



NEWS - November 2018

This month sees the children becoming more settled and really beginning to 'work' at their 'play'. They are now familiar with the routines of Nursery and are enjoying the longer day when we have time for even more exciting, learning opportunities.

Nursery Themes for November

Our major theme for November is **HEALTHY ME**. We will be exploring how we can stay healthy by sleeping well, exercising and eating lots of **FRUIT AND VEGETABLES**.

Another of our themes for November is **AUTUMN**. Talk to your child about the changing season; the colder, shorter days, the autumn colours of red, orange, yellow and brown. Encourage them to look for and find some autumn leaves or berries.



Personal Social and Emotional Focus

- With the colder weather now here we are encouraging the children to put on and zip up their coats before we go out to play. **Please encourage your child to practice this at home.**
- We are hoping to take the children outside most days despite the weather as it is so important for the children to experience the learning opportunities taking place outdoors. Please send in a pair of wellies with your child's name on each one and put them in the basket under your child's peg. These can be kept in school or taken home and brought back each day. It would be a great help if you could also encourage your child to put these on by him/herself.



Physical Development Focus

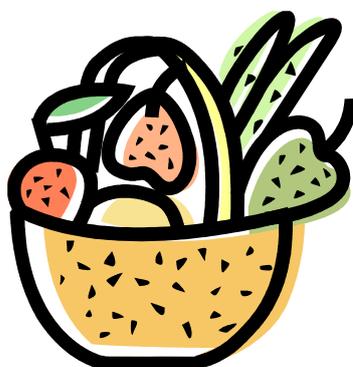
- We are continuing to learn our outside rules and routines, focusing on safety. We are also learning how to start and stop and how to find a space.
- We are developing the muscles of our hands as we roll and squeeze dough, use large tweezers, paint, lift heavy buckets and jugs filled with sand and water, take part in action rhymes and lots more!

Maths Focus

- We are continuing to experience the concept of 'a set' during play and some children are already able to group things according to colour. We are also encouraging children to match in their play.
- Our colour focus for this month is green and **Friday 23rd** will be our **GREEN DAY** when we would encourage you to let the children find something green to bring into nursery to talk about and show their friends.
- We will be discussing the colour, shape, size, weight and texture of a variety of fruit and veg and the colour, size and shape of autumn leaves.

Literacy Focus

- We are continuing to develop attention and listening skills this month and are encouraging the children to sit and listen to a longer story.
- We are also beginning to introduce the concept of **syllables** with the children and will be using the names of fruits and vegetables to emphasise this.



We have **homework** for you to do this month! Sometime during the last two weeks of the month we would like you to take your child shopping and make a special visit to the fruit and vegetable section (or go to a local greengrocers). Talk to your child about the various items on view, naming them and discussing their colour, shape and size. Then let your child choose a fruit or vegetable (or both!) - put it into a bag - weigh it if possible - and at the end of your shopping trip, pay for it him/herself and get the change. Please send in the items and receipts to the nursery where we will look forward to talking about this experience with the children.



DINNER TIME

All the children are following the dinner routine, washing their hands before they eat, using their clever eyes to help them find their own seat, setting their own table place and pouring their own drink. We are focusing on **good manners** and the children are trying very hard to remember to say "please" and "thank you".

Dinnertime is one of only two times in the day when all the children sit down together and do the same thing (the other time is story/song time). It has great potential to promote the children's learning and especially lends itself to the skills of socialising, which are so important in everyday life.

It is like having a very big family meal where we eat and chat and enjoy each other's company. This month especially it helps us focus on areas like healthy foods, why we need to eat, things we like to eat and where different foods come from.



REMINDERS



- When parking outside, please be considerate of local residents. We would ask that you do not obstruct driveways and observe the flexible pick-up and drop-off times. Please do not enter the staff car park even when gates are open. Thank you
- Please bring book bags back every Tuesday.
- In the interests of your child's safety, please discourage your child from pressing the green exit button.
- Please also discourage your child from bringing in toys to nursery.



Monkstown Nursery School would like to thank the Chairperson of Carnmoney Football Development Centre- Mr Alan Tumity, for his extremely generous donation of 10 footballs and 10 bibs. The children are all very excited to be able to learn new skills promoting their physical development. **THANK YOU!**



Christmas Raffle



We are hoping to hold a Christmas raffle in December to raise funds for some much-needed resources. If you, or your place of work would be willing to contribute a gift we could use as a prize or as part of a hamper, we would be extremely grateful.



Dates for
the Diary:

Friday 16th November- Parent and child play session in Abbots Cross Primary School. Parents are invited to take part in a play session with their child from 9.30am-11.00am. Monkstown Nursery staff will be there for children who have parents unable to attend, (Grandparents/aunts/uncles etc are welcome to attend instead). If children do not have an adult attending, they should be dropped off at 9.30am at Abbots Cross Primary School, where Monkstown staff will be waiting for them and picked up between 10.45am-11.00am.

- **Friday 23rd - GREEN DAY** in the nursery. The children can bring in something green to talk about and show their friends.
- **Wednesday 28th November- Visit to pantomime**- Please make sure your child is here at 9.00am. No dinners will be served on this day so please ensure your child is picked up at 12.15pm.
- **Friday 30th November -Monkstown Nursery School Open Morning** Nursery will be closed to children currently attending.

Open morning will be for anyone interested in applying for a place in Monkstown Nursery for the next school year. Please let relatives and friends know about this event if they are interested and encourage them to come along.

December Dates

Tuesday 11th December- Visit to Hollybank Primary School's Nativity. Parents are also invited to attend.

