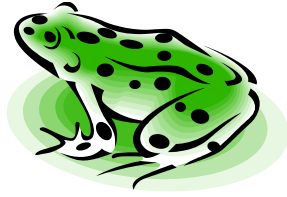


# NEWSLETTER MARCH 2023



## ST PHILIP'S MARSH NURSERY SCHOOL

**We are delighted that the children who have moved classrooms are adapting very well to new their environment. There is a wonderful atmosphere in the school.**

### Changes

The children will be continuing to learn about changes, including life cycles. We will be chitting and planting potatoes. Each class will look after tadpoles and observe the changes that happen. We would be grateful for any frogspawn if you have any in your pond.



After the Easter holidays the topic will be 'Opposites'. This will involve the children playing with language as well as beginning to learn mathematical concepts.

### Returners

If your child is due to return to us in September, you will receive a form from us shortly regarding the sessions that you will require. Please could you return the form by **Friday 28 April** as we will then be writing to families with children on the waiting list to offer them places.

### Curriculum Focus

#### Literacy

Easter is a great time of year to encourage your child to recognise print in the environment. If your child is given an Easter egg you can read the name of product e.g. 'Buttons' or the names of other food items in the cupboard e.g. 'Kellogg's', 'Heinz'. This can then lead on to

talking about other environmental print e.g. road signs, shop names.

#### Numeracy

Easter is also an ideal time to talk about 3D shapes. If your child is given an Easter egg you can talk about the shape of the box (e.g. cuboid, cube) and the egg (ovoid). This can then lead on to talking about other shapes in the environment e.g. a pipe being a cylinder, an ice-cream cone being a cone.

#### Session times

Please could we remind parents of the session times. The morning session starts at **9.00 am** and finishes at **12.00 noon (door opens at 11.55 am)**. The afternoon session starts at **12.30 pm** and finishes at **3.30 pm (door opens at 3.25 pm)**. We understand that the start and end of the sessions are extremely busy times of the day and the car park is often crowded and allowances should be made for this. If in an emergency you anticipate being late to pick up your child, please could you phone the school to let us know. This avoids your child becoming upset. This is particularly important at the end of the day pick-up.

If you have to pick up your child before the end of the session, please **pick up before 3.00 pm** (afternoon session) and **before 11.30 am** (morning session). At the end of each session we have story, song or sound and it is important that this is not disturbed. **It is an important part of their phonics and numeracy learning which needs to take place in a quiet atmosphere to develop listening and attention skills.**

## Parking and Children's Safety

Your child's safety is our number one priority at all times. We ask you to make sure that this is yours too. Every school in Bristol has an issue with parking and we are no exception. We are fortunate that we have a small car park at the front of the premises that parents can use. This can get very congested and if you are in a hurry, it is best to park in a nearby side street. Walking and cycling are all ways in which to reduce congestion.

**We encourage everyone to be tolerant and respectful at all times when using the car park.**

Please ensure you keep a close eye on your child whilst walking in and out of the school and ensure that if you are coming to Nursery on foot you **DO NOT WALK THROUGH THE CAR PARK and instead use the pedestrian entrance. Please also make sure you shut the gates behind you when entering/exiting the premises.**

## Appropriate clothing

As the weather is wet and cold, children will need appropriate clothing and footwear (wellies). We go into the garden in all weathers. It would be helpful if you could show your child how to put their hat and gloves into the sleeve of their coat when they take them off to prevent them getting lost. As a result of heavy rain, the garden can be muddy. We would be grateful if parents could bear this in mind when dressing their children. Please do not dress your child in their best clothes for nursery.



Please also ensure you write your child's name in their clothes, coats and wellies as many children have the same clothes, the same size and from the same shop.

'All weather' suits are also a very good way to keep children dry and can be purchased quite reasonably.



## Bags with spare clothes, nappies and wipes

Please ensure that you always have a change of clothes in a bag on your child's peg (labelled with your child's name) and **nappy sacks/plastic bags to take home wet clothes**. For those children in nappies/pullups, please also ensure you have **nappies** and **wipes** in their bag.

**If your child has come home in nursery clothes, please could they be washed and returned as soon as possible.**

## Donations

The school provides free milk for all children. We do, however, rely on donations of fruit, vegetables (e.g. **carrot sticks, cucumber, peppers**) and other healthy snacks (e.g. **cheese, bread sticks**) for your child to share at snack time. If you could bring in a small amount each week it would be greatly appreciated.



It is the time of year for cold viruses and we would also appreciate donations of **boxes of tissues** for the children's use.

We would also be grateful for donations of natural materials and open-ended resources for the classrooms e.g. **leaves, corks, conkers, pinecones, pebbles, shells, feathers, big buttons, metal washers (minimum size 10mm), small cuts of logs and any soft wood (particularly pine ends or balsa wood).**



### Sing-alongs

We will be hosting two sing-alongs before we break up for the Easter holidays and the children are busy practising songs. Parents are invited to join the sing-alongs at **9:15 am on Monday 27 March and 9.15 am on Thursday 30 March**. This is a very informal affair, not a performance!

### Family display board

Each class has a family display board and so please could parents bring in a family photo.

### Staff changes

We would like to welcome Stephany who will support children in Fir Class and Waris who will be working as an SMSA.

### Volunteers welcome

All parents/carers/grandparents – we would love you to volunteer with us. The children love to be read with and helped with all sorts of activities (e.g. gardening, art, music). Another pair of hands is always welcome! Please speak to your child's key person or myself if you would like to help. Are you a doctor, nurse, vet, or in the fire/police service and can talk to the children about what you do? We would love to hear from you.

Do you have a pet e.g. rabbit, tortoise which you can bring in to talk to the children about how you look after it?



### World Book Day

We recently celebrated World Book Day when the children (and even the grown-ups) wore costumes or their pyjamas to school. We raised £47.55 which will be sent to fund books in Africa.

### Some important dates

**Monday 27 March – Sing-along 9.15-9.30am**

**Thursday 30 March – Sing-along 9.15-9.30am**

**Friday 31 March – INSET day – School CLOSED**

**Monday 3 to Friday 14 April (inclusive) - Easter holidays – School CLOSED**

**Monday 17 April – INSET day – School CLOSED**

**Monday 1 May – Bank Holiday – School CLOSED**

**Monday 8 May – Bank Holiday – School CLOSED (King's Coronation)**

**Monday 29 May to Friday 2 June (inclusive) – half term holiday – School CLOSED**

Best wishes for a good Easter break

