St. Michael's Nursery Newsletter

2nd November 2025

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

Dear parents and carers,

We hope you had a lovely half-term with lots of seasonal activities to keep your little ones busy! Next year, Surrey Early Years settings are encouraged to align with local schools and will have a two-week October half term and a longer summer term. The changes are for the academic year 2026-2027.

We wanted to send a note of thanks to parents supporting our wish list, and also those who use us for their easyfundraising donations. If you have not joined easyfundraising, now is an ideal time, especially if you are doing online Christmas shopping. Please do join, or if you are already using easyfundraising, consider the nursery as your charitable cause.

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmichaelsnursery.

This week at nursery, we will have activities inspired by Bonfire Night. Whilst Brockham is an excellent local Bonfire, It is not ideal for younger children. There is, however, an excellent community Bonfire in Westhumble at 'Westhumble Field'. Also on 8th November, with a torchlight procession starting at 5.15 p.m. from the junction of Burney Rd, Chapel Lane and Alders Lane. Bonfire lighting is at 6 pm and fireworks from 6.30 pm. Please remember that statistically, the most dangerous firework is a sparkler; they should not be given to children under 5 years old.

We will also be talking about Remembrance Sunday. Your children will likely notice the poppies appearing around the towns and villages, and 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 nursery-age children can understand. We will also have paper poppies for children to explore respectfully.

You may also notice the Village Hall has been fitted with Solar panels during half term, and some maintenance has also been carried out in the nursery garden.

Hilary

Diary Dates:

Tuesday 18th November, 7.30pm: Nursery AGM at The Running Horses

Saturday 6th December: Nursery Christmas Fair Friday 19th December: End of Term, Christmas Play



Communication and Language:

"In the first five years of your child's life they will learn more about speaking and words than at any other time...speaking and listening skills are essential to all learning. Talk with your child every chance you get...about what you and they are doing, whether you are at home or out and about."

Surrey Family Information Service has developed a series of 'Try this at home' activity sheets for you and your child to support communication and language. Play 'Where is that noise?' in November

Have fun!



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...l'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 physical 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 3rd: Dolcie

Tuesday 4th: Callie 🗲

Wednesday 5th: Woody

Thursday 6th: No star

Friday 7th: Oscar B

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