

Convent of Mercy Nursery School's Newsletter



January 2023

Christmas Shows

We hope you enjoyed the Christmas shows and Christmas songs on the school website site and we would like to thank you for all the gifts, cards and good wishes we received at Christmas - they were greatly appreciated. And we wish you all a lovely 2023.

Nursery & Primary 1 Application Forms 2023-2024

It is now time to apply for a Nursery or Primary 1 place for September 2023.

The application portal opened on 10th January 2023 at 12noon (GMT) & will close on 27th January 2023 at 12noon. You can log onto the EA Admissions Portal using your email and password from when you applied for your Nursery place. If you don't already have an account it is very easy - follow this link to start applying.

<https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions/applying-for-a-school-place>

REMINDER: We are holding our Open Afternoon on Tuesday 10th January so there will be NO dinners and the children will be going home early. 11.50 or 12.00 collection depending on your group.

January Topics

The themes for the month of January will be winter and night and day. The children will be learning about signs of winter, how we need lights to see in the dark and looking for signs of spring.

We will be asking the children to lookout for frost in the morning and for you to show them how you defrost the car or put down salt to make the paths safer. What might happen if you leave out a little bit of water in a butter tub lid with a piece of string (to hang it up later) add some little pieces of glitter or tinsel & a drop of food colouring on a very cold night?

An ice ornament that you can hang up and watch it melt as the day warms up.

Look out for snowdrops and daffodil bulbs beginning to grow in the garden and if you leave out food for the birds in the garden can you watch who visits the garden.

PANTS Rule

In January we aim to teach the children the following safety skills without giving explicit information. Teaching them how to stay safe by learning the PANTS rules, which the NSPCC have developed to be like the Green Cross Code for staying safe.

P: Privates are private

A: Always remember your body belongs to you

N: No means no

T: Talks about secrets that upset you

S: Speak up, someone can help



Discussions will be age-appropriate.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

Songs and Rhymes

Five Hungry Penguins

(tune of 10 green bottles)

5 hungry penguins standing by the sea

5 hungry penguins standing by the sea

And if one hungry penguin should catch a fish for tea

There'll be 4 hungry penguins standing by the sea

4 hungry penguins standing by the sea

3 hungry penguins standing by the sea

2 hungry penguins standing by the sea

1 hungry penguin standing by the sea

1 hungry penguin standing by the sea

And if one hungry penguin should catch a fish for tea

There'll be no hungry penguins standing by the sea

(Tune of row, row, your boat)

Cold, cold, freezing cold

On a winter's day

We wear our hats & wear our gloves

And in the snow we play

A chubby little snowman

A chubby little snowman

Had a carrot nose;

Along came a rabbit

And what do you suppose?

That hungry little bunny,

Looking for his lunch,

ATE the snowman's carrot nose

February Half Term

The Nursery will be close on Friday 10th February for staff training and then Monday 13th- Friday 17th February for half term break.

We reopen on Monday 20st February

Big Bedtime Read

We are hoping to hold our 'Big Bedtime Read' at the Market Street Library on Tuesday 28th February. This was an annual event which with our friends at Downpatrick Nursery school and we will confirm the times closer to the date.

Vodafone

Vodafone provides guidance on staying safe online via their Digital Parenting Guidance Magazine which is available online.

<https://www.vodafone.co.uk/mobile/digital-parenting>

Upcoming Visitors to the Nursery

Mr Hullaballoo will be visiting the Nursery on Friday 3rd February to perform their Winter Show.

Debbie Doolittle will be visiting the Nursery on Thursday 9th February to support the children's understanding of wild and domestic animals and how we care for them.

She would be grateful for any donations of cat and dog food, cans or dried, rabbit, guinea pig dry food, biscuits, stale bread or cakes, carrots cabbage or apples to help feed the animals in their care.