

Convent of Mercy Nursery School Newsletter



April & May

Folly Garden

We hope you enjoy the garden area at the front of the school – the boys and girls have been watching the seedlings grow in our green house and they have now been transferred to the tyres and pallets.

Observe the vegetables and fruit growing - we will have to wait until the summer for the vegetables and fruit yet we will announce when the strawberries, beans etc will be ready for picking.

The children have been watching their sunflower seeds growing and we will be sending these home next week for you to plant in a sunny sheltered spot.

Bank Holidays Information

The Nursery will be closed for the May Bank Holiday week (Monday 3rd - Friday 7th May) reopening on Monday 10th May.

Then the second Bank Holiday (closed Friday 28th May - Tuesday 1st June) - reopening Wednesday 2nd June.

School Photographs

Fran Duff will be in school on Wednesday 12th May to take individual photographs of the children. He will be following COVID procedures. Sadly this year we are unable to offer any family sessions.

Notification for Nursery & P1 places

You can log into the EA Portal from Wednesday 28th April to see what school placement has been allocated to your child.

Sports Day

We plan to hold events for the children in June and will record the races to be shared with families on the school website.

Summer Weather

As the good weather arrives we hope to spend more time outside, on warm days please ensure that you put sun cream on your child & wear a fresh sun hat each day!!!

Please ensure that your child wears appropriate clothes to protect them from the sun and the correct foot wear for climbing and running in the Nursery playground.

May Topic

The theme for the month of May will be the world around us and mini beasts.

The children will be learning about:

- animals around the garden,
- that insects have six legs and spiders have eight.
- that they live under stones or plant pots, the life cycle of flowers and animals.
- That the weather is warm in summer and we have to wear summer clothes and sun cream.

We will celebrate our mummies as it is the month of May.

Jumpers/ Spare Clothes

Please check that your child's jumpers are clearly labelled with their names as the weather is improving and the children are taking their jumpers off during the day. Children are able to wear summer dresses or shorts to school during the good weather but please ensure that their shoes will allow them to enjoy outdoor play safely.

Please check the labels on the jumpers as a number of jumpers have gone missing.

Please also return any outstanding items of clothing belonging to the school, which may have been used if your child had to be changed.

Preparing for Primary School

Now that the sun is shining and we have the longer days we are thinking of summer and after summer . . . comes P.1. Your children have been working so hard and given the unusual school year that we have had they have settled well and made their teachers proud.

Some children are continuing to develop their **grip and control of pencils and scissors**. These are important skills to practice in preparation for P.1.

We continue to support the boys and girls in developing their **number skills, counting skills and shape recognition.**

Numeral recognition: Can your child identify some numerals? Numbers are all around us - can they spot their age? Can they identify the number that comes next when it is their birthday?

Counting skills: Can your child count 1-10? Do they point to each thing as they count i.e. when counting 5 Lego bricks will they count 12?

Shape recognition: Take a shape and talk with your child about how it looks and how it feels e.g. a circle has a smooth edge, no jaggy bits or corners. A triangle has 3 jaggy points. A rectangle looks like a door!

We are sending home some activities for your children to look at with you in the coming days and weeks. With a bit of extra practice at home we hope to get your little ones to where we would like them to be in June. Your child's teacher will be in touch with you after the May break to discuss your child's progress.