

St Mary's Nursery Unit, Cushendall

Newsletter April 2019

Dear Parents / Guardians,

Just a wee note to update you all on the busy few months we have had in nursery.



In January the children travelled to the North Pole in a sleigh pulled by a reindeer. They helped to decide what we would need for an arctic holiday and they were busy playing out the roles. They packed up all they needed plus fishing rods to catch their own fish to eat. In the water we had fishing rods, fish and arctic animals. In the dry sand we had bags and bottles and we have been talking about heavy and light.



Our new topic for February & March was 'People Who Help Us'.

On the 14th February our shape was hearts and we invited grandparents into nursery as part of 'Catholic Schools' week. We all had a lovely day. We hope your children and their grandparents enjoyed it.



On the 7th March we celebrated World Book Day! The children had great fun showing off their costumes and telling us about the characters from the different stories. Thank you to all the parents for their hard work getting the children ready.

The children have also been very busy on the construction site building houses, garages & car parks. The children love wearing the hard hats & builder's jackets. They have enjoyed this area so much we have kept it out.



We have had lots of visitors in the nursery for this topic.



We had the pleasure of 'Lamby', a little lamb from McAllister's farm in the nursery for the afternoon session. It was a very informative visit and the children were able to ask questions and pet the lamb. A big thank you to Mairead and Odhran for bringing Lamby into visit us.

Aobha's mummy Karen brought in Baby Kasey. Kasey was a little hungry so mum gave her a bottle. Karen also talked to the children about all the things she needs to do to look after a small baby. Kasey was as good as gold and I hope she stays this way when she returns to nursery in a couple of years! Thanks for coming into nursery!





Paul's mummy Dr Brennan came into talk to the boys and girls about her job as a doctor. The boys and girls had great fun making the sick monkey all better. She brought her doctor's bag with all the equipment she uses to make us feel better. She also brought the children stickers and a bar of chocolate that went down a treat! Thank you from everyone here in the nursery!



We had a visit for our very own resident Firefighter, Orlagh O'Hara. Firefighter Orlagh called into nursery with her fire uniform on and we asked her lots of questions about her job as a firefighter. We all got to try on her yellow helmet! The children were very excited and we might have some firefighters when they get older.

Thank you so much to our local dentists for coming into the nursery to chat to the boys and girls about keeping their teeth healthy. The children didn't hold back about telling us about all the drinks their Mummies and Daddies liked to drink..... #nosecrets. A big thank you to Mark, Shana and Orla.



Finally, a big thank you to Jane's mummy who came into to chat to the boys and girls about her work as a neo-natal nurse. What a challenging but amazing job she has looking after all the tiny babies in Antrim.

To finish off our topic 'People who help us' and to end a very busy term we had our nursery outing to Harry's restaurant. The children were so excited on the lead up to this. We walked down and were treated to ice cream, sprinkles and sauce. The children had a great day. Thank you to all the parent helpers who came along to help us bring the children down to Harry's. Also a big thank you to Christine O'Neill and all the staff of Harry's for accommodating all the children in nursery.

There are lots of photographs on our school Facebook page and our Website. Check it out!
www.stmaryspscushendall.com

Important Information

As the weather is getting better we aim to be outside to enjoy it. Activities will be set up for the children outside and we ask all parents to ensure that their child has a coat with them that is clearly labelled with the child's name. Please make sure that all jumpers are clearly labelled as well. Also on the off chance we get some sunshine can you make sure your child has sun cream and sun hat please. Just a reminder, please make sure your child has Velcro shoes- No laces!



Can I appeal to all parents to encourage your child to walk down the path of the nursery? Children are running down the path and we have had a few accidents to date. Parents are asked to hold their child's hand when they reach the road as it can be very dangerous at collection times.

If your household, or you know of anyone who has any unwanted toys or anything you think the children might enjoy playing with I would be very grateful if you could donate it to us here in the nursery! We will make use of anything you are throwing out!

Thank you again,

Mrs Parker, Miss McAuley & Ciara

Important Dates

Thursday 18 th April	Nursery closes at 11am.
Monday 29 th April	New term begins
Thursday 2 nd May	Nursery closed- Local elections
Monday 6 th May	Nursery closed- May day bank holiday.
Wednesday 22 nd May	No afternoon session. St Mary's Primary School Confirmation.
Fri 24 th , Mon 27 th May	School Closed- Midterm break/ Staff training.
Friday 28 th June	School closes at 11am-No afternoon session- Summer Holidays begin!

HOW A PARENT CAN REGISTER A CONCERN / MAKE A COMPLAINT

I have a concern about my / a child's safety



I can talk to the Class/Nursery Teacher



If I am still concerned, I can talk to the designated teacher for Child Protection

(Mrs C Magill - Primary School)
(Mrs C Parker – Nursery Unit)



If I am still concerned, I can talk to the Principal
(Mrs H Magee)



If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to the Chairman of the Board of Governors (Mr Alastair McKillop)



At any time, I can talk to

a Social Worker at the Gateway Team

Tel: 0800 7837745 (Free Phone from a Landline)

Or can contact the PSNI Public Protection Unit

Tel: 101 (Ask for PPU in 'E' District)