

St Mary's Nursery School



APRIL Newsletter

"The creation of something new is not accomplished by the intellect but by the play instinct." – Carl Jung



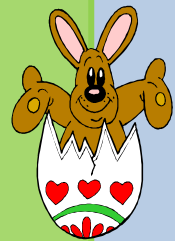
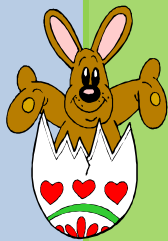
School Holidays

School will finish at 11.30am on
Thursday 6th April

Friday 7th April
is a Staff Development Day

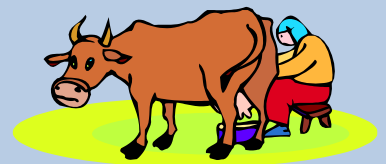
School will be closed:
Monday 10th to Friday 14th April (inclusive)
for our Easter Break

We will reopen as usual on
Monday 17th April



Educational Activities

Farm Visit – We are very excited to be having a trip to Streamvale Farm on **Thursday 20th April**.



We will also be having three sessions with **Rugby Tots** this month and a further one in May.

Parental Consent for Educational Outings

Parents, we require your consent to bring your child on educational outings. The third column of the consent form is where you indicate if you are free to join us. You are always welcome! Thank you.

Trocaire/Special School in India/Schools Funds

To foster an awareness of people less fortunate than ourselves, the children will take part in a sponsored sing-along on **Wednesday 19th April at 1.00pm in the Pastoral Centre**. Sponsor forms will be given out on Monday 17th and we would ask that all sponsor money be returned by Friday 21st April. Thank you!



Road Traffic Awareness

Safety on the farm and in the countryside shall be developed. Lots of discussions around dangerous farm machinery and the importance of washing your hands after touching animals, soil etc shall be encouraged.



Hall Bags

Please remember to place a complete change of clothes into your child's hall bag, alongside their velcro-strapped shoes. Please ensure the School's hall bags remain in School. Thank you.

Curriculum Matters:

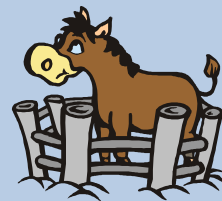
Maths for the month

This month's colour is brown. We will be mixing the primary colours to mix brown – so expect messy hands and uniforms! Encourage your child to look out for this colour and shape in their environment. Our shape for this month is oval ● .



Topics for the month

The topic for this month is The Farm. The children will be exploring the concepts of heavy / light. Scales will be on offer around the room in sand and water trays, and at construction tables to give every opportunity to foster these concepts. We will also be discussing taller / shorter, modelling the language and fostering their use of mathematical language. We are looking forward to our visit to the farm.



Lots of activities shall involve produce from the farm: chopping vegetables in the house corner, making soup / butter, and exploring the ideas of where yoghurt, milk, pasta etc comes from. Lots of language / activities will continue to centre around changes: seasons, how food changes when cooked, animals change when they grow etc.



We will have good fun before our Easter Break taking part in some traditional activities. The children will enjoy some Easter Craft and having an Easter Egg Hunt!

The Time to Talk programme is ongoing and we are developing their listening and turn-taking skills. Friendships are being fostered and nurtured, and respect for ourselves, others and living things are being promoted. Overall body management skills are continually being developed. As always we are also ensuring that all this learning is enjoyable and fun for our children.

Talking Tip

Help your child develop good language and communication skills with these tips:

- Always respond in some way when your child says something.
- Try to extend their language and thinking skills with open ended questions.

You can help your child at home by...

1. Encouraging them to help in the garden - planting and raking the grass cuttings and talk about recycling in the bin - nurture their awareness of their environment.
2. Allowing them to peg the clothes up to develop their finger muscles in preparation for writing.
3. Encourage good scissor grip and control by letting them cut out of magazines and newspapers whilst being supervised.

Happy
Easter

