

APRIL 2022 NEWS



Please read about:

- Our learning
- Reminders
- Dates for your diary

Easter Holidays School will finish on Wednesday 13th April for the Easter Holidays. Children will return to school on Monday 25th April at 9am.
May bank holiday Closures- Monday 2nd May, Thursday 2nd June - Monday 6th June inclusive.

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

Our Learning

COLOUR THEME:

We will focus on YELLOW, basing some of our art and craft activities on YELLOW. Please encourage your child to discuss YELLOW at home and look for yellow items in their environment.



FLIGHT/ MOVEMENT

We will discuss and investigate various methods of flight i.e.

Rockets Aeroplanes Helicopters

Hot air balloons Kites

We will name people associated e.g. Pilot, Astronaut, Captain and Navigator.

We will explore our solar system and examine planets and space.

We will learn through imaginative play about travel.

MATHEMATICAL EXPERIENCES

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



DEVELOPMENT OF PLAY

We are encouraging concentration in play, persistence and perseverance at activities and determination to finish a task. Interaction and willingness to share equipment and resources will continue to be encouraged.

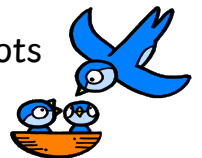


RHYMES AND SONGS

We will read stories connected with our themes of Flight and the Farm. Our rhymes/songs include:- Mary had a little lamb, Little Bo Peep, Higgledy, piggedly my black hen, Old MacDonald, When all the cows are sleeping, See the little bunnies sleeping, 5 little men in a flying saucer and Zoom, Zoom, I'm going to the moon.

ECO NEWS

We will continue to discuss evidence of spring. Look out for green buds, shoots and leaves everywhere. We will examine, observe and discuss the change in our nursery garden from buds, blossom and leaves.



We will look at the homes that birds make in bushes and trees and examine materials used for building nests – twigs, grass, wool and moss.

We will continue to observe springtime in our garden and plant seeds.

REMINDERS



- Please supply a box of tissues and 1 packet of anti-bacterial wipes, and 1 bottle of hand soap after Easter.
- Please ensure your child has a change of clothes in their bag in the children's bathroom.
- Inform staff immediately of changes to address / telephone numbers (this is vital in order to update records and to ensure you receive text messages from the nursery).
- Please pay dinner / snack money on Monday, try to have the **correct** money placed in your named envelope. Inaccuracies occur when money is paid late.
- As the days become warmer children will be removing their jumpers. Please ensure all jumpers are identified with your child's name. If not clearly labelled the jumpers will be placed in a 'Lost Property' basket.
- Please ensure that sun cream is applied on hot days before attending school, staff are unable to apply or re-apply sun cream due to the possibility of allergies.

New Garden Area

Our new garden area was officially opened by the Lord Mayor on 24th March 2022. Parents can use our new side garden area after school from 1.25-2pm to meet with other families from the school. If you would like to meet up with another family and use the facilities some afternoon in term 3 please let a staff member know.



School Photographs

Children's individual and class photographs will be taken on Wednesday 4th May 2022. Family photographs can be arranged in the morning from 8.30am – please book a slot with Mrs McAllister.

Advance information: Early Morning Drop Off – from 8.35am – 9am (limited places available)

After Easter from 25th April we are offering parents in employment and education an early drop off in school from 8.35am at a cost of £1 per day. We have approximately 10 places which will be allocated on a first come first served basis. In order to make this programme sustainable, bookings must be paid monthly in advance. No refunds can be given for days absent.

April – 5 days (from 25th April) x £1 = **£5** to be paid by Wednesday 13th April

May – 20 days x £1 = **£20** paid by Wednesday 27th April

June – 19 days x £1 = **£18** paid by Wednesday 25th May

The Holy month of Ramadan

On the 2nd April the month of Ramadan begins until 1st May. During the holy month of Ramadan, Muslims across the globe endure a period of daily fasting – the annual event represents a time to fast and devote a particular focus to prayer, purification and charitable acts. Best wishes to our Muslim families in our school community during this holy month.

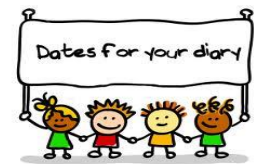
New Lodge Arts Workshops

The children have taken part in art workshops in school with artists from New Lodge Arts. This is part of the Spring Festival in Alexandria Park which took place at the end of March.

RISE NI Sessions

The children are taking part in 'pre-writing skills' and 'lets get talking' small group sessions with Rise NI and Mrs McAllister. These sessions help promote the development of key skills.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Easter Holidays

School will finish at the normal time on Wednesday 13th April for the Easter Holidays. Children will return to school on Monday 25th April at 9am.

May bank holiday closures

The school will be closed on Monday 2nd May and Thursday 2nd June to Monday 6th June inclusive.

Parent and Child trip to the Farm – Date: 11th May

We are going to Sprinavale farm on Wednesday 11th May. This is a parent and child trip – **all children MUST BE accompanied by 1 family member**. The cost of the trip is £17 per child and parent - the school will cover the cost of the trip through the snack fund.

Parents and children should arrive at the school at 9.45am. The bus will leave at 10am and arrive in Sprinavale at 10.30am. Parents will accompany their child around the farm. A packed lunch will be provided for your child. You may want to bring a snack for your child and a lunch for yourself. The bus will take us back at 1pm and you will be dropped back at the school by 1.30pm.

You will receive an activity sheet on arrival detailed with the activities and the times they will be taking place at. You will also receive a map of the farm on arrival. I have attached a copy of the map from last season for you to have a look at.

<https://streamvale.com/>



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 will continue this month. 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.

COVID -19 SCHOOL INFORMATION

ARRIVAL/ COLLECTION OF CHILDREN

Thank you for keeping your child at home when they are unwell. 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.