



February Newsletter 2026



Valentine

We are working very much this month on "caring, gentle" hands linked to our valentine theme. Please talk about gentle hands at home and the special jobs our hands can do.

Our Topics for the Month:



Babies, People who help us and Valentine's Day.

We will be discussing the different shades of pink and purple.

Could you please send in a baby photo of your child.

We are learning all about "People Who Help Us in our community." If any parent has a job that would help the children further understand this topic and would be willing to come in to talk to the children, please let a member of staff know.



We are taking part in CTR's Cash for Clobber scheme, that runs in conjunction with Eco-Schools Northern Ireland, it aims to teach school children, the environmental and social benefits of recycling while raising nursery funds.

We Plan to arrange collection at the end of February. So please give you house a clean out, ready for spring which will benefit our nursery funds.



HOLIDAYS

The Nursery is closed for mid-term 9th -13th Feb inclusive.



We are beyond excited to welcome Laura Henry-Allain MBE for a Book Trust NI Author Visit on **Wednesday 25th February**.

The children will enjoy an interactive story session, and each child will receive their own copy of *Maya and Marley and the Great Tidy Up*.

We hope this visit will further inspire the children's love of books and stories.

<http://www.laurahenryallain.com>



Safety

We have a duty of care to protect our children in nursery and we must request that no parents are allowed to use the nursery carpark. This is for STAFF only!

Please, do not open the main gate and keep entrance clear at all times
Many thanks for your support

Early Talk Boost

Early Talk Boost is a targeted intervention aimed at 3-4 year old children to boost their language skills. The intervention's design is based on strong evidence of what is known to support language development in the early years. Such as:

- Attention and listening as a foundation skill for speaking and listening
- Developing vocabulary
- Building sentences; putting words together is a vital skill for having conversations and telling stories



Bobbin around the World

We are using our multicultural programme that teaches the boys and girls about different cultures from around the world. Every month we meet a new friend and learn about traditions and cultures. This month we will learn all about Bobbin's cousin 'Pierre Bear': (France) Pierre lives in France, which has the Eiffel Tower, and famous food like French baguettes.

Parent Pay

Thank You to everyone who has signed up and continues to use our cashless dinner and snack system. Please be reminded that snack fund is **Not** a direct debit and must be manually paid each week. We appreciate all contributions that allow us to offer a variety of snacks and additional resources/other items throughout the year.



Midterm Parent Meetings.

Mrs le Mahieu/Mrs Mc Manus, Mrs Murney/Miss Voyle will begin to meet with parents from Monday 23rd February.

We will share appointment slots via seesaw, and you can sign up.

All children who currently have a PLP will be allocated a meeting with their child's teacher to discuss progress.

Staff Update:

We would like to share that our co-principal, **Ciara McManus**, has been appointed as the full-time Principal of Holy Trinity Nursery School in Lisburn. While we are sad to see her leave Good Shepherd, we are very proud of her achievement and delighted for her as she begins this new chapter.

Ciara has been a highly valued member of our team, showing natural leadership and helping to create a warm and supportive environment for staff, children, and parents. She will be greatly missed.

We thank Ciara sincerely for her dedication and contribution during her time with us and wish her every success in her new role.

We will keep parents updated regarding her departure date and the arrangements for covering this one-day-a-week position.



Make a Sound

Melissa from Make a Sound will continue to visit the nursery on 3rd February and a special Valentine on the 7th. Children are thoroughly enjoying these sessions.



Mindfulness

Laura from Mindfulness will offer sessions on 3rd, 17th and 24th February for some mindfulness, self-awareness, self-regulation, breathing Activities.

Why not try some cosmic Yoga sessions-Diggory Dump truck <https://youtu.be/lppLhOFI3iw>

Let's Expand

We continue to facilitate 'Lets Expand' sessions.



Positive Behaviour.

This month we will be supporting children to ensure we all engage in safe play particularly in our outdoor environment. We shall be sending some resources, tips and strategies home so you can support and talk to your child about the importance of following rules to keep safe in their nursery school. Gentle hands and feet!



Forest School
Programme/Teacher
Professional Learning
funding/School

Development Planning:

We have 3 staff members from Mrs Le Mahieu & Mrs Mc Manus class who are going towards their forest school accreditation/ training.

To help develop our progress we are requesting that children from Mrs Le Mahieus' class to bring in a pair of wellies that can be kept in nursery in a plastic bag. They will participate in "Wellie Wednesday" and use the Primary School grounds to take part in forest school activities.

<https://www.forestschoolsni.com/>



Happy Birthday to the children who celebrate their Birthday's in February



Coffee Morning ECO Committee

Friday 20th February

Everyone Welcome

Nice catch up and tea!!!!



Big bedtime Read Bags

Getting Ready To Learn

As part of Getting ready to Learn programme. Please check the website under the GRTL tab to find lots of activities and links for useful support.

Our Big Bedtime read bags are continuing to go out so please use this service as they are a perfect way for you and your child to spend quality time together.


As first educators, reading with your child is a fantastic way to open your child's imagination, through the world of storybooks nursery rhymes and fairytales.

In time your child will start to recognize the quality of reading their favourite stories, their own learning potential recognizing colours, shapes, patterns, developing self-confidence self-esteem, language development imagination taking turns good listening skills all the qualities needed through their primary/secondary education.

Could we please remind parents, to put Velcro shoes on their children. Also put names on jumpers and coats.

Could you please send in boxes of tissues, wipes and hand soap. Please return/donate any trousers as our stock is running low.

Please can we ask you to ring in morning/ or send a see saw message to let us know you're going to be late, so we can update dinners numbers a.s.a.p



World Book Day
5th March is world book, the children can come in dressed as their favorite book character.



DONATIONS PLEASE
Could we please ask for any adult clothing for our dressing up area, any old hat's, dresses, fancy scarfs, men suit jackets and high heels.



The Dental Hygienist.

The Dental hygienists will visit the children this month to talk about cleaning teeth. They will read stories to show the importance of cleaning teeth and talk about how ways to improve, maintain good oral health and have a healthy lifestyle (theme connected to our Eco Programme)

Watch Tom Tiger Learning how to Brush his teeth.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lpXWQC6C6I4>

Click the link below to watch some Makaton for People Who Help Us.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WAx9Iv_cnXk

