St. Michael's Nurseries

Chatter

Where children blossom and grow



OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 2026

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October Newsletter 2026

We will say goodbye and good luck to Amy and Chelsea in November as they leave us to start their respective Maternity Leaves. Amy's last day will be Thursday 5th November and Chelsea will leave us on Friday 13th November.
Danni will take on the role of Team Leader in Dragonflies, and the current team will take over as your keyworkers.
We wish Amy and Chelsea they very best of luck and we look forward to hearing their news of baby arrivals!

Coming up in November…

Mon 16th November, we invite children and staff to wear something purple to acknowledge World Prematurity Day .

It's World Prematurity Day on Sunday 15 November 2026.
Here at St. Michael's Nursery, we're proud to be a Smallest Things Prem Aware Setting.
This accreditation means we recognise and support the unique needs of families after time in neonatal intensive care.
Follow The Smallest Things premature baby charity or visit the website to find out more.
#WorldPrematurityDay2026

Good Things Come in Threes

Picture 1 - Our wonderful team leaders in their striking navy blue uniform. (L-R Amy Dragonflies, Zoe 0-2s and Leah Kindergarten).

Picture 2 – Three engagements along with three stunning engagement rings….(L-R Leah, Amy and Kayley)

Picture 3 – Celebrating three bumps – huge congratulations to Leah, Chelsea and Amy.









Keen to continue the theme of celebrations, Congratulations to Libby, Danni and Madi for passing their driving test over this past year.

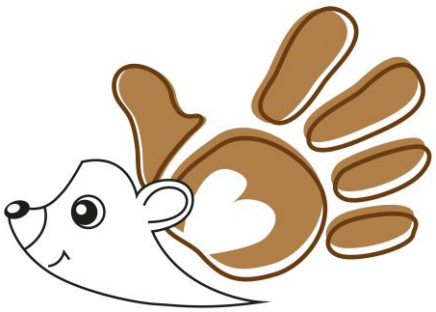
Happy and safe motoring!

Schools & Parents' Information Evening

This is suitable for families of St. Michael's Nursery with children of all ages!

Schools Evening 12th November 6.45pm – 7.15pm or 7.00pm – 7.30pm

Just a reminder that we have our Schools and Parents' Information Evening on Thursday 12th November. Our 6.30pm time slot is now full, however we are offering 6.45pm and 7.00pm for those who are interested . Don't forget we have the Potty Training Nurse here, as well as Lucy (Speech Therapy), Torrington Dental Practice to discuss oral health care and of course our local schools representatives.



Hedgehogs Bakery

The children in Dragonflies and Kindergarten are enjoying their visits to Emma's bakery. For National Apple Day, the children made apple crumble.



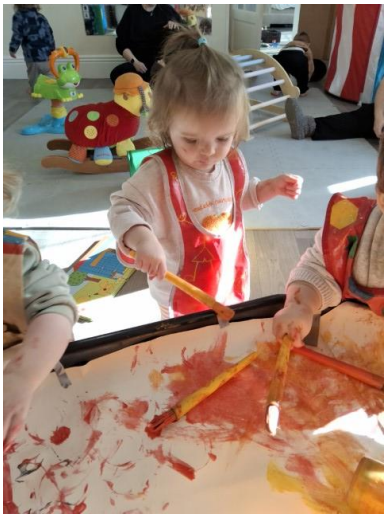
LADYBIRDS & BUTTERFLIES



Lots of beautiful autumnal walks, playdough, story bears, singing and exploring paint to name just a few of the fun things taken place in our Ladybird and Butterfly room this October.







DRAGONFLIES







Fun games, counting carrots, carving pumpkins and enjoying the Gruffalo story have been some of the fun things taken place in Dragonflies this month.



KINDERGARTEN

A super exciting day during half term! While nursery had a fire inspection, Kindergarten were invited out to see the Fire Engine! The fire fighters showed the children parts of the engine and answered questions ....thank you Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service!





ECO-HEROES - NEWS

St. Michael's Nursery

Action for Climate

It is a requirement for early years settings to have an Action for Climate Policy. Already ahead of this new requirement, the late Steve Roberts (Director), was incredibly passionate about protecting the planet and launched the 'green project' back in 2018. We are confident in this area, as you know we are proud of our plastic free status and we have won awards in sustainability / eco projects as well as wildlife and gardening over a number of years now. We will continue to follow our green ethos at St. Michael's.

We have weekly 'Eco-Hero' sessions where children are not only involved in the sorting of materials that can be recycled, but enjoy stories, discussions, songs, puppet shows, music, dance, walks and litter picking to illustrate the importance of living sustainably.

Green Fingers Gardening Club





We have been foraging windfall apples and their leaves. We noticed all the patterns, veins and colour change pf the leaves. We have mixed paint to make apple and fig leaf prints on the paper.

Forest School







Pumpkin carving, lanterns, learning about nocturnal animals, noticing the changing colours of leaves and shaking leaves on the giant parachute have been just some of the fun things we have enjoyed at Forest School this month.

Dates for your Diary/Notices:

Schools Evening **12th November 6.45-7.15 & 7.00-7.30**
We are pleased to be running our Schools Evening this year , with local primary schools all under our roof to meet families who are making choices about their child's education. More information out soon!

Children in Need Fri 13th November (dress up day), bake sale 11th – 13t



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TOY SWAP 7th Dec
Accepting good quality donations of toys, puzzles, games and clothes between 30th November – 4th Dec.

Christmas Closure
For term time only children;
Autumn Term ends Friday 18th December
Spring Term Starts TUESDAY 5th January 2027

Nursery will be closed for all children;
Nursery will close at 6pm on Weds 23rd December (closed on Christmas Eve)
and reopen on Monday 4th January 2027 (term time children return Tues 5th January)

Funding

As you know , families may be eligible for Working Extended Funding , from the term after their child is 9 months old – depending on the date parents return from maternity leave.

It is important to apply in good time to gain your funding code, and from then it is really important you renew your account every three months to avoid the code expiring.

Thank you to everyone for returning your funding forms , the transferring of a high
percentage of our children to further funded hours has been a big task !

Don't forget to use your Tax Free Childcare if you are eligible as this an be used for any payable fees (up to 20% of your fees paid by HMRC). Did you know this can be used for babies until they are eligible for funding, and also for children's after school club at their school , and for holiday childcare too. Ask your provider for more details.



Donna and Sarah are happy to help with any funding / tax free childcare questions.







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BE THE QUEEN OF YOUR BIRTH

St. Michael's Nursery

in partnership with Devon County Council NDNA

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