



St Michael's Nursery Newsletter

January 2017

Dear Parents / Carers,

We hope you had a magical Christmas and fabulous New Year. The children have told us all about all the lovely gifts Santa left them and it sounds like they had a wonderful time. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all the very kind Christmas gifts.

St Michael's Nursery have lots of exciting things planned over the coming months. Please read on for more information.

December's Topic

The children were definitely in the festive mood in December and made lots of glittery and snowy pictures. We're sure you'll agree they performed superbly at their Nativity. We were very proud of their great singing and acting and we are sure we will see them treading the boards in many more performances! Santa's visit to our parties was also very exciting. Thanks to all who managed to come along to our Christmas events.

In order to continually improve, we would greatly appreciate your views on our Nursery Nativity. Can you please complete the attached questionnaire and return to nursery before the end of the month. Many thanks for your help.

January's Topic

The children will be learning all about winter and the story 'We are going on a Bear Hunt' this month. Throughout this topic we will be exploring the weather, discussing hibernation and investigating animals in winter, experimenting with some Science experiments, reading winter stories and much more.

Burns Day will be celebrated on the 25th January with some haggis, neeps and tatties and some shortbread. If you would prefer your child not to have any of this please speak to a member of staff.



Staff Car Park



For health and safety reasons parents and carers are reminded not to walk through the staff car park with their child. Please exit the nursery from the designated gates at the back of the school or by walking around the school to the main gate. Many thanks for your support with this.

Collection of Nursery Children



Please remember that by law, no person under the age of 16 is able to collect a child from nursery. We understand that circumstances change and it may not always be the same person collecting your child. If things do change throughout the session, please contact the nursery and ensure the person collecting your child knows their individual password. We would appreciate if you could also check that you've already given your password to nursery staff as there are a few gaps here.

School Enrolments

If your child, or a child you know, is 5 years of age on or between 1st March 2017 and 28th February 2018, they are eligible to be enrolled for starting school in August 2017.

This will take place at St. Michael's Primary School on:

Monday 16th January - Thursday 19th January 2017

From 10am until 12 noon or from 1pm until 2.30pm

OR

Friday 20th January 2017

From 10am until 12 noon only

Please bring your child's BIRTH CERTIFICATE AND A RECENT COUNCIL TAX BILL AS PROOF OF YOUR ADDRESS.

Mrs Greechan and/or a member of the management team look forward to meeting you and your child.

Weekly donation

We appreciate the weekly £2 donation to help supplement additional baking ingredients or celebratory snack items. This donation also helps purchase indoor and outdoor educational materials. It is hoped that some of this money, along with that raised from our Nativity, will develop our Outdoor Learning facilities and Eco garden.



Stay and Play Toddler Sessions

Is your child around 2 years old and you're looking for a local toddler group? Please come along to our 'Stay and Play' toddler sessions from 9.15am until 10.30am on Fridays, starting on Friday 3rd February. These sessions will consist of structured, modelled play sessions led by Play Practitioners and from around 10.15am will finish with a snack and story while parents have a tea or coffee.

If you are interested, or know someone else who may be, please come along. There is no need to call in advance or to book a place.

Students

We have two students working with us from New College Lanarkshire who will be here until May/June 2017. They are Caitlin Picken who is an HNC childcare student who will be with us on a Monday and Friday and Lynsey Murray N.C childcare student on a Tuesday and

Wednesday. We will be having further students join us later in the year for shorter periods of time.

School and nursery blog/twitter

Please make sure you regularly check the school blog for nursery and school updates.



<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/stmichaelsweb/>

All nursery correspondence and newsletters will in future be sent to you by email, therefore please ensure that you have passed your email address on to nursery staff.

You can also follow us on twitter **@StMichaelsPNS**

Oral Health



Shirley from Oral health will be in the nursery on the 6th February to deliver a toothbrush lesson to the morning children and 10th February for the afternoon children.

Vision screening

Pre school children will have the opportunity to have a vision screening test on Friday 17th February. If you don't wish your child to have their eyes tested then please make sure you complete the opt out slip on the leaflet that you have received from nursery.



The Daily Mile



This initiative is being promoted by North Lanarkshire Council after seeing the success it has brought to other areas of Scotland. The idea is that all children in the school either walk or run for around 15 minutes every day. The upper school pupils strive to complete a whole mile in their 15 minutes and many do!

We, of course, will work with the children at their own level. Eventually you should see an increase in your child's fitness, stamina and general health. Please ensure that they come to nursery in a warm jacket on days when it's required and comfortable shoes that are appropriate to walk or run about in.

Lending Library

We will once again be starting our children's lending library. Children's language and communication is greatly enhanced through reading books. The children will be given the opportunity to choose a book to take home each week. Please ensure that you take the time to read the book and discuss the story with your child.

We are looking for volunteers to help run our library, if you are able to help in any way please come along to a short meeting on Wednesday 18th at 9.15 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. for anyone who would like to offer their services to help run our library.



Staffing

We are delighted to welcome back Mrs Di Mascio on her return from maternity leave. She will take on the nursery manager role.

Five to Thrive



We will be taking part in North Lanarkshire's Five to Thrive initiative this term. We will have the benefit of support from Monica, who will be supporting us in setting up our two year old group again. They will be in the nursery on Tuesday 17th January both morning and afternoon and will be available to help organise and run some parenting classes or just a chat about how they can help out within the community. Please keep an eye out for our new notice board and offer any suggestions that you may have.

Points of Information

Please remind your child not to bring toys into the nursery in case these get lost or broken. Please inform the nursery staff if you change address, phone number or emergency contact details.

Thank you for your continuing support and remember if you have any comments or suggestions either speak to one of the nursery staff or simply complete a comment card (available in the foyer).

Yours sincerely

The Nursery Team

COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS