newsletters on the nursery website stmichaelscommunitynursery.co.uk.

I'm sure that is plenty of information for now!

Please note the first Mums, carers and toddlers group at Westhumble chapel will be on 8th September 11am to 12.

Hilary

## **Diary Dates:**

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September: Toddlers Group, Westhumbe Chapel

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September: Mickleham & Westhumble Horticultural Show



## Communication, Language & Literacy:

Books...anywhere, anytime!

Keep some books in the car for your child to look at on journeys or when waiting in the car. Audio books are also a great option for longer journeys and are available to borrow from Surrey libraries.

Don't forget that our little nursery library is also available at drop off and pick up.

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





## **Woodland Wonder:**

With Autumn fast approaching the trees and bushes are full of interesting berries and fruits. Some of these are toxic. One of our key Forest School Rules is '**no pick**, **no lick**'. The children learn not to pick anything (unless specifically directed by an adult), or put anything near their mouths (including hands, unless freshly washed!)...to help keep them safe.



## 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 8th: No star

Tuesday 9th: Poppy

Wednesday 10th: Henry

Thursday 11th: No star

Friday 12th: Woody

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