

# Monkstown Nursery School

## Monthly Newsletter January 2025



May the staff take this opportunity to wish you a happy, peaceful and prosperous 2025

### Nursery / Primary Applications

The online portal to apply for nursery/primary opens on **Friday 10th January**. The whole process is now online and accessed via <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>. Parents complete their choices using the online form and upload all documents to the portal. Please note the closing date and time is **12 noon on 24th January 2025**

If you have any queries, please contact the school office.

### Car Parking

Due to health and safety reasons, cars are not permitted within the 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 (prior permission must be requested from the Principal).

Please take care when parking near the school gates and show consideration for local residents.



### Stay and Play

Our Stay and Play sessions are scheduled for **5th & 6th February**. This will be an opportunity for you to come to nursery to play with your child for a short time at the end of their day and share in his/her nursery experience. If you are unable to attend, another adult who is important to your child is very welcome.

The class will be split into two groups (information to follow) to accommodate each session. Please ensure your child is collected punctually at the earlier time on the day you are not attending the play session. We cannot facilitate siblings attending this event.

We are sure both you and your child will benefit from the experience and will have lots to talk about when you get home.

### Diary Dates

**10 January:** Online enrolment opens for Primary One and Nursery

**10 January:** Jo Jingles

**Week Beginning 13 January:** Show and Tell (Christmas theme) - children will be allocated a date and time.

**24 January:** Online portal for enrolment closes at 12 noon

**4 Feb:** Visit from Joe and the Gathering Drum (normal times)

**5 & 6 February:** Stay and Play

**7 February:** Jo Jingles

**10 - 14 February:** Half term holidays for all children

**3 - 7 March:** Reading Week

**6 March:** Dress up day—World Book Day

Dress up as any book character of your choice (or in Pyjamas for bedtime)

**7 March:** Jo Jingles

**4 April:** Jo Jingles

**8 April:** School Photographer

**11 April:** Big Bad Bass

**All children attending in the morning.** Nursery finishes early for all children.

Last Day of term for Easter.

### Staffing Arrangements from January—June 2024

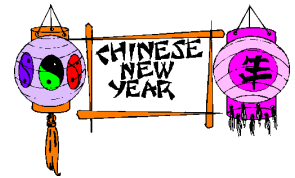
Mrs S. Coburn:	Principal, Full-time teacher, Designated Teacher for Child Protection
Ms L. Acheson :	Part-time class teacher (Mon-Thur), Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection
Miss A. Reeves :	Full-time teacher (Thur), Part-time class teacher (Fri)
Mrs E. Owen:	Nursery Assistant (Part-time room), Nursery Registered First Aider
Miss A. Young :	Nursery Assistant (Part-Time room AM), SEN Nursery Assistant (Part-time room PM),
Mrs M. Jones:	Nursery Assistant (Full-time room (Monday—Wednesday))
Mrs K. Maguire:	Nursery Assistant (Full-time room)
Miss J. Cole:	SEN Nursery Assistant (Full-time room)
Mrs E. Ferguson :	Caretaker
Mrs C. Smolenska :	Secretary

### Nursery Theme for January and February

Our topic for this half term will be **'The Big Freeze'** as children will be learning all about the North and South Poles. We have a great many stories to read and activities to explore.

We have been discussing the winter weather and the clothes we need to keep us warm and dry and will be trying to continue our learning experience outdoors so please ensure your child has a **warm coat and a hat, scarf and mittens**. Please work with your child so they can begin to zip and unzip their coat independently.

We will also be celebrating **Chinese New Year** and enjoying our Chinese Restaurant role play area and Chinese themed crafts. Love will be in the air in February when we explore the theme of **Valentine's Day**.



### Show and Tell Week Beginning 13th JANUARY

We always love to hear all about the children's Christmas gifts and as we would love every child to have a fair chance of showing and talking about a **special gift or photo**, we are hosting a 'one-off' Show and Tell 'special gift' week. Each child will be **allocated a day** when we encourage them to bring **ONE small, portable favourite gift (or photo of it, if it is too big)** to Nursery School. Hopefully this will make the "show and tell" experience a more relaxed and enjoyable time for everyone, as it can be very difficult to sit quietly and listen for long periods of time when you are just 3 or 4 years old.

### Curriculum

We will be encouraging the children to show an interest in reading books and handle them appropriately by turning the pages and going from the front to the back of the book through our Big Bedtime Read.

