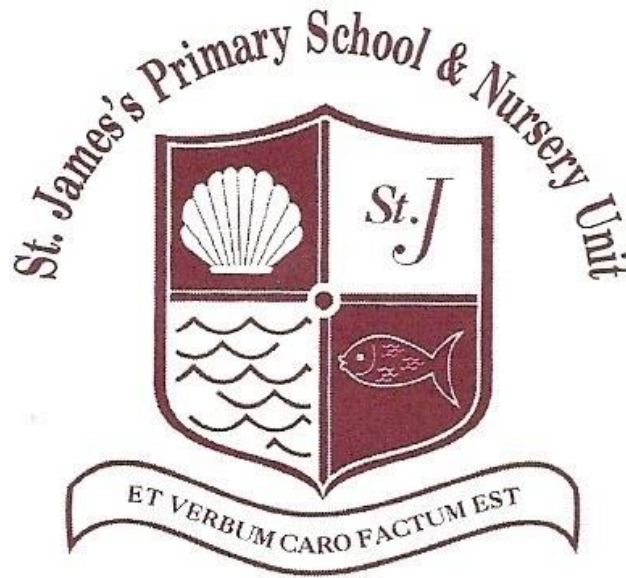


# St James's Nursery News



## March 2024

Spring is here and the days are getting brighter! March will be a very busy month full of celebrations for our Nursery children as they participate in celebrations and learning about the diversity of others.

## March Learning Focus

**Theme:** Spring Has Sprung!

**Colours:** Green & Yellow

**Shape:** Diamond

Children are noticing the changes in weather and season around them. This month we will focus on discussing spring and the basic concepts concerning living things and growth. We will learn about what grows on a farm, the mother and baby animals found on farms, and how they are cared for. We will become scientists during Science Week exploring how plants grow, as well as, other exciting investigations.

The children will be exploring different fairy tales this month. We will continue to share books with the children, teaching them how to understand left to right directionality of print and how to turn the pages appropriately. We will continue to establish a print rich environment where children are encouraged to experiment with mark making in a range of situations. We will also celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 7th March with a visit from Mr Hullabaloo and our 'Tiger Who Came to Tea' Teaparty.

Mathematical experiences will be incorporated into almost every aspect of our play (including exposure to number, patterns and problem solving experiences) and mathematical thinking and vocabulary encouraged and extended whenever possible.

March will also see the children celebrating the run up to the Easter. At this time of year we will support the children to consider the needs of others as we support this years Trocaire campaign. We will update you with more information about this later on this month.

## Dates For Your Diary



### MARCH

- **Friday 1st March** - Jo Jingles
- **Thursday 7th March** - World Book Day & Mr Hullabaloo Show
- **Friday 8th March** - Tiger Who Came to Tea Teaparty
- **Monday 11th March - Friday 15th March** - Science Week
- **Monday 11th March - Friday 22nd March** - Sustrans Big Walk & Wheel
- **Friday 15th March** - Green Day celebration
- **Monday 18th March** - School closed for St Patrick's Day
- **Friday 22nd March** - Jo Jingles
- **Thursday 28th March** - Half day finish for Easter Break (Finish time to be confirmed - A staggered timetable will be shared closer to the time)

### APRIL

- **Monday 8th April** - School returns after Easter Holidays.
- **Friday 19th April** - Jo Jingles

## Green Day Celebrations



To celebrate St Patrick's Day, we will be celebrating Green Day on Friday 15th March. On this day all the children can come into Nursery wearing green for the day.

School will be closed on Monday 18th March to celebrate St Patrick's Day.



We are taking part in the 15th year celebration of Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel, the UK's largest inter-school cycling, walking, wheeling and scooting challenge. The challenge runs from 11-22 March 2024. It's free to take part and we would love everyone to be involved.

### What do you need to do?

Encourage your child(ren) to walk, use a wheelchair, scoot or cycle to school on as many days as possible during the event.

### Why we are taking part

Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel is a great way to build physical activity in children's daily routine which is important for their physical health and mental wellbeing.

Active school runs also help to reduce congestion and air pollution outside the school gate. [A 2021 YouGov study](#) showed nearly half of UK children worry about air pollution near their school. And that children thought active travel was the best away to bring down these pollution levels.

