

# St Michael's Nursery Newsletter

## November/December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,



As we approach Christmas, our nursery plans are being put in place and things are becoming more festive! Please read on to find out the dates and events planned for our children in the lead up to Christmas.

### **FESTIVE DONATIONS**

We are very aware that the current financial climate may mean that some families are finding things more challenging to manage at home and there are a number of ways in which St Michael's could help.

If we can assist at all over the festive season with regards to donations of clothing, toys, etc please do not hesitate to contact myself or any of the management team in the strictest of confidence.

### **CHRISTMAS GIFTS**

I don't want to be presumptuous however, every year we are overwhelmed by the kindness of our families who send in gifts at Christmas. However, this year we would ask you not to do this. We do not want to add to the financial pressures of an already difficult year. If you wish to thank staff, please feel free to add your message to our Twitter feed or send in a card with nice note as we are always grateful for your kind words.

### **CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING**



Along with every class in the school, the nursery have been loaned £5 from Virgin Bank to make their money 'grow' through an enterprise initiative. The nursery children will have an Enterprise Stall at the Coffee Morning where you will have the opportunity to purchase the children's handmade 'Magical Reindeer Food'. Pop along to the school hall from 10.00 a.m onwards to browse the stalls whilst enjoying coffee, cake, and a chat. Entrance to the coffee morning is £2.00 and includes a drink and cake. All profits from our enterprise stall will be retained by the nursery for the benefit of the children. Many thanks to our nursery parent from Virgin Bank in supporting our enterprise initiative.

## PARENT COUNCIL CHRISTMAS FAYRE

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December the Parent Council will be hosting a Christmas Fayre in the school. There will be a range of exciting stalls and we are hoping that Santa will find time in his busy schedule to drop by. Doors open at 6.30 p.m. entry is £2.00 including tea/coffee and sweet treat. Everyone will be made very welcome.



## CHRISTMAS PARTY DAY



All our children are invited to attend nursery between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December** dressed in their party outfits, Christmas jumpers or anything festive! We will have a day of fun, party games and activities. Party snack will be provided by the nursery and the children will also receive a gift from our special visitor, Santa himself! Due to Santa's busy schedule, **please note that there will be no normal AM and PM**

**sessions on this day.** Please let us know if this one off change in session does not work for you.

## NURSERY NATIVITY

Our Nursery Nativity, It's A Baby, will take place on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30 p.m. Tickets will be required for entry and these are £3 each. Tickets will be available from nursery staff when dropping off or collecting children from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December. Changes in sessions will take place on this day and this will be sent out in the next few days to allow for you to make any arrangements. The children are practicing hard and this event is always a festive highlight.



## CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS



The school and nursery will close at 2.30 p.m. on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December for our **TERM TIME** children and will reopen for our **TERM TIME** children on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 9.00 a.m.

For children who attend **AM** or **PM** sessions the nursery will be open from 3<sup>rd</sup> of January 2024. A form will be sent out in the next few days to ask all **AM** and **PM** parents if their child will attend on all, or any of these days, and to check if only having one session per day would work. The nursery is closed to all between Christmas and New Year.

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Christmas lunch will take place on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December for the whole school. The children will be offered roast turkey with all the seasonal trimmings with any special dietary requirements being met as normal. To allow the full school to access the hall for their lunch sittings, the morning children will start having their lunch slightly earlier than normal on this day so they may need a snack when they get home. Children are invited to wear something 'Christmassy' on this day.



## PHOTOGRAPHS



Nursery and family group photographs are due to be taken on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November. All children in the nursery will have individual photographs taken but there is no obligation to buy. If you wish your child to have a family photo taken with a sibling in the school please e-mail [nrandp@northlan.org.uk](mailto:nrandp@northlan.org.uk) before the day. Only requested family photos will be taken.

## FOREST KINDERGARDEN

Mrs Macartney and Mrs Miller are currently undergoing training for the above initiative. In order to facilitate their qualification they are both required to lead a group of children in Forest Kindergarden sessions. Either of the keyworkers will shortly be in touch if your child has been selected to attend one of the sessions planned for starting in January. Other children will then be offered the opportunity to take part in the second block which will run straight after. All our children will have been given the opportunity to experience this exciting programme before the end of May.

## SNACKS AND PROMOTION OF HEALTHY EATING



Please do not allow your child to bring any food or drinks into the nursery or the cloakroom. We have numerous children with allergies and some severe, which could result in serious illness. We encourage the children to develop healthy eating habits throughout their time at nursery. All children are provided with a healthy snack each day and a hot meal cooked within the school. Water and milk is available throughout the day.

## OUTDOOR LEARNING

Please could you send your child into nursery dressed appropriately for the changing weather. Children are required to play outside on a daily basis and hats, scarves and gloves help to keep them warm during this time. It would also be good to have an extra pair of trousers/leggings and socks for all children to wear, should they get wet or dirty outside. Please refrain from bringing bags/backpacks for children. All children have a green bag on their peg for spare clothes. Thank you for your co-operation.



## TIME KEEPING

If your child attends nursery between 9.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. (Term Time), unless there are prior agreed arrangements in place, please try to ensure that they arrive on time as we start our learning sharp at 9.00 a.m. Children brought in late can disrupt our routines. Many thanks with your support with this.

## KEEPING IN TOUCH THIS WINTER

[@StMichaelsPNS](#)    [blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/stmichaelsweb/](https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/stmichaelsweb/)

If the weather should take a turn for the worse any updates about access to the school building will be updated on our Twitter feed and the school website. Updates can also be found in Winter Services section on the Council website [www.northlanarkshirecouncil.gov.uk](http://www.northlanarkshirecouncil.gov.uk)

## DOGS

Can I remind all parents and carers that dogs are not permitted in the school grounds at any time. This includes small dogs that are being carried. Thank you with your support around this.



## TOYS

Children should not bring any toys to nursery. It has been our experience that bringing toys from home to nursery can create difficult situations. We therefore request that children do NOT bring toys from home into the nursery. We cannot be responsible for keeping them safe.

## ENROLMENT FOR SCHOOL



An information session for prospective parents prior to the Primary 1 enrolments will take place on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm.

Any parents who are thinking of enrolling their child to start school at St Michael's in August 2024 are welcome to attend.

Further information regarding dates for school enrolments will follow.



## NURSERY MOBILE

During school hours the nursery can be reached by phoning the school office and being put through to the nursery and out with these hours the mobile can be used. A reminder of the number: **07950 584596**

## Suggestions

If you have any suggestions or ideas on how we can continually improve our nursery please email me to let me know [nldimascion@northlan.org.uk](mailto:nldimascion@northlan.org.uk). I welcome your input.

Once again, we thank you for all your support and wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday.

**Mrs Di Mascio**  
**Depute Head Teacher**

## DECEMBER DIARY DATES

|                                     |                               |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December     | Christmas Coffee Morning      |
| Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> December  | Christmas Lunch               |
| Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December   | Christmas Nativity            |
| Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December | Nursery Parties (all chn 9-3) |
| Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December    | Close for Christmas           |
| Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January   | Nursery reopens (Full time)   |

