



# St Mary's Nursery School

## November Newsletter

"Play gives children a chance to practice what they are learning."  
– Fred Rogers

### Settling In documents

The children are nearly all settled by now and enjoying their new environment.

The settling in documents were sent out on 18<sup>th</sup> October. Mrs Hoy and Mrs Friel were available for a short chat Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>, Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October.

If you were not able to avail of this opportunity and would like to discuss your child's settling in, please see Mrs Hoy or Mrs Friel.

### Uniform

Please clearly label your child's uniform as it causes them great distress if we can't find their jumpers/trainers etc for them.

### Students

We are delighted that students are joining us from a variety of schools and colleges.

### Dinners

The children are enjoying the nutritious meals every day. Please try to pay with the correct amount every Tuesday morning.

No cheques. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. **Please speak to Mrs Hoy or Mrs Friel if you wish to change to packed lunches.**



### School Coats

The children are wearing their coats outside every day. Could you please encourage your child to put on/off their own coats as they will be able to transfer this skill in school. The staff will help with zips. Also, please provide your child with a hat and mittens if you have not already done so and place them in your child's pouch inside the classroom.



### Staff Training

All staff in the classrooms have completed their "Safeguarding" training.

### Education & Training Inspectorate

Mrs Hoy is a member of the Early Years School Inspection Team in the role of Associate Assessor. This will incur a substitute teacher taking Mrs Hoy's class a few times a year whilst she is out on inspections at other schools.

### Monthly Curriculum Meetings:

On the first Wednesday of every month Mrs Hoy is available in the staff room at 1.00pm to discuss that month's curriculum for any interested parents. This month Mrs Hoy will be available on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November. Please inform Mrs Gault if you are attending for this meeting.

### Coffee Mornings/Afternoons



Please feel free to use the Staff Room and arrange to meet up in the mornings or afternoons for a tea/coffee and a chat.

### Autumn Walk – Stormont

Our Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October. We all had a fun time! Sponsor money is still coming in - any outstanding money should be returned ASAP.

Thank you so much!



### Autumn

We shall also be continuing observing the signs of Autumn and will go for a short walk around Greencastle Close one afternoon to observe our environment in Autumn and wave to the older residents of the parish.

### Parent Volunteers

In the past we have been delighted that some parents were able to volunteer in the mornings. If you are available any morning between 9.00 and 11.00 we would be delighted with your help. Please see Mrs Hoy if you are able to help!

## Activity Programme

Monkeynastix will start classes this month. This activity programme fosters excellent physical skills!

We will have a visit on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> November. Plus we will have a further two visits in December!

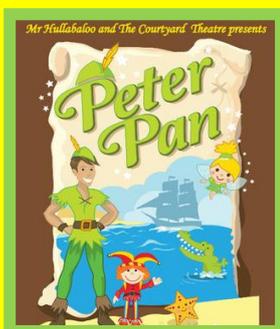


As part of our Sharing From the Start Programme, Room 1 children will visit Lowwood Nursery on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November for a joint session with Jump Jiggle and Jive, whilst Room 2 children will visit on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>.

## Christmas Pantomime

We are thrilled to be going to a magical Christmas pantomime - Mr Hullabaloo's Peter Pan @ the Courtyard Theatre, plus a visit to Santa, on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

We will have a fun filled adventure that will have us singing, dancing and clapping along! Featuring outstanding puppetry, dazzling sets and lavish costumes.



## Bring your Dad to School - Non Uniform

Calling all Dads, or significant male adult, to come and have fun with your precious one!

### Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November:

Mrs Hoy's class  
6.00-6.30pm

Mrs Friel's class  
6.45-7.15pm



### Talking Tip

Help your child develop good language and communication skills with this tip:

Encourage your child to listen to different sounds, such as cars and animals. This will help your child's listening skills.

### You can help your child at home by ...

- 1 Teach your child to blow their nose, pinch their nose to catch the germs and bin their hankie, ie "catch it and bin it".
- 2 Cover your mouth whilst coughing.

## Curriculum Matters:

### Maths for the Month

This month's colour is yellow – and this month's shape is the triangle – both these topics are important for pre mathematical development. Please encourage your child to look out for this colour and shape in their environment, at home and outside.

### Topics for the Month

This month's topic is Me & My Family (grammatically correct "My Family and I"). Could you please provide your child with three family photographs stuck on the sheet provided with the family members' names underneath? **Pictures of:** 1) your child as a baby, 2) your child and their family, 3) your child's grandparents. This page with the photographs will be returned at the end of the month. If possible, could we have these photographs by Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November. Thank you.

We will use these stimuli to develop the theme of family, reassuring your child by acknowledging and naming their family. We will also touch on the idea of the passing of time and their personal history. We will discuss their homes and our school to develop an appreciation of their immediate environment.

We are looking for a volunteer / parent to bath their baby for us all to witness and enjoy! This would give us opportunities to develop the children's language and the idea of life cycles – baby, child, adult – in The World Around Us. Throughout this theme we will be reassuring them and so heightening their Personal, Social & Emotional Development. Through The Arts they will be encouraged to observe the similarities and differences in people and attempt to recreate a representational drawing/painting of a member of their family. Outside physical development will be concentrating on climbing and balancing safely.

### Morning Supervision 8.15am

If you wish to avail of this service a member of staff will supervise the children. Please leave your child to the Quiet Room in Room One.

**9.00 am the children will then go to their Quiet Rooms for a short greeting time to check who is present, say our prayers and discuss the activities on offer for the day. This is a lovely start to the day for the children!**

Afternoon supervision is from 1.30-2.00pm in Quiet Room One.