

# VICTORIA NURSERY UNIT



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## December News

It's hard to believe that Christmas is nearly upon us, as you can imagine we have lots of fun activities planned for the children over the next few weeks. Look out too for a message about our nativity via the Schools NI app.

### Topic – The Stick Man

This month the topic will be based around 'Stick Man' by Julia Donaldson. The children will be finding out what the Stick Man was used for, the places he went to, thinking about how he would have been feeling and the danger he was in. They will explore the language used in the book – deserted, drifts, beware etc. As Santa appears in the story we might just have to think about Christmas too!!!

#### Nursery Fund

£3 per week or if you have decided to pay monthly the amount for December is £9 and should be paid on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November. **Place the money in an envelope with your child's name, the amount enclosed and nursery fund clearly marked on it.**

#### Absence from nursery

If your child is off for any reason please send in a short note when they return detailing the reason for their absence or phone school and leave a message with the secretary.

### Illness

Please do not send your child to school if they are generally not well with a high temperature or heavy cold. If they have been suffering from a sickness or diarrhoea bug they should not return to nursery until there has been a period of 48 hours from the last episode of sickness or diarrhoea. When asked children will generally want to come to nursery even when they are ill so please do not make the decision theirs.

### Golden Rules

During September the children were introduced to some characters with a special message that we want them to remember and follow this year. Every month we will be focusing on one of these messages. In **December** our focus will be on Alfred Alligators message 'You are kind and helpful.' The children are learning to be kind with their words and to help their peers and nursery staff.

### Clothing

Please make sure that your child's name is clearly marked on their red jumper, coat, shoes, hat, scarf and mittens. Remember nursery is a lace free zone! **Please do not send gloves to nursery unless your child is able to put them on independently. Children should come to nursery EVERY DAY with a coat. Children should not wear jewellery (including earrings)** to nursery at any time during the year. Hair accessories should be in nursery colours (navy or red). Large bows or similar large hair accessories should not be worn.

### Nursery Gate

It is very important that the gate that gives you access into the nursery garden is **kept closed at all times**. Please advise anyone dropping off or collecting your child of this.

### Parking

Drive ways and access points should be kept clear at all times. Please remind anyone who drops off or collects your child to check before they leave their vehicle that it is not blocking access to driveways etc.

### Applications for nursery and primary one for 2021

The online application process opens on 7th January at 12 noon until 30th January at 12 noon. Unfortunately, due to new restrictions issued by EA we can no longer offer tours of the nursery and main school however do please let us know if you would like to receive more information by contacting the secretary on the number listed above.

### Attendance

In Victoria nursery we expect children to attend nursery every day except when they are ill. If your child is going to be off for an appointment, please let Mrs Addis know in writing prior to the appointment. Children should not be collected from nursery early except in exceptional circumstances or by prior arrangement with Mrs Addis.

### Christmas Jumper Day

Afternoon children should wear a Christmas jumper on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December and the morning children Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December. We would ask you to send in £1 with your child if they are participating in this event. All money will go to a worthy cause.

### Afternoon nursery children

Nursery will be closed on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December for the afternoon children.

### Friday 18th December

This will be the last day of nursery for all the children before the Christmas holidays. It will be a non-uniform day and we would ask you to send £1 with your child for PTA funds. Please make sure your child is wearing appropriate clothing for going to the toilet independently. **No laces or belts please.** We are planning to have some party food, play some party games and hopefully a special visitor might leave something for the children. (Please note Santa will not be coming in person as we know that some children find this an uncomfortable experience)

### Scissor skills

The children are having opportunities to use scissors and develop their cutting skills. It would be great if your child had an opportunity to develop these skills at home (under your watchful eye). So if you don't already have a pair of children's scissors why not send a last minute request to Santa for a pair!!!

### Bottle collection

Thank you for the great response to our appeal for shower gel, hand wash, toothpaste, etc for the City hospital. We are still accepting donations, so if you would like to contribute please send via your child.

Dates for your diary

8<sup>th</sup> Dec – Jo Jingles

14<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas jumper day for afternoon children

15<sup>th</sup> Dec – Christmas jumper day for morning children, nursery closed for afternoon children

17<sup>th</sup> Dec – Movie day - Stickman

18<sup>th</sup> Dec - last day of nursery for all children before Christmas holiday

6<sup>th</sup> Jan – school reopens after Christmas break

Birthdays this month

Morning – Lottie, Zachary, Ivie



On behalf of the nursery staff can I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## Rhymes and Songs for December

Repetition of songs and rhymes can help to develop speech and language, memory skills, listening skills, awareness of rhyming words and a sense of rhythm.

### Let's All Do a Little Clapping

(Tune – We wish you a merry Christmas)

Let's all do a little clapping x3

And spread Christmas cheer.

2. Jumping

3. Twirling

4. Stretching

5. Bending

### Santa's Workshop

The elves in Santa's workshop

Are busy as can be.

They are all working round the clock

On toys for you and me



### Santa

When Santa comes to my house

I would like to peep

But I know he'll never come

Until I'm fast asleep.



### Christmas Presents

See all the presents by the Christmas tree

*(hands in sweeping motion)*

Some for you

*(point to others)*

And some for me.

*(point to shelf)*

Long ones,

*(hands spread wide apart)*

Tall ones,

*(measure from the floor)*

Short ones, too.

*(hands close together)*

And here is a round one

*(make circle with arms)*

Wrapped in blue.

Isn't it fun to look and see

All the presents by the Christmas tree?



**Here is the chimney**

Here is the chimney

*(make a fist, enclose thumb)*

Here is the top

*(place palm on top of fist)*

Open the lid

*(remove top hand)*

And out Santa will pop.

*(pop up thumb)*



**Santa Claus**

Santa Claus is big and fat

He wears black boots

And a bright red hat

His nose is red

Just like a rose

And he ho ho ho's

From his head to his toes.



**5 Christmas Crackers**

5 Christmas crackers in our hand.

Choose one, pull one, it goes ..... BANG

*Repeat with 4,3,2,1*



**Father Christmas**

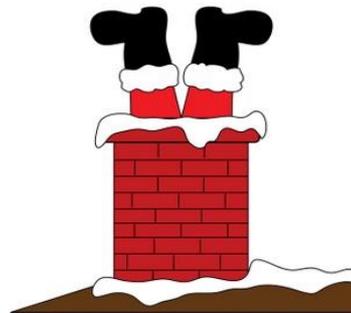
Father Christmas, Father Christmas

He got stuck, He got stuck

Coming down the chimney, Coming down the chimney

What bad luck. What bad luck.

(Tune – Frere Jacques)



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