



St Mary Magdalene Catholic School Nursery Newsletter



November 2024

Dear Parents,

The children have had a great start to their Nursery journey and we hope that the forthcoming half term is just as successful!

At nursery we explore the outside environment at all times of the year and during all types of weather. In order for your child to access the whole curriculum and all the wonderful experiences and activities we have, we ask that your child be appropriately dressed for the time of year. Please **name** all coats, hats and jumpers.

It is important to consider that children learn through first hand experience and play. Our aim is for the children to feel happy in a structured but challenging environment.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs Ledger, Nursery Teacher

Forthcoming Dates

Wednesday 6th November—Shiny Day. Children to wear something shiny to nursery. No charge.

Tuesday 26th November—Stay and Learn session for parents—Focus Maths

Tuesday 10th December—Nursery Concert 10am. Parents to attend. More details to follow.

Thursday 19th December—Children's Christmas Party

Thursday 19th December—Last day for Nursery children only

Tuesday 7th January 2025—Children return.

Tissues

Thank you to all the families that have donated a box to nursery already. If each family provides one box of economy tissues it lasts us for the whole year and helps us to encourage the children to become independent in keeping themselves clean.

Unfortunately we still have families who have not donated a box.

Please note that boxes of tissues are best and not pocket packets.



Real Life Curiosity

Researchers suggest that children are now playing in an over plastic environment and unreal world. When a child sits down to eat they use plastic plates, they play with plastic food and dress up in fantasy clothing. Here at nursery we like to use 'real life' clothing in our dressing up, real life provocations in the home corner such as china cups, metal teapots, real food and real tools in the outside area.

The benefits of this type of play is that children will act out life real life situations, increase motivation for play, improve behaviour, develop language and communication, develop understanding of the real world (children will feel the differences for example in a metal cup and a china cup) and progress their mathematical development (shape, size, measurement, weight).

Practitioners will model to the children what happens if we drop a cup and it breaks, how will we clear up the mess to make it safe again? Can we repair it? Should we be more careful? This is something that you can model and teach at home too.

We have a small amount of real life items but if you or grandparents are having a clear out please consider us. I would love some old fashioned suitcases, brasses, mug trees, curtain rings for example. If you have any questions please come and speak to me.



TOPICS THIS HALFTERM

Spend time talking to your child about what they already know about these topics, read stories to support their learning or talk about your own experiences

Wk1 Autumn celebrations and Diwali

Wk2 Autumn and Remembrance day

Wk3 Animals preparing for Winter

Wk4 Birthdays

Wk5 Advent

Wk6 Advent

Wk7 Fun Christmas

"Reading aloud with children is known to be the single most important activity for building the knowledge and skills they will eventually require for learning to read."

- Marilyn Jager Adams

Mittens

Children benefit from having their fingers covered so they can enjoy their time outdoors but they do find gloves difficult to manage. They are also prone to being lost and understandably parents become frustrated when another pair cannot be found. We therefore ask if you can purchase mittens for your child. You can pick them up for a few pounds at the local supermarket. Could you then please attach a piece of ribbon, wool or elastic to them and tie or sow them into your child's coat. If you have any questions about this then please come and speak to one of us.



RE— This half term's topic is Prophecy and Promise

Key words :

Mary, Angel, Promise, Saviour, Joseph, Bethlehem, Journey, stable, manger, baby, Jesus, Joy, Shepherds, Advent, Christmas, Waiting,

Children will recognise the Christmas story and signs that indicate the approach of Christmas.



Teaching Independence

Please encourage and teach your child how to put their coat on independently. It is easier for them if they are taught how to take their coat off properly first so the arms are not all turned into the coat.

Here is a useful video so you can teach at home. We will of course help to do zips up.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3F7x2ad5upI>

Story of the month

The Snowman

This classic children's story has two versions, one with words and one without. If you are able to obtain a copy without words encourage your child to talk about what they can see going on in the illustrations.

