



ST. MICHAEL'S MAIL

St. Michael's Nursery Newsletter

12th October 2026

Hello from the nursery team:

Hilary, Melissa, Aimee, Adnana, Anna, Holly, Justyn, Kelly, Lizzie and Louise.

Dear parents and carers,

With autumn well underway, we wanted to talk a little bit about how we manage Halloween at the nursery. Halloween has become an autumnal 'festival' which can mean different things to different families, some love the festivities, while others choose not to celebrate it at all.

At Nursery, our main goal is to keep things fun, gentle, and child-led, framing it as a playful day where children can wear fun or spooky costumes, like superheroes, animals, or storybook characters. We use this season to explore fantasy play and seasonal storytelling, using books like Room on the Broom and a new favourite, Mrs Blackhat. We will have pumpkin play, use playdough to make pumpkin faces, paint pumpkins, use them in the mud kitchen and may make pumpkin potions at the end of the week.

Engaging with these themes through crafts and play resources actually helps children confront things that might seem a little scary in a safe, play-based way. If your child feels anxious about this theme, do speak to Hilary or your child's key worker, so we can make sure they feel safe and included.

If you are planning to go trick-or-treating, please think about potential choking hazards, and remember we can't allow collected sweets and chocolate treats in nursery lunch boxes!

We have had a report of possible hand foot and mouth. Please look at the NHS website for symptoms and treatment. Unless your child is feeling particularly unwell, they do not need to be excluded from nursery.

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

Hilary

Dates for your diary ~ with more details to follow.

Sunday 29th November ~ 'The Magic of Christmas' Nursery Christmas Fair

Wednesday 18th November ~ Nursery AGM

Thursday 17th December ~ Nursery Nativity

THIS WEEK...



This week's Early Talk Boost focuses on attention and listening. The children will play games which help develop:

- Inhibitory Control: The physical and mental ability to stop an action immediately on a cue.
- Working Memory: Remembering the rules of the game.
- Auditory Attention: Training ears to listen out for specific transition words amidst distractions.

At home, you may like to join in and play some Ready, Steady, Go games, such as rolling a ball, shaking a musical instrument, building a tower, or jumping. If the adult says "Ready, Steady... Bananas!", children must practice response inhibition and wait for the correct cue.

Number of the week:



The "Big Tree Cuddle" Challenge!

Turn your next walk into a sensory adventure with this simple game:

1. Find a Tree: Ask your child to spot a tree they like. Is it tall, short, smooth, or bumpy?
2. Give it a Hug: Encourage them to wrap their arms around it, press their cheek to the bark, and take three deep breaths.
3. Listen Closely: Ask them, "Can you hear the leaves whispering?" or "What does the bark feel like?"

It takes just two minutes but is a wonderful way to practice mindfulness together outdoors!



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 12th: Charlotte

Tuesday 13th: Albie

Wednesday 14th: Felix

Thursday 1st: No star

Friday 16th: Barnaby

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