



Whats the buzz in October?

WELCOME



It's now the month of October, where did September go? All children are now in school and are settling in well. We hope they are enjoying their experiences at Nursery school to date. If you have any concerns or questions to ask please don't hesitate, the best time is in the morning from 8:45am - 9:00am in the foyer.



Don't forget, all our Nursery information can be found on the school website at www.holychildps.co.uk and on the Facebook page @holychildnurseryunit

Monthly Theme at home

The theme for this month is **Autumn** and **Halloween**. Here are some ideas about how you can reinforce these topics at home:

- Play I spy, focusing on colours for example "I spy someone wearing a blue jumper and black trousers" etc.
- Have an Autumn colour hunt around your home or outside. How many brown/orange/yellow/purple/red items can we find?
- Make Orange and black dough with your child at home (see dough recipe on parent notice board)
- Model to your child how to take off and on their jumper, coat and shoes and encourage your child to do this for themselves.
- Help your child learn the attached list of Rhymes and songs for October
- Go for an Autumnal walk. Look at the different colour of the leaves. Talk about this with your child and collect some leaves/twigs/acorns/pinecones for home/school. If the weather is dry ask your child to walk on top of the leaves and listen to the sound they make.
- Encourage your child to bring Autumn items into school for the interest table.
- Try tasting a range of harvest vegetables together.



Parent Information Session

We will be hosting an important information session for parents and caregivers on Wednesday 17th October at 12.45pm.

We hope as many of you as possible can attend. We will be providing information on the nursery daily routines and various events throughout the year.

The school Health Visitor will also be in attendance and will talk about the three year old checks due to take place in November. A time and date will be arranged at this session for your child's check up.



Big Bed Time Read

The nursery will be hosting their first Big Bed Time Read of the year on Wed 24th October at 6pm. Children are invited into school in their PJs, along with their parents, to listen to stories and enjoy some supper.



Attendance

As you can see we have a very busy day in Nursery and a successful school experience is the responsibility of the children, the parent and the school.

Your child's progress, both academically and socially, is influenced to a great extent by daily participation.

Regular attendance is the key. Please try to bring your child to school on time as valuable learning experiences can be missed in the first twenty minutes of the day, when we have our morning "Meet and Greet" sessions.



Seesaw



We know you all love to hear about how your child is getting on in school and what they have been getting up to.

Seesaw

So we have set up "Seesaw" classroom to do just that! To take part simply download the Seesaw app on to your phone and scan your class QR code (found outside the classroom). Your class teacher can then send photos of your child during the day straight to your phone.



Monthly trip

The children will visit St Columb's Park on Friday 19th October for an autumnal walk. They will leave school at approximately 9:30am and return before lunch. Your child should wear their school jumper and a pair of trousers - jeans can be worn on this occasion and a coat, they will also need a pair of wellies for the trip.



Lending Library

It is one of our main priorities to foster a love of books in your children. For this reason, we visit the Creggan library every week and choose a book to borrow. Please take time to share these books with your child and talk about the pictures and characters together.

Books will be sent home on a Wednesday and must be returned the following Tuesday. If they are not returned your child will be unable to choose a new book from the Library.

Halloween Party

A Halloween party will be held in the nursery unit on Friday 26th October. Children are encouraged to wear fancy dress on this day and must be collected at 12:00pm.



Jo Jingles

The Jo Jingles Music and Movement Company will shortly be starting sessions with your child every Wednesday (middle of October). The cost of the session is £1 per child however; this is covered in the £2.50 you pay every Monday so there is no need to pay anything extra.



Speech and Language Developmental Milestones 0-5years

A child's communication skills develop rapidly during the first years of life. The following are speech and language milestones that most children experience. Every child's development is unique however if you are concerned about your child's communication skills, contact a Speech and Language Therapist for advice.

Birth - 3 Mths

- Responds to Environmental sounds
- Recognises familiar voices
- Smiles at familiar people
- Coos/goos when happy
- Distinct crying for different situations

4 - 6 Mths

- Looks in the direction of sounds
- Responds to tone of voice
- Babbles with many different sounds (including p, b, and m)
- Laughs and Gurgles
- Expresses excitement and displeasure

1 - 2 Years

- Points to body parts when asked
- Follows simple directions
- Understands simple questions
- Vocabulary increases every month
- Uses 1 and 2 word questions
- Puts two words together
- Uses many different consonant sounds

7 Mths - 1 Year

- Looks in direction of sounds
- Listens to others' speech
- Recognizes common words
- Responds to simple requests
- Varying babbling
- Gains others' attention without crying
- Uses gestures & imitates speech sounds
- Uses 1 to 2 words

2- 3 Years

- Understands simple opposites (up/down, stop/go, etc)
- Follows 2-step directions
- Listens to stories
- Uses 2-3 word phrases
- Speech is usually understood by familiar listeners
- May stutter on words & sounds but not bothered by it
- Names objects
- Asks "why?"

3 - 4 Years

- Uses 3-4 word sentences
- Understands family words
- Talks about events/activities that happened away from home
- Speech is mostly understandable
- Answers simple wh- questions
- Asks "when" & "how" questions
- Understands basic shapes & colours
- Uses pronouns & some plurals

4 - 5 Years

- Follows complex instructions
- Hears & understands most of what is said to & around them
- Produces all speech sounds, but may make intermittent errors on l, s, r, v, z, ch, sh, and/or th
- Names letters & numbers
- Tells short stories & maintains conversations
- Can adapt speech to listener e.g. give more/less info.

Questions or concerns?
Contact SpeechWorks for a free phone consultation.

Adapted from information provided by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

Important Dates

17th Oct - Parent information session at 12.45pm.

19th Oct - Autumn Walk in St.Columb's Park

24th Oct - Big Bedtime Read at 6pm

26th Oct - 12pm finish for Halloween Break

5th November - School reopens after half term.