

St Mary's Nursery School



Newsletter

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



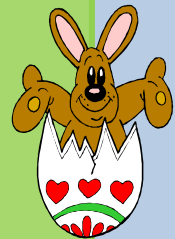
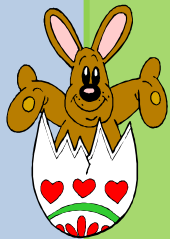
School Holidays

School finishes at 11.30am on
Thursday 17th April

Friday 18th April
is closed for a Staff Development Day

School will be closed:
Monday 21st to Friday 25th April (inclusive)
for our Easter Break

We will reopen as usual on
Monday 28th April



Trócaire/Special School in India/Schools Funds

To foster an awareness of people less fortunate than ourselves, children will take part in a sponsored sing-along. This will take place on Wednesday 9th April at 1.00pm in the Pastoral Centre. Sponsor forms are in the pigeon holes. All sponsor money should be returned by Friday 11th April. Thank you.



Parent/Teacher Consultations

These meetings will take place week beginning Monday 14th April. Individual appointment date and times were given out last month.

Educational Activities



We are looking forward to our last session with Drama Time on Wednesday 16th April. This session had been rescheduled. These classes were jam packed with a variety of fun activities.



We are also delighted to be starting our sessions with Rugby Tots on Wednesday 30th April. There will be a further 3 sessions in May.



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:

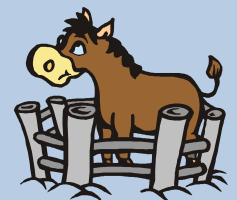
Maths for the month

This month's colour is brown. Our shape for this month is oval ●. 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.



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.



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 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.

Car Park

Please note the parish kindly let us use their car park. There is a one-way system in operation, which should be observed at all times. **Never** park at the side of the Priest's house, outside the church or in front of the school railings - always use the car park (only badge holders are permitted to park in disabled parking spaces). Parents, please drive very very slowly once you enter the church grounds and exercise extreme caution when entering the car park. If you are in a taxi, please ensure the taxi uses the car park.

Walking from car park to school - **Please walk along the side of the pastoral centre, following the double red lines for your child's safety.** Thank you.

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

