

MARCH 2022 NEWS



Please read about:

- Our learning
- Reminders
- Dates for your diary

School Contact Details – **phone:** 02890744247 **email:** info@victorians.belfast.ni.sch.uk **website:** victorianursery.org.uk

St Patricks Day : School will be closed for children on the 17th and 18th March and will reopen on Monday 21st March

Our Learning

COLOUR THEME: - GREEN

We will focus on GREEN, basing some of our art and craft activities on GREEN. Please encourage your child to discuss GREEN at home and allow them to contribute a GREEN item to our colour display.

TOPICS

Spring: Observe the changes from winter – spring.

Look for new growth – buds, shoots, flowers.

Spring flowers – crocus, daffodils, flowering currant, forsythia, pussy willows, catkins.

Use of senses – to smell and touch.

Longer days / shorter evenings

We will also discuss & observe life cycles: Hen-egg....chick Frogs: frogspawn....tadpoles



Family: We will be learning all about Grandparents this month.

Healthy Eating: We will recognise the importance of keeping healthy through setting up a shop selling groceries and Fruit & Veg. We will display real and artificial products. We will discuss the individual distinctive features of each item and encourage children to interact with each other by taking turns to be shopkeeper and customers. They will discuss their choices, likes and dislikes and how much each item costs.

We will read stories connected with spring and healthy eating and sing songs / rhymes appropriate to our topics.

FURTHER EXTENSION OF PLAY

We will provide notepads and pencils and discuss shopping lists. We will invite children to explain what they would like to include on their list. Staff will write their words using lower case letters e.g. carrots, potatoes. This helps your child understand that words convey meaning.

You can help by encouraging your child to make your 'shopping list' at home by providing a notepad / paper and pencil and encourage them to grip a pencil properly – with a tripod grip.

Do encourage your child to help put away fruit and vegetables and groceries after shopping trips and discuss shape, colour, size, weight and number of items purchased.

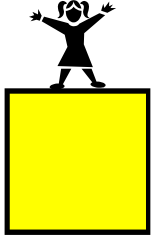


CARE OF TEETH

We will talk about care of teeth and discuss healthy and unhealthy food, which affects our teeth. To take care of our teeth we talk about the importance of visiting the dentist regularly. Children should continue to brush their teeth twice daily at home and visit the dentist every 6 months.

COOKING ACTIVITIES FOR MARCH

Green biscuits, Fresh Fruit Salad and we will chop green fruit and vegetables.



MATHEMATICS

Our shape for the month is a square and we will provide a comprehensive range of activities and support materials to enable exploration of this shape. Please encourage your child to find square shapes at home and in the environment.

HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD BECOME INDEPENDENT

- a) Please encourage and help your child to put on / fasten or zip up their own coat.
- b) Children are now recognising their own name so please discuss their own name. Look at the shape of the letters and make the sound of the initial letter i.e. **D** for Daniel.
- c) Please encourage your child to set the table for dinner i.e. placemat, knife / fork / spoon in the correct position etc.

ART WORKSHOPS

On the 7th and 14th March the children will take part in sprint art workshops with New Lodge Arts in school.

World Book Day

Children will be given vouchers for World Book Day



REMINDERS

25th March 2022 - Parent Teacher Meetings

Meetings will take place on Friday 25th March via telephone or in person in the school office (face coverings should be worn)

Each informal meeting lasts approximately 10 mins and is an opportunity to discuss your child's progress and for you to discuss any queries or concerns. From Monday 21st March a sheet will be displayed in the veranda for you to choose a suitable time slot for your meeting. Please insert both your child's name, your name and whether you want an in person meeting or a telephone call with the number you would like to be contacted on.

HOME LEARNING

Our website has many ideas and activities for you to extend your child's learning at home. Please click on <https://www.victorianursery.org.uk/home-learning/>.

Our electronic devices lending scheme has begun. Children will be given an electronic device for a weekend once a month to extend learning. Instructions about how to use the device and keep in safe will be included in the bag.

