

Monkstown Nursery School

Monthly Newsletter September 2024



Diary Dates

Well done and Welcome

A very warm welcome and a big "WELL DONE" to all the children who have started **Monkstown Nursery School**. The welcome also extends to our parents, grandparents, childminders and friends who get the children here on time and collect them at home time.

The children will have had so much to take in and learn in their first few weeks but we hope they will all settle well. **We should all be very proud of them!** Don't forget if you have any concerns or queries please do not hesitate to talk to us, no matter how trivial you think your concerns may be. We hope to work with you as partners, so we can provide the very best in early years' education for all our children.



Communication

The purpose of these newsletters is to keep you informed about what is happening in the nursery. Through them we will let you know the themes we are working on and how you can support learning at home. We would welcome any suggestions you may have about the newsletter content.

Car Parking

Please take care when parking near the nursery gates and show consideration to local residents. Please do not obstruct residents' driveways. **Due to health and safety issues, cars are NOT permitted within the staff car park at any time (even to turn). The school gates may be open at times during the day, but this is for disabled access only.** Those needing to park inside the gates for this reason must speak to the Principal beforehand.

Please ensure everyone who is picking up your child is aware of these arrangements and thank you for your cooperation in this.



Sickness

If a child has suffered from any diarrhoea and/or vomiting they must not attend the nursery until they have been symptom free for at least 48 hours. Bugs spread very easily amongst young children as we are sure you are aware.



Pick Up and Drop Offs

Dogs should not be brought onto school grounds during pick up and drop offs.

Please ensure everyone who is picking up your child is aware of these arrangements and thank you for your cooperation in this.



From Thursday 5– Friday 13 September :

All children attend together from:
Morning Session - 8:45 - 10:15am
Afternoon Session - 12:30 - 2:00pm

Week beginning 16 September :

All children attend together from:
Morning Session - 8:45 - 10:45am
Afternoon Session - 12:30 - 2:30pm

From week beginning 23 September:

All children attend together from:
Morning Session - 8:45 - 11:15am
Afternoon Session - 12:30 - 3:00pm

Thursday 26 September: European Languages Celebration (See overleaf for more details)

Friday 27 September: Staff Development Day—Nursery Closed for all pupils

04 October : Jo Jingles

25 October: Finish for Half Term

28 October—01 November: Mid Term holidays (Inclusive)

Child Protection & Safeguarding

Please remember that if you have any concerns about your own child or another child you should share these concerns with:

Mrs S. Coburn

(Designated Teacher for Child Protection and Safeguarding)
or

Ms L. Acheson

(Deputy Designated Teacher)

Staffing Changes

Mrs Crowe has made the exciting decision to take early retirement. She has been a wonderful member of our school team for 17 years and we have truly appreciated her dedication to all those at Monkstown Nursery.

Staffing Arrangements from September 2023

Mrs S. Coburn:	Principal, Full-time teacher, designated teacher for Child Protection
Ms L. Acheson :	Part-time Teacher (Mon-Thur), deputy designated teacher for Child Protection
Miss A. Reeves:	Part-time Teacher (Thursday in Full-time Room and Friday in Part-time Room)
Mrs E. Owen:	Nursery Assistant (Part-time Class)
Mrs M. Jones:	Nursery Assistant (Mon - Wed Full-time Class)
Mrs. K. Maguire:	Nursery Assistant (Full-time Class)
Miss A. Young:	Nursery Assistant (AM Class) and SEN Assistant (PM Class)
Miss J. Cole:	SEN Assistant (PM Class)
Mrs E. Ferguson:	Caretaker
Mrs C. Smolenska:	Secretary (Office days Tuesday and Friday)

Relief Staff

We are currently putting in place a list of available relief staff, which would include emergency cleaners or assistants to help in the classroom. If you would be willing to have your name added to this list, or know of anyone within the community available to help, please forward your name / CV to the school ASAP.



Easy Fund Raising

When you're busy doing your shopping online please sign up with [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) and register your cause as 'Monkstown Nursery School'. This is a simple process with no cost to yourself. It takes a matter of seconds and is a wonderful way to help raise more much needed funds for our school.

You can also register with the link <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/>



Labelled Uniform

Well done to everyone who is looking immaculate and wearing their uniform with pride. Please ensure all of your child's uniform and his/her coat are clearly labelled with **his/ her name** and please remember to bring in a change of clothes for your child to leave in school. Also, please make sure your child brings a coat to school every day.

Bags with a **full change** should be left in school and will remain here.

We have now placed a box outside our front doors for your convenience, especially when transferring belongings to child care or other family members collecting your child.

What will we be learning in nursery this month?

Nursery Theme for September

Our main themes over these two months are 'Making Friends' and 'Nursery Rhymes'.

Children of all ages enjoy listening to and being involved in rhyme. The repetitive language and rhythms of these rhymes provide a solid basis for encouraging early literacy skills. Do get involved and enjoy talking to your child about the rhymes they learn in the nursery and about your own favourite nursery rhymes - don't forget to ask your child to show you the actions to our rhymes and songs!



