



St. Michael's Nurseries

Chatter

Where children blossom and grow



EASTER NEWSLETTER 2024



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February/March Newsletter 2024

Lighter evenings and maybe a glimmer of sunshine as we begin the lovely season of Spring.

There has been big excitement as our tadpole has grown its four legs ..' the back ones look quite hoppy' one child declared!



We have enjoyed taking part in celebrations and events this Spring Term, dressing up for red nose day, colourful activities for Holi, making chicks for Easter, biscuits for Valentines Day and Liz made us pancakes for Shrove Tuesday (a short term with many festivals!). We have focussed on friendship, love and kindness this term, enjoying stories together and talking about our emotions.

Staff are super busy behind the scenes, Emma M has passed her final Level 3 Early Years Educator exam, and Chloe and Molly have their exams this month too . We are super proud of the progress our apprentices make and we look forward to celebrating their achievements with them.

Leah and Amy P are starting their Early Years Professional Development Programme, enhancing their current qualifications and other staff have attended Paediatric First Aid and Premature Baby Training .



We are excited to announce that, as from April, St Michael's will be funding Story bears to visit us on alternate Monday mornings, with all age-groups enjoying music, storytelling, movement and rhyme. We all know the importance of music for communication and listening skills, as well as enjoyment for our wellbeing, so Clare will be a welcome guest at St. Michael's. As you know Kim,

from Learning Journey, visits us fortnightly to teach Maths with a Forest

School twist. We are very lucky to have these teachers visit and look forward to their involvement this Summer Term.

Two-year funding has now been rolled out, and we will be keeping in touch with the next cohort of two-year-olds for the Autumn Term, as well as guiding families through the roll out of the Under 2-year-old funding when we learn more ourselves.

The most important thing for all funded families now is to renew your code very **THREE MONTHS** so as not to miss out on your funding. HMRC should remind parents, but it is advisable to note a reminder on your calendar!

We look forward to welcoming new staff to St. Michael's this term, joining our bank of early years staff, and also supporting housekeeping and catering, we welcome Tracey, Nicola and Helen and Elizabeth – all have had experience in early years and schools and are very excited to be joining us at St. Michael's!



February saw us celebrating our wonderful apprentices during National Apprenticeship Week. We have seen many of our apprentices flourish into professional, talented and skilled nursery nurses over the years. Many of our apprentices have qualified and taken up a full or part time role at St. Michael's and bring their enthusiasm and talents to the nursery everyday.

Others have pursued higher education and gone into the world of adult/community nursing, midwifery, Primary Education, community care and even a published Author!

Read more here....

<https://www.stmichaels-nursery.org/single-post/national-apprenticeship-week-2024>



Hedgehogs Bakery

Child consultancy is a big thing here at St. Michael's and the children use a recipe book to choose and plan their upcoming cookery sessions. They have made Pizza, Brownies, Cream Teas. For Easter, they made the most adorable chocolate nests.



Andy from Romar Sports visits us every Tuesday afternoon for lots of fun games and activities. The children, (and staff!), have immense fun with team games, working collaboratively, turn taking, cheering on friends and working on those hidden football skills through having FUN!

RED NOSE DAY

We took part in Red Nose Day and children and staff were invited to wear red, or Pyjamas / cosy clothes.

We raised an amazing £232.63 in our bake sale! Thank you to everyone who has contributed by either baking cakes or buying them! We really appreciate it.

STORY BEARS

We recently welcomed a visit from 'Story Bears'. The children had so much fun listening to stories, playing musical instruments, clapping along to the rhythms and rhymes and dancing in a huge wave of bubbles!

At St. Michael's, we really value each and every child and strive to support their learning and development journey in every way we can. When it comes to Language and Literacy, we acknowledge just how powerful reading a story is and also providing the appropriate developmental resources for the children to be fully supported in this development.

For example, with our youngest children in Ladybirds and Butterflies, we understand that they respond to the rhythm and melody of language before they understand what the words mean.

We are often heard signing the same enjoyable songs and clapping our hands in a rhythm that is not only fun but also vitally important in supporting early communications skills such as learning the pattern and rhythm of language, the tone of the voice, the anticipation of an action and also hand-eye coordination skills.

Science has linked a clear relationship between music and language acquisition. It is believed that the area in the brain that processes listening to music and rhythm, overlap with the language development network in the brain. It is this powerful link that will in turn help contribute to support young readers in their early years of school life.



<https://www.abc.net.au/listen/classic/read-and-watch/music-reads/learning-music-early-can-make-your-child-a-better-reader/10506140>

This is so important to us we are so excited to confirm that Clare from Story Bears will be visiting our nursery every Monday morning to all age groups. We are so excited and will bring you news of her first session starting in the summer term.



LADYBIRDS & BUTTERFLIES



DRAGONFLIES



KINDERGARTEN