Every two weeks your child will be given a 'Lending Library Bag' to enhance our promotion of Language and Literacy in the curriculum. The bags will be distributed on Thursday afternoons and should be returned the following Wednesday morning; this will give you ample time to share the books over the week. Each bag will contain 5 books and a plastic folder with photographs of the books to help you to collate them for their return to school.



Every child was given a home learning bag at the beginning of the term with various activities as part of our Getting ready to Learn Programme. Links and other information have been sent via Seesaw. This bag is to be kept at home to be used at your leisure and can also be in the case of school absence.

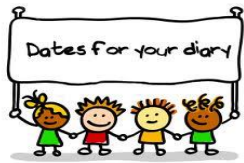
You can follow our **High 5 positive behaviour programme** focusing on Play, Praise, Commands, Rewards and Consequences. Links to webinars and content can be found on our website <https://victorianursery.org.uk/parents/high-5-positive-behaviour-programme/>. It is vital that we work together to support children to display positive behaviour so they have a successful school experience.

CLOTHING

Please provide a complete change of clothing for your child in case of a toileting or water tray accident. Please label all clothes and coats clearly with your child's name.

SNACK / DINNER MONEY

We would appreciate prompt payment of snack / dinner money on a Monday mornings. Envelopes are distributed on Friday to enable all parents to have the **CORRECT** amount ready for Monday morning.



17th and 18th March School Closure- School will be closed Thursday 17th March and Friday 18th March for St. Patrick's and will re-open on Monday 21st March at the usual time.



Other upcoming school holidays can be found on our website <https://www.victorianursery.org.uk/parents/holiday-list/>

COVID -19 SCHOOL INFORMATION

ARRIVAL/ COLLECTION OF CHILDREN

Thank you for keeping your child at home when they are unwell. When children are well in school they thrive and have a successful day. Unfortunately there is often an increase in respiratory viruses' and vomiting and diarrhoea bugs this term. We wish to remind parents that children should not return to school before they have fully recovered.

If your child has COVID symptoms your child should NOT come to school. Please follow PHA guidelines.

It is everyone's responsibility in our school community to protect our children, staff and families.

In the case of vomiting and diarrhoea – only when full sleeping and eating patterns have been re-established and your child is in good form. In the case of any vomiting and diarrhoea – 48 hours must have elapsed AFTER the last episode of diarrhoea before any child may safely return to school. For example, if your child had diarrhoea on Tuesday evening they should not return to school until Friday morning.

Reminders –

1. Face coverings should be worn by all adults entering our school grounds.
2. Staggered start from 9am to 9.30am.
3. On arrival stand on the red cones 2m apart. Hold your child's hand and do not let them play on equipment in the playground.
4. ONLY ONE family should be in the covered veranda area at a time.
5. Help your child to hang up their coat and to wash their hands at the sink (only family should be at the sink at a time).
6. When you are leaving after arrival walk please around the slide and down the side of the tunnel to avoid congestion.
7. Please collect your child on time. Staggered pick up is between 1.15pm – 1.25pm. There is no supervision available after 1.30pm.

OTHER SCHOOL COVID RESPONSES:

Parent Communication

If you want to discuss anything regarding your child please speak to us. Only brief communication should be discussed on arrival and pick up at a 2 metre distance from staff.

If you want to discuss anything regarding your child please phone between 8.30am and 9am or contact the school via email info@victorians.belfast.ni.sch.uk.

Only phone the school during teaching hours if it is an emergency.

School Routines

In order to keep the children safe all pupils should be assisted to wash their hands by a family member on arrival. Children wash their hands in school before each transition.

School windows and doors are open to allow for adequate ventilation in the room. CO2 monitors are in use in our school.

If children become unwell whilst in school we will isolate them and contact parents immediately.

Children will be reminded to practice good respiratory hygiene and will be encouraged to be independent in all school tasks.

Parents will be informed of any COVID-19 cases in school as nursery school pupils and staff are considered close contacts.

The school staff wish to thank you for your continued help and support.