



# March / April Newsletter '24



Themes:	Colours:	Interest Table:	Imaginative Play:	Trips/Events:
<p>Spring/New Life Family People who help us</p> <p>Hospital/Opticians Vets &amp; Pets; Dog visit Farm</p> <p>When I was a baby; bathing baby/dolls</p> <p>ECO-Schools - planting and growth Mini Beast Hotel</p> <p>Caring for our teeth (tooth-brushing at home)</p> <p><b>Mother's Day</b> - 10<sup>th</sup> March</p> <p><b>Rights Respecting Schs</b> Water - Hygiene, food, play Food - Plant, potatoes, herbs, beans, peas Family - Pets</p> <p><b>Celebrations:</b> St Patricks, Mother's Day,</p>	<p>Green Shades of green</p> <p>Yellow</p> <p>Purple Orange</p>	<p>Spring flowers/ planting (beans, watercress...)</p> <p>Frogspawn - Frogs</p> <p>Magnets - Forces and Energy; (thinking skills)</p> <p>Shapes on the farm - oval, square</p> <p>Musical Instruments</p> <p>Sensory room: Colours, sounds and smells</p>	<p><b>House:</b> Add dough to house.</p> <p>House/Kitchen - spring clean</p> <p>-----</p> <p><b>Florist:</b></p> <p>-----</p> <p><b>Hospital:</b></p> <p><b>Well Teddy Clinic:</b> Mon 25<sup>th</sup> March: AM/Aft Tues 26<sup>th</sup> March: FT</p> <p>-----</p> <p><b>Optician:</b></p> <p>-----</p> <p><b>Pet shop/ Vets:</b></p> <p>-----</p> <p><b>Begin</b> (Apr):</p> <p>'Teddy adventures'</p> <p>-----</p>	<p><b>Fire Service visit:</b> Jack Wilson: Tues 5<sup>th</sup> March</p> <p><b>Gardening with Fiona:</b> Wed 6<sup>th</sup> March - planting herbs; Wed 10<sup>th</sup> April - Planting sunflower seeds/gathering potatoes.</p> <p><b>Jo Jingles:</b> Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> March &amp; 18<sup>th</sup> Apr</p> <p><b>World Book Day:</b> Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> Mar</p> <p><b>Jump, Jiggle and Jive:</b> Fri 8<sup>th</sup>, Tues 26<sup>th</sup> Mar; Fri 19<sup>th</sup>; 26<sup>th</sup> Apr</p> <p><b>Mother's Day:</b> Sun 10<sup>th</sup> Mar</p> <p><b>Cook with Fiona:</b> Wed 13<sup>th</sup> March - Potato Bread Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Apr - Pizza</p> <p><b>Saint Patrick's Day break:</b> School closed - Mon 18<sup>th</sup> March</p> <p><b>Visit to Greystone Library:</b> Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Mar &amp; Wed 24<sup>th</sup> Apr</p> <p><b>Coffee Time:</b> Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> March; 26<sup>th</sup> April</p> <p><b>Well Teddy Clinic:</b> Dr O'Boyle will help our teddies to get better... Mon 25<sup>th</sup> March: AM &amp; PM Tues 26<sup>th</sup> March: FT</p> <p><b>High 5 Mondays:</b> Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Mar; 29<sup>th</sup> Apr</p> <p><b>Neighbourhood Police Visit:</b> Gerry McWilliams - Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Mar</p> <p><b>Easter Hunt:</b> Wed 27<sup>th</sup> March</p> <p><b>Easter:</b> Fri 29<sup>th</sup> March - Mon 8<sup>th</sup> April</p> <p><b>Fenaghy Vets visit:</b> Debra Donnelly - Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> Apr</p> <p><b>Play Sport:</b> Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> Apr</p>



During the months of March and April children will talk about - Life on the Farm, **Spring** - new growth/new life (**ECO schools**) and People who Help Us. Children will be encouraged to observe new shoots appearing on trees and plants around the nursery school, when visiting the woodland and on their way to and from school. Children enjoyed planting their daffodil bulbs with Mrs Campbell and will have another opportunity to plant seeds - watercress, broad beans and sunflowers both indoors and out. Children will also continue to check up on

our planted potatoes in planter bags/tubs over the coming weeks. Children can observe the growth of carrot tops, parsnips and onions indoors. This should generate lots of interest and opportunities for asking questions.