Special Books

The special photograph book you have made with your child has been a great success. Thank you all so much for the enormous effort you have put in to making them. They have enabled us to get to know your child a little better and have served as a valuable talking point and 'settling in' tool. If you have not already done so, **please return these as soon as possible** as the children really enjoy looking through them.

Key Learning

Personal, Social and Emotional Development - We are focusing on settling into nursery which includes: - getting to know our teacher and nursery assistants; becoming familiar with our Sunshine Rules; beginning to develop self-help skills.

Physical Development - We are focusing on safely navigating our way around our environment, both indoors and outdoors. We are learning where to find our resources and how to travel safely. We are also learning how to climb/pedal/slide showing an awareness of others. We are remembering to use our safe walking feet inside.

Language development - We are focusing on attention and listening development. The children are learning to sit quietly and listen to a short story and to others speaking.

Our listening rules are - **good sitting, quiet lips, looking eyes, listening ears, quiet hand to speak** .

European Languages Day

In Nursery we like to celebrate where everyone comes from and the languages that we all can speak. On **Thursday 26th September** we are celebrating International Language Day. We will be learning about other countries and how to say 'hello' in other languages.

At home:

- You could look at a map and talk about some of the countries you might have heard of.
- Learn how to say hello in another language.
- Talk about your favourite food and what country it comes from.



If you would like to **DRESS UP** in a language day theme - a Spanish matador / senorita, an Italian pizza chef or a French man in a stripy top, beret with a loaf of bread! Choose any country you like!
(You can even be an international footballer for the day!!) Or just be creative and make something yourself!!

September Songs and Rhymes



Here is teddy number one
(Show thumb of one hand)
He can beat upon a drum.
(Move thumb up and down)

Here is teddy number two
(Hold up first finger)
He is pointing straight at you.
(Point at the other children)

Here is teddy number three
(Touch middle finger with finger of the other hand)
He's the tallest one you see.
(Hold hand out to see tallness of this finger)

Here is teddy number four
(Clench third finger with other hand)
Hold this teddy in your paw.

Last of all is teddy five
(Show smallest finger)
He can quickly curl and hide.
(Curl up this finger and make a clenched fist)

Clap your hands and wiggle your fingers.

Clap your hands and wiggle your fingers,
Clap your hands and wiggle your fingers,
Now we've made a pattern.

Children suggest other movements/ verses for the above song, e.g. Tap your knees, blink your eye-lids, etc.



September Songs and Rhymes



The wheels on the bus go round and round,

Round and round, round and round,
The wheels on the bus go round and round,
All day long.

The horn on the bus goes peep, peep,
peep, etc.

The wipers on the bus go swish, swish,
swish, etc.

The daddies on the bus go read, read,
read, etc.

The mummies on the bus go chatter,
chatter, chatter, etc.



Two little dicky-birds,

Sitting on a wall,
One called Peter and one called Paul.
'Fly away Peter, fly away Paul.'
'Come back Peter, come back Paul.'



Five little dusks went swimming one day,

Over the hills end far away. Mother Duck said, 'Quack, quack, quack, quack.'
But only' four little ducks come back.

Four little ducks went swimming one day, etc.

Last verse:

One little duck went swimming one day,
Over the hills and far away.
Mother Duck said, 'Quack, quack, quack, quack.'
And all her five little ducks came back.



Clap hands, follow me,
Clap hands, follow me,
Clap hands, follow me,
Who will be leader next time?

Stamp feet, follow, etc.

Jump high, follow, etc.

Children suggest other movements/
verses for the above song.

September Songs and Rhymes

Incy-Wincy Spider climbed up
The water spout,
Down came the rain and washed the
spider out
Up came the sunshine and dried up all
the rain
So **Incy-Wincy** spider climbed up the
spout again



Incy-Wincy Spider

I'm very fond of him
He climbs onto my shoulder
And then onto my chin He crawls down
my arm And jumps on my leg
Now he's a tired little spider So I put
him into bed



Row, row, row, your boat

Gently down the stream,
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily
Life is but a dream

Row, row, roll, your boat
Gently down the stream,
If you see a crocodile/alligator,
Don't forget to scream!



There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf
... wiggle, wiggle,
There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf
wiggle, wiggle,
There's a tiny caterpillar, a tiny
caterpillar,
There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf
.. wiggle, wiggle.

He will eat the leaves around him 'till
he's full ... munch, munch,
He will eat the leaves around him 'till
he's full ... munch, munch,
He will eat the leaves around him,
He will eat the leaves around him,
He will eat the leaves around him 'till
he's full ... munch, munch,
A cocoon is what he's spinning for his
home ... spin, spin,
A cocoon is what he's spinning for his
home ... spin, spin,
A cocoon is what he's spinning, a cocoon is
what he's spinning,
A cocoon is what he's spinning for his
home ... spin, spin.

Then he'll be a butterfly and fly away...
flap, flap,
Then he'll be a butterfly and fly away
flap, flap,
Then he'll be a butterfly, he'll be a
butterfly,
Then he'll be a butterfly and fly away ...
flap, flap.