We will continue songs and rhymes to reinforce our awareness of numbers and focus will be placed on rote counting in order and developing their awareness of counting objects to 10. We will also be encouraging the children to copy / follow a simple pattern.

The RSPB Big Bird Watch takes place from **Friday 24 January to Sunday 26 January**.

Children's Mental Health Week begins on **3rd February** and through stories and activities we will be developing the children's understanding to recognise / label feelings and emotions, especially happy, sad, excited, worried, angry and surprised.

## January Songs and Rhymes

### Little Jackie, Jack Frost

Little Jackie, Jack Frost bites my nose,  
Little Jackie, Jack Frost stings my  
toes,  
Little Jackie, Jack Frost climbs the  
trees,  
Little Jackie, Jack Frost paints the  
leaves.

Little Jackie, Jack Frost thinks it's  
fun,  
Knocking all the leaves down one by one,  
When the winter wind begins to blow,  
Little Jackie, Jack Frost runs away  
Ho! Ho!



### Freeze - Jack Frost

(Everyone chants at a brisk pace:)  
Keep on moving, keep on moving,  
Winter's coming, got to keep on moving.  
Shake your body from your top to your  
toes;  
Nod your head and wiggle your nose.  
Keep on moving, keep on moving,  
Winter's coming, got to keep on moving.

*Then in response to the leader the  
children say: "Keep your body moving"*

Verse 2

**FREEZE!**

*(Everyone stands like statues!)*  
*Everyone chants slowly and quietly:*  
Jack Frost has come,  
That's why we froze,  
But everything melts  
When Jack Frost goes.



Jack Frost

Jack Frost, Jack Frost,  
What did you do last night?  
You came dancing down my street,  
Turning all the pavements white.

Jack Frost, Jack Frost,  
What did you do last night?  
You came dancing down my street,  
Turning all the gate posts white.

Jack Frost, Jack Frost,  
What did you do last night?  
You came dancing down my street,  
Turning all the windows white.

Jack Frost, Jack Frost,  
What did you do last night?  
You came dancing down my street,  
Turning all the roof tops white.

Jack Frost, Jack Frost,  
What did you do last night?  
You came dancing down my street,  
Turning all the world to white.

**Theme:** Cool Times

**Colours:** Dark & Light Blue

## January Songs and Rhymes



### Five long icicles hanging on the wall

Five long icicles hanging on the wall  
When the sun begins to shine  
One melts and starts to fall  
Drip, Drip, Drip, CRASH.

Four long icicles ..., etc.



### Five little mice skating on the ice

Five little mice skating on the ice,  
Polly-wolly woodle all the day,  
The ice grew thin and one fell in,  
Polly-wolly woodle all the day.

Four little mice ....., etc.



### Penguin Rhyme

I look cute in my little dinner suit,  
I look nice when I waddle on the ice.  
I can't fly and I wouldn't even try,  
I'm a penguin - that's why, that's why,  
that's why.



### I'm a little snowman white and fat (I'm a little teapot tune)

I'm a little snowman white and fat.  
Here's my pipe and here's my hat.  
I've got buttons - one, two, three.  
Will you count them all with me?  
ONE - TWO - THREE.  
I'm a little snowman white and fat.  
Don't throw snowballs at my hat!  
If you do I'll turn around  
and pick some snow up from the ground,  
make a ball or maybe two  
and then throw snowballs back at you!

Theme: **Cool Times**

Colours: **Dark & Light Blue**

## January Songs and Rhymes



### Put Your Coat On

Put your coat on, put your coat on,  
And make yourself nice and cosy,  
Put your coat on, put your coat on,  
And come along out to play.

Put your hat on, put your hat on,  
And make yourself nice and cosy,  
Put your hat on, put your hat on,  
And come along out to play.

Put your scarf on, put your scarf on,  
And make yourself nice and cosy,  
Put your scarf on, put your scarf on,  
And come along out to play.

Put your boots on, put your boots on,  
And make yourself nice and cosy,  
Put your boots on, put your boots on,  
And come along out to play.

Put your gloves on, put your gloves on,  
And make yourself nice and cosy,  
Put your gloves on, put your gloves on,  
And come along out to play.



### It is very (cold/windy/dry) today

It is very cold today,  
It is very cold today,  
It is very cold today,  
Clap, clap, clap your hands



### The north wind doth blow

The north wind doth blow  
And we shall have snow  
And what will the robin do then,  
poor thing?  
He'll sit in a barn,  
And keep himself warm  
And hide his head under his wing,  
poor thing!

Theme: **Cool Times**

Colours: **Dark & Light Blue**