



# St Mary Magdalene Catholic School Nursery Newsletter January 2023



Dear Parents,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the new children who start over the coming two weeks. We hope you enjoy your time with us.

I hope that the children and families have had a restful break and that we start our year much healthier than we ended last term. For any families who have not had their child vaccinated against the Flu virus please contact your surgery to arrange this simple nasal vaccination.

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

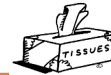
Friday 27th Jan—Coin challenge. Please bring silver or gold coins to Nursery. The children will make a pattern on the play ground. Money will go to the school fund.

Thursday 2nd February—Story session for parents to attend in Nursery 11.30am or 2.30pm

Friday 10th January—Prince and Princess Day. Come to Nursery dressed as either a prince or princess. Last day.

## Tissues

Thank you to all the families that have donated a box to nursery already. If you have not already donated one please do so as if each family provides one box of economy tissues then these will last us the whole year. Having a good supply of tissues allows children to become independent in keeping themselves clean. Please note that boxes of tissues are best and not pocket packets.



## Topics this half term

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

**Fairy tales** in which stories will include *Goldilocks and the three bears*, *The Billy Goats Gruff*, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Cinderella* and *Sleeping Beauty*.

Please support your child at home by encouraging Fairy tale role play and dressing up with material, dresses or hats. Reading Fairy tales at bedtime will also consolidate your child's learning and help enrich their vocabulary.

## School Website—

We periodically post photo's of the children's time at nursery on the Nursery page of the school website. Please note that these are purely a snapshot and we hope we include everyone at some point.

If your child is absent from nursery you will be able to access stories on the website. Please note that these are not presently being updated. However repetition of stories is important in a child's development.

**Start times—Please note that we close the gate at 8.55am. Children should arrive before this time. If they are late it can really affect the children and their day. Finish time is 11.45am or 2.45pm (for full time children). Unfortunately there will be a charge if you are late.**

## RE

For our RE topic we will be considering 'Celebrating' and in particular the story of Simeon and Anna.



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

**Church, Priest, celebrate, celebrating and parish family.**

## **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.



## Supporting Mark Making and Writing

Writing is a skill that children learn gradually. They start this journey by mark making not by producing letters or even words. We encourage children to make patterns, circles and lines as these form the basis for most letters in the English alphabet.

These marks can be made in any medium and should be fun. You may notice your child making patterns in their saucers at mealtimes or on the side of the bath with water or bubbles. All of these are important and should be encouraged.

For children that are starting to and more importantly are interested in writing their own name, the letters must be in lower case (apart from the first which should be in uppercase). If you are able to teach your child cursive letters this will help their transition into school much easier but please do not worry about this too much. To see how to form cursive letters please see the Curriculum page within the Key Information section.

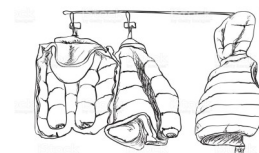
The school website also has other useful links which you may wish to investigate.



## Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)

It is important to support your child's learning at home and develop their PSED. Here are a few suggestions.

- Encourage your child to say 'please' and 'thank you'
- Encourage your child to talk about what makes them happy, sad or cross and how to display this behaviour.
- When playing with your child, support him/her in sharing toys
- Ensure that your child is able to go to the toilet unaided
- Try to support your child in taking turns with others



We are still encouraging children to become more independent in their dressing and ask them to find their own coat peg, put their coat on themselves and fasten it. We also ask that they return their coat to their own peg. Please encourage your child to do this and help them by ensuring that their coat is **named** and has a piece of fabric or ribbon that allows them to hang their coat.