If parents are not attending, children should be dropped off at Hollybank Primary School at 9.20am where they will be met by their teachers and picked up again after the performance at Hollybank Primary School at 10.20am.

14th December - Christmas Jumper Day - Children are encouraged to wear their Christmas jumpers and bring in a £1 donation for Save The Children Charity.

20th December-

- **Morning children** Christmas concert 10.00am- 10.30am.
- **Afternoon children** Christmas concert 1.30pm-2.00pm.
- **Full time children** do not attend on this day to accommodate the morning and afternoon Christmas concert.

21st December-

- **Full time children** Christmas concert 9.30am-10.00am. Children should arrive at 9.00am. 2 family members are welcome to attend but please remember we have limited space and will be unable to accommodate other family members. Children will leave after the concert.
- **Morning and afternoon children** do not attend on this day to accommodate the full-time children's Christmas concert

24th December- 3rd January inclusive- Christmas Vacation.

Songs and Rhymes

As well as our usual nursery rhymes we will be learning the following songs/rhymes:-

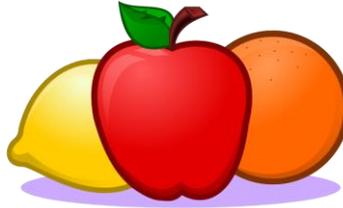
Autumn leaves are falling down, falling down, falling down,
Autumn leaves are falling down, see them floating.
Take a brush and sweep them up, sweep them up, sweep them up,
Take a brush and sweep them up, keep them tidy. (tune - London Bridge)

Wash Wash Wash

Your Hands

(Sung to the tune of Skip to My Lou)

Wash wash wash your hands
Wash wash wash your hands
Wash wash wash your hands
Wash with soap and water.
Rinse rinse rinse your hands
Rinse rinse rinse your hands
Rinse rinse rinse your hands
Rinse them under water.
Dry dry dry your hands
Dry dry dry your hands
Dry dry dry your hands
Dry off all the water.



(Sing to the tune of 'Twinkle, twinkle, little star.')

Each night when you go to sleep,
Make very sure that you don't peep!
This is how your bones will grow,
Every bone from head to toe!
Each night when you go to sleep,
Make very sure that you don't peep!

I like bananas, apples, oranges and grapes. (x3)
And that's why they call me Tarzan of the apes!
(tune - John Brown's body...)

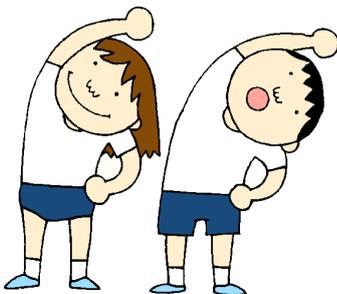
Five little peas in a pea-pod pressed.
One grew, two grew and so did all the rest.
They grew and grew and did not stop.
Until one day the pod went POP!

This is the Way We Wash our Hands/brush our teeth/eat our veg/exercise/go to sleep

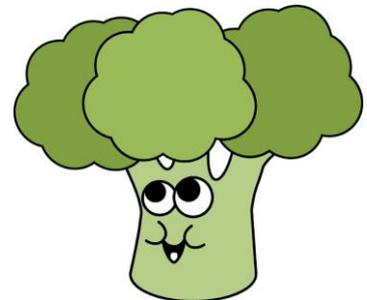
(To the tune of Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush)
This is the way we wash our hands
Wash our hands, wash our hands,
This is the way we wash our hands
To keep us very healthy

A hedgehog is very prickly,
(x3)
It couldn't be anything else!
(tune - One finger, one thumb keep moving)

Here is a tree with leaves so green.
Here are the apples that hang between.
When the wind blows the apples will fall.
Here is a basket to gather them all.



One potato, two potato, three potato, four,
Five potato, six potato, seven potato more.



OH, Do You Eat Your
Vegetables? Sung to: "Muffin
Man"

Oh do you eat your vegetables,
vegetables, vegetables?
Oh, do you eat your vegetables-
each and every day?

Oh, yes we eat our vegetables,
vegetables, vegetables:
Oh yes we eat our vegetables-
each and every day!

Five shiny conkers on a
conker tree,

Beautiful and brown, don't you
all agree?

Along came the wind, and
down one fell,

And a squirrel came to find it
in it's green spiky shell.

(repeat verse counting down
until they have all gone)

Tune-Skip to my Lou

Red and yellow and orange
and brown, (*flutter fingers
downwards*)

The Autumn leaves are falling
down, (*flutter fingers
downwards*)

Soon it'll rain and the wind
will blow, (*woosh arms & spin
around*)

And in the Winter we might
have snow! (*rub arms as if
you're freezing!*)

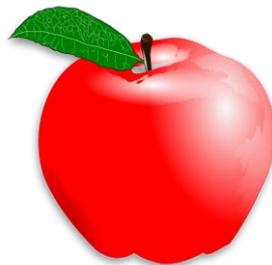
Vegetable Soup Song Sung to:
"Farmer in the Dell"

The soup is boiling up
The soup is boiling up
Stir slow-around we go
The soup is boiling up.

First we add the... (*child
chooses a vegetable*)

First we add the...
Stir slow-around we go
The soup is boiling up.

Now we add some ...
Now we add some ...
Stir slow-around we go
The soup is boiling up.



The Good Food Song
Sung to: "Old MacDonald Had A
Farm"

Fruit and veg are good for me,
yum yum yum yum yum
And so I eat them happily,
yum yum yum yum yum

With an apple here
and an apple there
Here an apple, there an apple
Everywhere an apple, apple.
Fruit and veg are good for me,
yum yum yum yum yum

