

Monkstown Nursery School

Monthly Newsletter September 2020



Diary Dates

Well done and Welcome

Hello everybody! We are **DELIGHTED** to offer you a warm welcome to our nursery school. It has been lovely to hear the school filled with the children's laughter and voices as they explore the nursery environment and all it has to offer. We know for some families the transition arrangements have been different to those you have previously experienced. However, rest assured that your children are becoming more settled with each passing day and are really getting to grips with all our routines. Thank you parents for putting your trust in us.

Our warmest welcome extends to all our parents, grandparents, childminders and friends who have been helping with drop-offs and collections.

Week beginning 7 September :

All children attend together from 9am-10:30am

Week beginning 14 September :

All children attend together from 9am-11:00am

Week beginning 21 September :

All children attend together from 9am-11:30am

Friday 25 September: Red Day, Please send a photograph via Seesaw of something your child can talk about which is red by Wednesday.

Monday 28 September: School lunches to start (Children will stay in small groups, with additional children being added each day)

5-9 October: Pupil Progress Meeting: Children finish at 12:30pm all week.

22 October: Visit from Wee Critters

23 October: 12:00 noon finish for half term holidays (School lunch will not be served.)

26-30 October Mid Term holidays

Child Protection & Safeguarding

Please remember that if you have any concerns about your own child or another child you should share these concerns with:

Mrs K. Wilson

(Designated Teacher for Child Protection and Safeguarding)

or

Ms L. Acheson

(Deputy Designated Teacher)

Easy Fund Raising

When you're busy doing your shopping online please sign up with [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and register your cause as Monkstown Nursery School. This is a simple process with no cost to yourself. It takes a matter of seconds and is a wonderful way to help raise more much needed funds for our school.

You can also register with the link below <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/monkstownnurseryschool/>



Communication

The purpose of these newsletters is to keep you informed about what is happening in the nursery. Through them we will let you know the themes we are working on and how you can support learning at home. We would welcome any suggestions you may have about the newsletter content.

Concerns

If you have any concerns or queries, do not hesitate to contact us, no matter how trivial you feel the concern may be. We hope to work with you in partnership and provide the best early years education for your child.

Labelled Uniform

Well done to everyone who is looking immaculate and wearing their uniform with pride. Please ensure all of your child's uniform and his/her coat are clearly labelled with **his/ her name** and please remember to bring in a change of clothes for your child to leave in school. Also, please make sure your child brings a coat to school every day.

Bags with a full change should be left in school and will remain here. In line with the Covid-19 guidance, we wish to minimise the need for objects to be transported between home and school. Adults are unable to access the cloakroom so additional items should not be left here.

Special Books

The special photograph book you have made with your child has been a great success. Thank you all so much for the enormous effort you have put in to making them. They have enabled us to get to know your child a little better and have served as a valuable talking point and 'settling in' tool. If you have not already done so, **please return these as soon as possible** as the children really enjoy looking through them.

Relief Staff

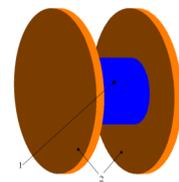
We are currently putting in place a list of available relief staff, which would include cleaners or assistants. If you would be willing to have your name added to this list, or know of anyone within the community available to help, please forward your CV to the school ASAP.



Donations

The children have really enjoyed exploring outdoors this week and are playing well within their class bubble zone. Due to the support of our outgoing families we have developed our garden area, added a music wall and a fairy garden. We are continuing to develop our outdoor learning and we would love donations of: **Milk crates, a large lorry tyre, steering wheels (from a go kart), decking planks, large cable drums.**

We would also like to expand our set of familiar small world characters and would appreciate any donations of **Peppa Pig characters or Paw Patrol.**



If you have any donations please contact the staff as we may need to assess their suitability.

Listening Rules

The children are enjoying story time when they sit with their crossed legs. Our listening rules are - **good sitting, quiet lips, looking eyes, listening ears, quiet hand to speak.**

Lunch Routine

From the end of September all the children will be introduced to school lunch and follow the lunch time routine. This includes 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 will be focusing on **good manners** and the children will be encouraged to remember to say “*please*” and “*thank you* “. Our lunch will continue to be supplied by Hollybank Primary kitchen who will be following the Covid-19 guidance.



Lunch time 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.

Staffing Arrangements from September 2020

Mrs K. Wilson : Principal, Full-time teacher, designated teacher for Child Protection

Ms L. Acheson : Part time Teacher, deputy designated teacher for Child Protection

Mrs H. Crowe: Nursery Assistant

Mrs E. Owen: Nursery Assistant

Miss J McGookin: SEN Nursery Assistant

Mrs E. Ferguson: Caretaker

Mrs C. Smolensoka: Secretary

Red Day

Our colour for September is **RED** and we will be having a ‘red day’ on **FRIDAY 25th September**. This will be a virtual Show and Tell; when the children may talk about a red object and show a picture of it to their friends. Could you please send a photograph by Wednesday 23rd so we can have these prepared.

Nursery Theme for September

Our main themes over these two months are Making Friends and Nursery Rhymes.

Children of all ages enjoy listening to and being involved in rhyme. The repetitive language and rhythms of these rhymes provide a solid basis for encouraging early literacy skills. Do get involved and enjoy talking to your child about the rhymes they learn in the nursery and about your own favourite nursery rhymes - don’t forget to ask your child to show you the actions to our rhymes and songs!



Key Learning

Personal, Social and Emotional Development- We are focusing on settling into nursery which includes: - getting to know our teacher and classroom assistants; becoming familiar with our Sunshine Rules; beginning to develop self-help skills.

Physical Development- We are focusing on safely navigating our way around our environment, both indoors and outdoors. We are learning where to find and park our bikes and how to travel safely. We are also learning how to climb/pedal/slide showing an awareness of others. We are remembering to use our safe walking feet inside.

Songs and Rhymes for September

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall.
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.
All the king's horses and all the king's men
Couldn't put Humpty together again

Little Boy Blue come blow on your horn,
The sheep's in the meadow
the cow's in the corn.
But where is the boy who looks after the sheep?
He's under the haystack fast asleep.
Will you waken him? No, not !!

Jack and Jill went up the hill
To fetch a pail of water;
Jack fell down and broke his crown
And Jill came tumbling after



Mary, Mary quite contrary,
How does your garden grow?
With silver bells and cockle shells
And pretty maids all in a row.

Incy Wincey spider, climbed up the water spout.
Down came the rain and washed the spider out.
Up came the sunshine and dried up all the rain,
So Incy Wincey spider climbed up the spout again.

Baa, baa, black sheep,
have you any wool.
Yes sir, yes sir, three bags full.
One for the master, one for the dame,
And one for the little boy who lives down the lane



Hello friends how are you? x3
how are you today? (tune of skip to my Lou). Children put thumbs up /down or to the side depending on how they feel.

Twinkle twinkle little star,
How I wonder what you are.
Up above the world so high,
Like a diamond in the sky.
Twinkle twinkle little star,
How I wonder what you are.

Hickory dickory dock,
The mouse ran up the clock.
The clock struck one,
The mouse ran down,
Hickory dickory dock.

Good morning boys, good morning girls,
it's nice to see you here x2

Who is here today? who is here today?
let's all look and see
...say names of children...are here today
we're going to be busy bees!



Bring your hands up big and wide,
bring them down to the side,
bring them close, and hug them tight,
now we're going to listen
(tune of London bridge)

After tidy up time when children are on the carpet:
Legs crossed hands on knees
x3 now we're going to listen
(tune of skip to my Lou)

Monkstown Nursery School

Jennings Park,
Newtownabbey,
Co. Antrim