Children will continue to observe birds becoming more active as they begin to build their nests. Children have enjoyed observing birds, using binoculars and making bird food. They are beginning to notice different bird colours, size... and are naming some of the birds they see in our playground/woodland. We hope to follow birds nesting in our own bird boxes and see them up close, using our special bird box camera. Magnifying glasses of varying sizes will allow children to examine buds and flowers more closely outdoors. Children will share their observations and can record these through drawings and paintings. Children will be encouraged to notice the many changes in our woodland garden and how Spring is arriving. Our ECO-schools themes will continue to develop including waste, recycling, bio-diversity and new growth. We will also talk about life cycles, nesting birds and mini-beasts. The children will enjoy spring-cleaning in the house and cottage and will help to refurbish our 'mini beast hotels', making them comfortable and cosy for our mini beast friends.

The children can extend their role-play through the vets/pet shop, hospital and flower shop indoors and in the workman's construction/garage pod outdoors. Children can play with flowers/bulbs, potted plants and can help customers with special flower orders for Mother's Day, wrapping them in their own designer paper. The vets role play area will encourage children to talk about their pets, what they eat, where they sleep, their favourite toys and how to help them get better if they are feeling ill. They can also purchase special items and treats in our pet shop. Later we will introduce our hospital theme. Children can share personal experiences of visiting the doctor/ hospital through role play and in the 'Well Teddy Clinic'. Visits from the nurse, doctor, veterinary surgeon, police and fire service will help to extend our 'People who help us' theme.



As part of our Rights Respecting Schools Programme children will talk about Family, food - healthy eating and the importance and uses of water. We will also talk about cultures and traditions - Mother's Day; Saint David's Day, Saint Patrick's Day, Easter... We will continue to enjoy our High Five Mondays which gives us an opportunity to celebrate all our successes, big and small.

Children will be encouraged to talk about animals on the farm and their new babies - chicks, calves, piglets.... Children can also enjoy the sights and smells of spring arriving - flowers, plants outdoors in our sensory and woodland garden. Children can enjoy exploring their senses in our sensory room.

We are hoping to observe the lifecycle of the frog and maybe even find some in our nursery pond! We will watch them grow and change! Children are really making the most of our woodland resources - messy kitchen, picnic tables, story corner, binoculars, magnifiers, outdoor classroom...there is lots to explore, investigate and enjoy.

Children will talk about when they were **babies**, and how they have grown. They will discuss how they have changed and grown up - talking about differences, they notice. Children are asked to bring in baby photographs of themselves for display purposes. Children will have the opportunity to paint and draw flowers, their friends and self-portraits using our 'painting window'. Bathing and caring for babies/sized dolls in the water tray will help to stimulate lots of conversation.



**As part of our 'baby theme' we also hope to bath some babies in the nursery. If you have a baby and would like to help us, please let your child's teacher know as soon as possible.**



**COLOUR** tables. Our special colours will be green, shades of green (light and dark) and yellow in March and purple and orange in April. Children will enjoy playing, problem solving, sorting... with green/yellow and purple/orange resources on our interest tables.

**A Special thanks:**



### **ECO-Schools and Gardening Programme**

A special thanks to Catharine our Building supervisor who continues to look after our outdoor areas. A huge big thanks also to Mrs Fiona Campbell, who continues to support the nursery children and staff with our gardening and cookery programmes.

## Forthcoming Events

### Fire Service:

The fire service will be in the nursery to talk to the children about their very important job - fire safety, safety in the home and the types of emergencies they attend in our communities.

- Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March



### Gardening Programme:

Mrs Fiona Campbell will be back to support staff and children with our gardening programme. Children will plant herbs on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March**; sow sunflower seeds and gather potatoes on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April**.

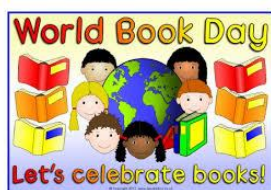


### Jo Jingles

Jo Jingles will be returning to the nursery for lots more music, movement and fun outdoors on: **Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> March & 18<sup>th</sup> April**.



### World Book Day:



World book Day is on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March**.

**Children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character or in their favourite clothes.**



World Book Day offers children the opportunity to choose and buy a book of their own. Children will receive a World Book Day token. The World Book Day books are a gift to children from booksellers and publishers.

£1 tokens can be swapped for one of the brilliant World Book Day books for FREE, until **31 March 2024**. [Take a look inside](#) and explore the [information and activity sheets](#), then visit [your local bookseller](#).



\*Links will be sent via Seesaw. 😊





**Jump, jiggle and jive:** 9.10 - 9.35: AM and FT; 12.45 - 1.10 Aft.

Despite having a few problems with our sessions during Jan/Feb we are delighted to say the children will enjoy a series of interactive dance and music sessions with Jump, Jiggle and Jive on:

**Fri 8<sup>th</sup> & Tues 26<sup>th</sup> March; and Fri 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> Apr.**

### **Cooking with Fiona!**

The children will enjoy another cookery session with Fiona.

