

Autumn Term 2023



Nursery Class

The Nursery Class will be taught by Miss Nolan, supported by Mrs Bradley and Mrs Pedder.

What will your child be learning about during Autumn term?

Our topic for this half term is 'All about me and Autumn':

The first half term at nursery is all about settling in and getting to know each other. We will talk about who is important to us and the things that we like. We learn what makes us special and talk about how we are all different. Sharing and turn taking will be a big focus as children form friendships. We will be learning to use the different areas in our classroom and learning rules and routines. We will learn about parts of the body and our 5 senses. We will learn about the festival of Harvest. We will also be reading lots of stories about Autumn and learning about the changes that occur in this season. In RE we will be thinking about why we are special and where we belong.



Our topic for next half term is 'Celebrations, Winter and Christmas':

We will be learning about different celebrations that take place this half term, including bonfire night. We will then move on to learn about winter and seasonal changes. We will finally move on to the Christmas story and make lots of Christmas crafts. In Communication and Language we will be exploring environmental sounds and voice sounds. We will be hearing and making different sounds using our bodies and instruments. We will sing simple repetitive songs and will do lots of speaking and listening in our circle times. Children will sing echo songs and perform actions to a song or rhyme. They will listen and respond to sung instructions and learn to identify, and do actions for, high and low pitches. Children will explore different kinds of voice production: whispering, speaking and singing.



In Literacy we will be sharing lots of stories, children will be encouraged to talk about the stories they listen to and to look at picture books. We will also use pictures to sequence the stories that we have read. They will practise name recognition daily and will be encouraged to mark make.

In Mathematics we will be counting aloud up to 10, and learning to recognise numerals up to 5 and then 10. We will be learning to count up to 5 objects accurately. We will be learning to identify colours and patterns. We will also be learning number rhymes.

In physical development we will be doing lots of fine and gross motor activities such as jig-saws, threading and building. These are important to develop balance and co-ordination and of course develop children's readiness for writing. We will also be learning how to put on our own coat and how to take it off independently.

Through our continuous provision your child will choose from and experience many activities to enrich their learning. These include mark making, writing, number recognition, counting, water, sand, creative, construction, small world and role play. Our role play this half term will be a home corner and our outdoor role play area is a Doctor's surgery. Nearer Christmas time we will have a



Santa's Grotto and an Elves' workshop. We enhance these areas with resources linked to the topic to make children's play more purposeful.

We want children to feel comfortable to join in with activities, to form friendships and to be able to express their needs. Children are encouraged to follow a set of simple rules to keep them happy and safe. We have a traffic light reward system in the classroom to promote 'good behaviour'. We also have 'Star of the Week' which is awarded on Fridays and celebrated in class. As a reward for star of the week your child will be able to bring home our class bear that comes home in a bag with a story book for you to share with your child.

What can you do to help your child to develop well at nursery?

- Make sure they attend nursery every booked session.
- Encourage your child to be as independent as possible by allowing them to do simple tasks such as tidying up and putting on their coat and shoes and eating independently with cutlery.
- Encourage your child to share and take turns with tasks at home.
- Share books with your child and talk about the pictures and the story.
- Talk to them about what makes them special.
- If your child has a dummy or bottle at home then please consider taking these away as they may affect your child's speech.
- Encourage them to identify different colours, numbers and letters in the environment.



Toilet Training:

At St Michael's, as at all schools, we expect that children will be toilet-trained before they arrive. However, we also recognise that every child learns and develops at their own pace. We will support your child with toileting routines but we do not have the facilities for regular nappy or pull up changing for children unless they have special educational needs. We build on what children have learnt at home by regularly reminding the children to use the toilet and allowing them to go to the toilet at anytime.

How you can help:

- Allow your child to use the toilet independently and show them how to wipe properly.
- Allow children to manage trousers, tights etc by themselves and practise at home if needed.
- Talk to your child about the importance of washing their hands and demonstrate/support them to wash and dry them.
- Send your child into nursery with underwear on and some spares (we recognise that all children under 5 will have the odd accident from time to time).
- Please ensure that all clothing is labelled clearly with your child's name.

Important Information

Please help us to keep the Nursery tidy by not bringing toys or belongings from home. We do not want them to get lost or broken.

We would also ask parents/carers to wait outside the Nursery gate until a member of staff comes to greet you. Once the children are settled, we will begin our registration routine.

At collection time we would ask parents/carers to wait outside the Nursery gate. The children will be brought to parents/carers from inside the Nursery. We hope this makes collecting the children easier as they settle into their new routine. If you wish to speak to Nursery staff about your child please wait until all children have been handed over to their parents/carers.

Older children in school often run charity events such as competitions or biscuit/cake sales, and information about these events is included in newsletters. If your child is bringing any money into school for these special events can you please put it in an envelope marked with the child's name and what it is for, as this will be helpful in ensuring that your child does not miss out on special events.

Please leave children's spare clothes and underwear in a drawstring bag at Nursery and restock them regularly.

St Michael's is a healthy Nursery, so please **do not fill your child's water bottle with juice or anything other than water.**

Thank you for your co-operation with these matters.