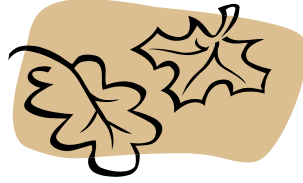


Convent of Mercy Nursery Schools Newsletter



September 2024

September the first month of the school year is always a busy time as children settle into the Nursery School routine. We hope that this school year will be a happy learning experience for you and your child. If at any time you have any questions/concerns please feel free to discuss them with your child's teacher.

During the month of September we aim to build up a positive relationship between children and staff, staff, parents and extended family members; so that school and learning will begin and remains an enjoyable experience, during each child's time in our Nursery school.

As the month progresses, independence and confidence will be encouraged with the introduction of new and familiar activities/routines e.g. painting, working with dough, sand and water activities, story time/rhymes and songs, recognition of one's own belongings, understanding sharing/caring etc. Simple rules for health and safety will be established from the beginning e.g. no running in the classroom, children will be encouraged to respect each other's work e.g. not knocking down others brick models, not throwing sand or snatching. Sharing/taking turns will be encouraged.

At all times positive behaviour will be encouraged and promoted in the Nursery School.

As parents and co-educators you can help your child by:

Talking positively about school/about your child's school day and activities.

Helping them become independent/confident by recognising coats, belongings, using tissues and toilets etc. Reading stories, repeating Nursery rhymes/songs e.g. The wheels on the bus, Jack and Jill, Baa baa black sheep, Twinkle twinkle little star, Incy Wincy Spider.

Nursery Staff

Room 1: Miss Donoghue - (Principal), Mrs Rogan (Nursery Assistant) Mrs Topping (Classroom Assistant), Rosemary (Assistant)

Room 2: Mrs O' Regan - (Teacher), Mrs Magee (Assistant), Rebecca (Assistant)
Mrs Polly is the schools secretary and Ms Carlin is the school caretaker.

Children's Clothes

Please ensure that all your child's belongings are clearly labelled with their name. (Jumpers, coats & bag)

Settling In Procedure

The settling in procedure is a gradual one, children staying for a short time at the beginning e.g. one hour the first week increasing the second week etc thus building up the time each child stays until he or she is ready to stay for the full session. Starting in two small groups of 13 before coming together in the full class 27 children. The settling in procedure for children is very important. If each child is to gain optimum benefit from their time at Nursery, it is important that parents and teachers work together during this time. Your child's teacher will keep you informed about how your child is settling. Taking this gradual approach helps children build up confidence in their new environment, it also gives teachers the opportunity to observe children, introducing them to the Nursery curriculum, helping them relate to other children.

For many children this will be their first time away from home.

Car Park / Safety Issues

In the interest of the children's safety please take extreme care when driving and parking in the school grounds - the speed limit is 5mph. We have limited parking so Fr. Murray has invited you to use the Chapel car-park when leaving and collecting your child (**he asks that you use a parking bay in the chapel car park**).

Parents are not to park their cars in the area leading to the staff car park (STAFF ONLY) or on the footpath which is for those walking to school.

FOLLY LANE IS AN ACCESS ONLY ROAD - PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON IT AS YOU MAY RECEIVE A PARKING TICKET

Please ensure that you hold your child's hand in the car park, use the footpaths (DO NOT WALK UP THE MIDDLE OF THE CAR PARK and supervise them at all times.

FRONT DOOR

Please ensure that you listen for the front door to **CLICK** closed when arriving or leaving at the Nursery.

Leaving/Collecting Children

All children must be left into the classroom by a parent or a responsible adult.

No children will be allowed to leave the school with any person under sixteen or unknown to staff.

Please remember to inform us of any new people collecting your child.

Birthday Celebrations

Throughout the year we will celebrate all the children's birthdays with a birthday buns provided by the school. Please inform your child's teacher of any allergies. We ask that no other cakes or items are sent into the Nursery

If you require a class list of the children's names to organise a birthday party for your child please ask a member of staff. You are more than welcome to place the invitations into the red home boxes unfortunately we cannot take responsibility for giving out the invites.

FOOD ITEMS / ALLERGIES

We have a number of food allergies this year and therefore we ask that the boys and girls DO NOT bring in any food items to school.

Nursery schools receive free milk for the children however this **does not** include soya or oat milk etc. In previous years we identify those children who are unable to drink cow's milk and encourage the parents to supply the larger container of their preferred milk so we can use one container of the non cow's milk per week to share with those children. This in turn means you only have to supply one container of milk every few weeks - please see Miss Donoghue to arrange this.

Snack Money

Nursery school is like a home from home and therefore we have a snack table for the children to experience new foods, grow in independence serving their own snack and develop friendships with their peers as they chat together. We ask that £3 snack money is paid each week - the money is used to buy a selection of foods for snack time such as range of fruits, vegetables, meats, breads and dairy products such as cheese, yoghurts etc. BUT that's not all - we also use this money to buy ingredients to make playdough, for cooking or science activities and then whatever is left is used to cover the cost of visitors throughout the year - such as Mr Hullabaloo, ZooLab, Big Bad Bass, the Hawaiian Beach Party to name but a few.

So what works out at about 60p a day goes a very very long way and we would prefer not to ask parents to cover a larger amount when shows come to the school.

We ask that it is paid each Monday or if you would like on a monthly basis (£12) - please ensure that all monies are placed in the snack bag provided clearly labelled with your child's name.

Please note that snack money is not included as part of Free Meals.