"Tasty potato bread and pizza! - yummy, yummy!"



Why not try to make some potato bread at home - Mrs Campbell will take you through the recipe on SEESAW.

**Wed 13<sup>th</sup> March and Wed 17<sup>th</sup> April.**

### **Saint Patrick's Day break**

The children will finish at **11 o'clock** on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March** and will be off school on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March** for our Saint Patrick's Day break. The children in the afternoon session are invited to join the morning classes on this occasion.



### **A Trip to Greystone Library:**

Vivienne will share some fun and exciting stories with the children in Greystone Library during Term Two.

**Wed 20<sup>th</sup> March & 24<sup>th</sup> April**

Full Time Session: 10.30 - 11.00

Morning Session: 11.00 - 11.30\*\*

Afternoon Session: 12.30 - 1.00

**\*\*Morning children should be picked up from the library\*\***





## Parent support:



If you have any queries or questions please get in touch with Miss Agnew, our Parent worker via email or SEESAW.

[elaineparentworker@gmail.com](mailto:elaineparentworker@gmail.com)



### Coffee, Cake and a Chat!

Why not come to our next coffee morning. It is an opportunity to relax and have a chat with other parents.

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March and Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April

**Morn / Full Time: 9.00 Afternoon: 12.15**



### Well Teddy Bear Clinic:

The children will enjoy working and visiting our Hospital in the nursery. The "Well Teddy Bear Clinic" will soon be open for patients.

Children are invited to bring in their favourite teddy, doll or toy to see **Doctor O Boyle** in the hospital. They will be encouraged to talk about how the teddies/dolls are feeling and what their symptoms are. The doctor's advice will be recorded on a special Teddy Bear Certificate.



**Mon 25<sup>th</sup> March: Morn (10.30-11.30) & Aft (12.30 - 1.30)**

**Tues 26<sup>th</sup> March: FT (10.30-11.30)**

### 🌟 High Five Mondays...🌟

**Time to celebrate!** - Monday 25th March & 29<sup>th</sup> April.

### **What are High Five Mondays??**

As part of our positive behaviour and emotional wellbeing programme the children will celebrate their learning in a variety of ways throughout the year. Our High Five Mondays is one of the ways we celebrate.



Our High Five Mondays are based on the Take 5 steps to wellbeing approach - Connect, Keep learning, Be active, Take notice and Give. These five simple steps help maintain and improve wellbeing. We think of them as our 'five a day' for wellbeing.

### Neighbourhood Police Team Visit

Mark and Gerry will visit the school on **Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March** and will talk to the children about their important role in our community. The children might even get a chance to sit in their police car and turn on the siren!



### Easter Hunt:

Children will enjoy exploring our outdoor garden to find all the 'goodies' the Easter Bunny has left for us on:  
**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March.**



### Fenaghy Vets Visit

We are looking forward to Debra visiting the nursery. She will talk to the children about their pets, caring for them, feeding them and having fun with them...



**Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> April**

### Play Sport - Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April

We are looking forward to working with James in Play Sport in Term 2. The children will enjoy keeping fit and building skills using a range of equipment in a fun and stimulating way.



### 'Celebrating Diversity' / Rights Respecting Schools



Children will enjoy observing and painting daffodils to celebrate Saint David's Day - Fri 1<sup>st</sup> March . Children will also enjoy playing with and painting roses, hyacinths and lots of other spring flowers in our florists.



As part of our celebrating diversity program the children will continue to enjoy finding out about different cultures. Children can use a selection of resources/junk materials to make decorations/cards for Mother's Day (10<sup>th</sup> Mar), Saint Patrick's Day (17<sup>th</sup> March); and Easter (31<sup>st</sup> Mar)





March	April	
Penny 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Amelia 4 <sup>th</sup>	Lilija 15 <sup>th</sup>
Freya 6 <sup>th</sup>	Oscar 9 <sup>th</sup>	Joel J 27 <sup>th</sup>
Layton 6 <sup>th</sup>	Sophie 9 <sup>th</sup>	Mollie 28 <sup>th</sup>
Evie 10 <sup>th</sup>	Willow 14 <sup>th</sup>	Jewel 28 <sup>th</sup>
Joel B. 14 <sup>th</sup>		
Harley 22 <sup>nd</sup>		

### Other Notices

#### Nursery Grounds/Environment:

Please take care of our nursery grounds by putting all litter, drinking cups, plasters, papers etc into the bin. Please remember there is no smoking permitted on school grounds (i.e the outer school gates on the Greystone Road.) Many thanks for your support.



