



St. Michael's Nurseries

Chatter

Where children blossom and grow



MAY NEWSLETTER 2026

May Newsletter 2026

May has been a beautiful month... we have celebrated Sir David Attenborough's birthday, VE Day, World Bee Day, Eid, birthdays, exam success and a heatwave.

During the warmer weather, Frozen watermelon was a popular snack throughout the day.

Thank you for applying suncream to your child before drop off in the mornings as this meant we could access a cool, shady Forest School early morning..., paddling, splashing, calm and mindful activitiesJust perfect!



National Year of Reading

Go All In!

We are proud to continue to offer our Lending Library for families to borrow books for bedtime, why not take a look if you have already done so. Thank you to families who bring in donations of unwanted books, as this really helps us to offer a wide selection - we even have baby books so please take a look!

Proud to support
The National Year
of Reading 2026.

**GO
ALL
IN.**



**Hedgehogs Bakery
with Emma Hedge**

The smoothies were a huge hit! We talked about the different fruits that we like to eat and how they grow. We discussed where our food comes from and the children knew all about the seeds and what they need to grow.

It was very funny when we were trying to cut the blueberries in half – they kept popping around the table in different directions!

Bye Bye Butterflies!

We have enjoyed watching and nurturing our caterpillars over the past few weeks. The children have been learning about the life cycle of a caterpillar and noticing the changes. We have looked at books, posters, stories and we even found some caterpillars out in the wild on a bug hunt.

There was great excitement over half term when they emerged into butterflies and we wished them well on their adventures into our big beautiful garden.



Making our Day Run Like Clockwork!



You will have noticed our staff coming and going on their shifts throughout the day and we thank them for their flexibility to make our day run smoothly.

Staff numbers are booked to meet the needs of the nursery, ensuring staff;child ratios maintain as is requirement.



We kindly ask that children do not arrive before their booked arrival times, as we have staff matched to the bookings to ensure we remain in ratio in the mornings. You will see staff arriving at 15 minute intervals during the morning.

To help us keep to ratio and also to ensure staff are not having to stay later than their shift , please could families collect on time.

To remind you of the sessions:

Morning 8am to 1pm

Afternoon 1pm to 6pm

School day 8.45 - 4.15

Full day 8am to 6pm (please arrive by 5.55pm for handover)

If you find your booked session does not cover your childcare needs, please let us know as we are able to slide a 7.5 hour day within a range , and you are also able to book extra time slots to extend your session.

Thank you for understanding and cooperation to make our day run like clockwork.



GUESS THE NAME OF THE BUNNY!

Nicola is raising money for Autism Initiatives by walking 18,000 steps each day!

If you would like to take part, simply select a pre-written name on the form.

Pop your money in the box – £1.00 per guess

Once all names have been sold, we will announce a winner!

Good Luck!  **Autism Initiatives**
real partnerships, unique solutions, positive outcomes

LADYBIRDS & BUTTERFLIES



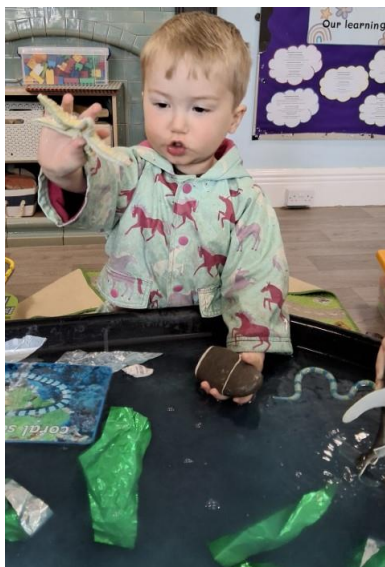
The children and the team at St. Michael's Nursery celebrated Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday. We made him a card and enjoyed a little trip out to the Post Office to send it to him.



David Attenborough famously said; "No one will protect what they don't care about, and no one will care about what they haven't experienced." The children in our nursery will grow up to be citizens in the world and will contribute to shape the future. They might grow up to be parents, teachers, farmers, or scientists to name a few. Their early years are such a crucial time to help shape their ideas, thinking, experiences and attitudes.

We thank Sir David Attenborough for helping us to connect with nature and to be aware of the wider world around us. We understand that just one positive change, no matter how small, can have a huge impact.

DRAGONFLIES



Dragonflies have been busy this month with learning all about hot and cold countries and enjoying lots of water play, collage and playing with the toy animals. Books help to support the learning and spark off curious conversations about the animals and their habitats. We have been painting red and white and blue bunting for flags and enjoying lots of days outside in the garden.

KINDERGARTEN



Wednesday 20th June was World Bee Day. As an eco-nursery, we are dedicated to supporting the biodiversity and the ecosystem and we believe that this starts with awareness, knowledge, experience and education from an early age.

We have enjoyed learning about how bees forage for nectar and pollen. We planted some wild flowers in gardening club. We even had real beekeepers visit with beautiful honeybees. They learnt amazing facts and even enjoyed some delicious honey on crackers. Thank you Alan and Jayne for your informative talk. We enjoyed meeting the bees and of course the Queen Bee 'Bluebell'.



ECO-HEROES - NEWS

**PLASTIC FREE
NURSERIES**
SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE



**St. Michael's
Nursery**

Things we have achieved this month:

- Regular recycling
- Story Betty Bee by Emily Hobson-Martin
- Celebrating Sir David Attenborough's birthday
- Planting pumpkins, runner beans and peas.
- Moving the seedlings to larger trays
- Noticing sunflowers growing from seed
- Welcoming bee keepers Alan & Jayne
- Releasing the butterflies that we have nurtured from caterpillars



Notices:





**Start brushing
your baby's
teeth twice a
day, from when
their first tooth
appears**



<https://www.facebook.com/ccsdentalhealthcare>

Westcountry
Dental and Implant Centre

ARE TAKING ON

NEW NHS PATIENTS

To Register your children
please contact us on:

01271 345006

Westcountry.dental@nhs.net

Heidi Rachel
HYPNOBIRTHING

Qualified hypnobirthing teacher

Empowering women and families for a calm and positive birth

CREATE A POSITIVE MINDSET,
FEEL IN CONTROL,
AND SUPPORT COMFORT MEASURES.

The Royal Treatment
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comfort of your own home

Available face to face or online
Late pregnancy- intensive courses
available

Contact me for more information

heidirachelhypnobirthing@outlook.com

[Heidi_rachel_hypnobirthing_](https://www.instagram.com/Heidi_rachel_hypnobirthing_)

[@hrrhypnobirth](https://www.tiktok.com/@hrrhypnobirth)

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BE THE QUEEN OF YOUR BIRTH

Term Dates & Non-Pupil Days:

Just to remind term time only families of the summer term dates, as per emails sent out with invoices.

Summer Term begins on **TUESDAY 21st April 2026**
 Bank Holiday Monday 4th May (nursery closed)
 Bank Holiday Monday 25th May (nursery closed)
 Half Term week beginning 25th May
 Summer Term ends Wednesday 22nd July
 Autumn Term begins Monday 7th September
 Half Term Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October
 Autumn Term ends Friday 18th December



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 can be used for any payable fees (up to



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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.

Please visit our fees and forms page on our website for lots of information, latest updates, fees and policies.

<https://www.stmichaels-nursery.org/feesandforms>



St. Michael's Nursery

in partnership with
Devon
County Council



NDNA

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St Michael's Nursery

Sustainable Business Award