

APRIL 2026

NEWS



Please read about:

Our learning

Reminders

Dates for your diary

Easter Holidays

School will finish at the normal time on Wednesday 1st April for the Easter Holidays. School will be closed from 2nd April and children will return to school on Monday 13th April at 9am.

May school closures

The school will be closed on Monday 4th May and Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May inclusive

Important dates for your diary – Friday 15th May - School Photographs, 3rd June Parent and child farm trip (funded by snack fund)

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 shapes for the month are a square and rectangle and we will provide a comprehensive range of activities and support materials to further explore shapes. Please encourage your child to find shapes at home and in the environment.

E.g. a clock face is a circle
some traffic signs are triangular
our door is a rectangle
some windows may be square

It's fun to look around and discuss these shapes.

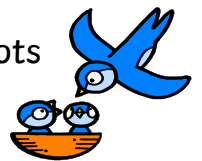


DEVELOPMENT OF PLAY

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.

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.



Home Learning - *Home Learning Packs* - Before Easter each child will be given a home learning bag packed with activities for you and your child to enjoy over the coming months. They will include scissors, dough, pens, books etc and advice to

promote your child's learning. This bag is to be kept at home to be used at your leisure and can also be in the case of school absence.

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/>.

Every week your child is 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 Monday morning.



SPEECH AND LANGUAGE

The school is using extended schools funding this year to deliver speech and language sessions with a Speech and Language Therapist called Helen from, 'Let's Expand'. Children have been assessed and sessions are taking place twice per month. This does not replicate community speech and language therapy and we would encourage you to access the Speech and Language programmes in the community – number to request speech and language community assessment- 02896158100.

Please help to promote talking and listening with your child at home. It is important to limit screen time and encourage your child to play indoors and outdoors and talk about their learning. If your child still sucks a dummy please limit it to bedtime so children can develop clear speech and so they can communicate fully with their friends in school.



REMINDERS

- Please pay dinner / snack money on Monday (Wednesday morning at the latest), try to have the **correct** money placed in your named envelope. The school secretary makes the new envelopes on a Wednesday morning.
- Please supply a box of tissues and 1 packet of baby 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).
- 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.

Parent Communication

If you want to discuss anything regarding your child please speak to us. Brief communication should be discussed on arrival. If you want to discuss anything

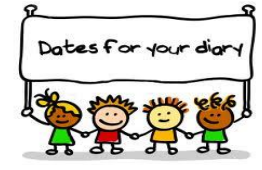
regarding your child in more detail please phone between 8.30am and 9am or contact the school via email info@victorians.belfast.ni.sch.uk. Only phone the school during teaching hours if it is an emergency as we are with the children.

SUPPORT IN THE COMMUNITY - North Belfast Foodbank - The school is a referral agency for the North Belfast Food Bank. Families can avail of this twice in a six month period. If you would like a voucher for the service please speak to Mrs McAllister.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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COACH LED SPORTS SESSION AT THE RECY

This term we will walk to North Queen Street Community Centre, the Recy to take part in coach led sports sessions. This will take place on the 15th, 22nd and 29th of April, There will also be sessions in May. The children will leave school at 9.30am to walk to the session and return by 10.15am.

May school closures

The school will be closed on Monday 4th May and Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May inclusive.

School Photographs

Children's individual and class photographs will be taken on Friday 15th May 2026. Family photographs can be arranged in the morning from 8.30am – please book a slot with Mrs McAllister.

Parent and Child trip to the Farm – Date: Wednesday 3rd June

We are going to Streamvale farm on Wednesday 3rd June. This is a parent and child trip – **all children MUST BE accompanied by 1 family member**. The cost of the trip is approximately £23 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 9.50am and arrive at Streamvale farm 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 12.50pm & you will be dropped back at the school by 1.30pm.

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