#### Baby Photo's:

During the month of **March/April** children will be talking about growing up. Children will discuss how much they have grown since they were babies. Children are asked to **bring in a baby photograph** for our wall display. Please write your child's name on the back of the photographs. This will be returned.

#### Car Park:

Parents are reminded that the inner car park is only for staff use. Parents are **not permitted** to use the car park for dropping children off. In the interests of your child's safety, we would advise parents to use the outer car park only.



Parents are also reminded to drive extremely carefully, paying particular attention for children and parents on the zebra crossing. Many thanks.



## Holidays:

### Saint Patrick's Day break

The children will finish at 11 o'clock on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March** and will be off school on **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March** for our Saint Patrick's Day break.



The children in the afternoon session are invited to join the morning classes on this occasion.

## Easter Holidays:

Children will enjoy their Easter Hunt celebrations on:

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March.



All children will finish for Easter on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 11.00.  
The children in the afternoon session are invited to join the morning and full-time session on this occasion.

School will re-open on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April

*The staff would like to wish everyone a happy and relaxing Easter break. Enjoy!*

## Nursery Rhyme Time

### There's a worm at the bottom of my garden

There's a worm at the bottom of my garden  
And his name is wiggly woo!  
There's a worm at the bottom of my garden  
And all that he can do,  
Is wiggle all day and wiggle all night  
The neighbours say  
He's a terrible sight  
There's a worm at the bottom of my garden  
And his name is wiggly woo!

### Hop little bunny

Hop little bunny  
Hop, hop, hop  
Hop, hop, hop  
Hop, hop, hop  
Hop, little bunny,  
Hop, hop, hop  
All day long.



### Change hop to:

Skip, jump, run, walk,  
sleep little bunny.....



### I went to visit a farm one day

I went to visit a farm one day  
I saw a horse across the way.  
And what do you think I heard it say?  
Neigh, neigh, neigh!  
Etc etc.

### Chick Chicken

Chick, chick, chick, chick chicken  
Lay a little egg for me.  
Chick, chick, chick, chick chicken  
I want one for my tea.  
I haven't had one for ages  
And now it's half past three  
Chick, chick, chick, chick chicken  
Lay a little egg for me.

### I have a little spider

I have a little spider  
And I'm very fond of him  
He crawls up to my  
shoulder,  
And then up to my chin.  
He climbs down my arm  
And then down my leg  
Now he's a tired little spider  
So I'll put him into bed.



### There was a man lived in the moon

There was a man lived in the moon,  
Lived on the moon, lived in the moon

There was a man lived on the moon  
And his name was Aiken Drum  
His hat was made of good cream cheese...  
His coat was made of good roast beef...  
His shoes were made of penny loaves...



### Miss Polly has a Dolly

Miss Polly had a dolly who was sick, sick, sick  
So she phoned for the doctor to be quick, quick, quick  
The doctor came with his bag and his hat  
And he knocked on the door with a rat a tat tat

He looked at the dolly and he shook his head  
And said, "Miss Polly, put her straight to bed."  
He wrote on a paper for a pill, pill, pill  
I'll be back in the morning for my bill, bill, bill.

### Other rhymes:

Rock a bye baby...  
5 Little Speckled frogs...  
Mary had a little lamb...  
Orange and Lemons...

# Nursery Rhyme Time

## ECO Code

Turn off the lights, turn off the taps,  
It's our eco-warrior rap

Sort your rubbish into bins,  
Bottles, paper, fruit and tins.



Eco-schools is lots of fun,  
Saving the planet for everyone

## If You Help To Recycle

If you help to recycle clap your hands X2  
If you help to recycle then you'll make a  
better world  
If you help to recycle clap your hands.



## Pop a little pancake into a pan...

Pop a little pancake into a pan (x3)  
That's for my dinner today.

Shake on the sugar with a shake, shake, shake (x3)  
That's for my dinner today.

Squeeze on the lemon, with a squeeze, squeeze,  
squeeze (x3)  
That's for my dinner today

Toss a little pancake up in the air (x3)  
That's for my dinner today

Eat it all up with a yum, yum, yum (x3)  
That's for my dinner today



## Five currant buns in a baker's shop...

Five currant buns in a baker's shop...  
Round and fat with sugar on the top  
Along came (child's name)  
With a penny one day  
She/he bought a currant bun and took it away...



Four currant buns in the baker shop...  
Three... Two..., One...

There were no currant buns in the baker shop!