



St Mary Magdalene Catholic School Nursery Newsletter February 2025



Dear Parents,

The new children have settled well into the nursery routine and are busy making new friends with all the children. It is important to make friends at nursery but we must remember that we cannot be friends all of the time. We try to explain to the children that we are all friends at nursery and having one or two 'special' friends isn't always healthy. Please try to encourage your child to have lots of friends. We have a saying 'We are all friends at nursery' and this ethos is something you can share with your child and with this attitude I hope that any minor fallings out can be avoided.

If you have any concerns regarding your child at nursery please do not hesitate to speak to one of the members of the team.

Kindest regards

Mrs C Ledger

Forthcoming Dates

It's a short half term but a busy one! Please take the time to read the newsletter and make note of the dates.

Tuesday 11th March— Story sessions with Mrs Ledger. Parents to arrive slightly earlier at pick up times to enjoy a story with their child. 11.30am and 3pm.

Wednesday 12th March— School's world book day. Nursery focus is books by Nick Sharratt.

Week commencing 17th March—Parents evenings/ afternoons. Further details to follow

Monday 17th March—Wear something green for St Patricks Day.

Friday 21st March— Mufti day for our Lenten Charity £1.00 donation.

Wednesday 26th March—Bring your Mum to Nursery day. 8.45-10.00am.

Thursday 3rd April —Easter Bonnet parade for Nursery children only. £1 entry fee. Prize given to winner.

Friday 4th April —school and nursery closes. Re-opens Tuesday 22nd April.

Coats

We have been encouraging the children to fasten their coats independently this half term.

Please help support this by allowing your child time at home to practice.

Please also ensure that your child can hang their coat independently by adding an easy hook to the inside if there is not already one there.

We are trying to instil resilience and a keep trying attitude to all things we do!



Topics this half term

Each week we will have a focus on the following topics:

New life, Shrove Tuesday and pancakes, Nick Sharratt the author, Mothers Day, Eggs, Easter and Holy Week.



RE

For our RE topic we will be covering 'Desert to Garden'.

Vocabulary and words that you can help your child learn and understand are:

Lent, Ash Wednesday, desert, grow, Jerusalem, palm leaves, cross, died, suffer, resurrection, Easter

You can help your child by explaining to them what happens at church and all the different items that can be found such as altar, priest and what happens at communion.



Offer day

For the children who will be starting a Reception class in September. Please be aware that offer day this year is 16th April 2025.

You will be contacted by your child's school within the following month informing you of transition details including visits to school, home visits and parent information evenings.



Supporting your child at home

You are your child's first teacher and working with your child at home is vital for good outcomes and getting ready for school.

Reading

Our children love looking at books in the Nursery. Please read with them frequently at home. Encourage them to retell the story using the pictures. Ask them questions about the story.

Writing and mark making

Encourage your child to draw at home and also talk about their pictures. Practising writing names. Keep encouraging your child to explore writing the letters in their names. Start with a capital letter and continue with small (lower case) letters for example *Matthew*. Children should not be encouraged to write in all capitals or print.

Numeracy

Encourage your child to recite numbers in order to 10. Please praise them for trying and model how to recite correctly with them.

Talk about prepositions—is teddy on the bed? Is teddy under the bed? Is teddy beside the bed? Is teddy above the bed?

Understanding the World

Exploring the outdoor area to observe signs of Spring and new life.

Go for a walk in the park and look for signs that show the change of season. What signs of new life can your child see?

Look for daffodils and other spring flowers, blossoms on the trees etc. Perhaps you can take photos and send them in.

Home Learning Packs

Every Friday, in the shared area, we open the home learning packs table. We have 5 different bags which you take home and share with your child. Each bag follows a different area of learning. We ask that you sign the bag out on a Friday and return by the following Tuesday at the latest.

The bags allow you to share experiences with your child and offers suggestions on how you could repeat or extend learning at home.

If the bag you wish is unavailable, please feel free to use our Nursery Library. We have a range of different books for you to share with your child. Again please take a book on a Friday and return the next week. There is no need to sign a book out.

Creating the bags is very time consuming however if there is an area of learning you would like to see covered then do please let one of the team know.

We are very proud of these bags and would welcome any feedback too.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak with us.



Celebrating Success

We have a pin board by the cloak room which displays stars. We would like to hear of all of the wonderful success your child has at home. Maybe they can ride a bike without stabilizers, maybe they can swim without arm bands, maybe they have visited a special place such as a castle or the zoo? We want to know about it!

Take a star home, write your comment and hand it to a member of staff. We will share your child's news at carpet time.