Plus there are some great prizes to be won every day if we get enough children taking part!

## Nursery Fund



Thank you for your continued support towards our Nursery fund. Your contribution towards our Nursery Fund goes a long way towards enhancing the experiences and opportunities we provide for our Nursery children.

This half term your contribution has meant that we have been able to provide:

- Daily snack
- Our monthly birthday cupcakes & birthday bubbles
- Replenishable resources for play such as playdough etc.
- Monthly Jo Jingles sessions
- Our visit from the 'World of Owls'

We hope you are able to continue to support our Nursery Fund. We have lots of exciting things planned for remainder of Term 2.

If you are unsure how to pay for Nursery Fund please don't hesitate to approach the Nursery staff or Mrs Brown for assistance.

## Can you help us?

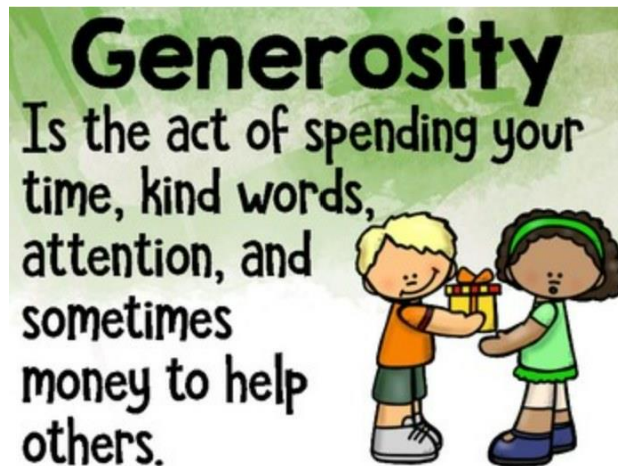


This month we are hoping to develop our Mud Kitchen area. If you have any of the following items you no longer need and could donate to us we would be very grateful:

- kitchen utensils - metal spoons, wooden spoons, ladles, mashers, whisks, spatulas, funnels, ice cream scoops etc.

- kitchen equipment - tin mugs, bowls, plates, cups, jars, egg cups, gravy boats, jugs, chopping boards, trays etc.
- clipboards, baking trays, bun trays, cake tines, loaf tins etc.

## St James's Primary School & Nursery Unit Value of the Month



In St James's Primary School and Nursery Unit we focus on a different value every month. This month we are focusing on generosity. At the end of the month one child from each class will be awarded a special certificate for showing generosity. You may want to talk with your child about what generosity and being generous is.

Generosity in Nursery can be ... using kind words with our friends and sharing .

# WE WANT OUR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO

# THRIVE

## RATHCOOLE & MONKSTOWN

Our partnership with THRIVE aims to promote aspiration, achievement, wellbeing and collaboration.

This month in Nursery we would like to celebrate how:

**We can learn.** Our Nursery children are learning all about the signs that Spring is here including new life in nature. We will also be celebrating books and our love of reading, on the run up to World Book Day and become scientists for Science Week.

**We can be healthy and well.** Last month the children became superheros in support of Children's Mental Health Week. This month we will taking part in the Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel.

**We can be connected.** Last month, Noel from Waste Education came to speak with the Nursery children about the importance of recycling. We also celebrated the Chinese New Year. We are so grateful to one of our parents who kindly gifted all the children with their own lucky red envelope, treats and fortune cookies. This month our children will be expressing their love for their Mummy's for Mother's Day, celebrating the festival of St Patrick's Day, learning about Holi and Ramadan, and celebrating the run up to Easter. We will also be connecting with our school community on all levels for World Book Day. The children will be learning about how people all over the world are connected through our Trocaire campaign.

## March Songs, Poems and Rhymes

**Bunny Pokey Sung to: "Hokey Pokey"**

You put your bunny ears in (Place hands on head to make ears)

You put your bunny ears out.  
You put your bunny ears in.  
And you shake them all about.  
You do the Bunny Pokey  
And hop yourself around,  
That's what it's all about!

Additional verses: "You put your bunny nose in, You put your bunny tail in, You put your bunny paws in"

**I'm A Little Chick Sung to: "I'm a Little Teapot"**

I'm a little chick inside an egg  
I'm always sleeping - snoring away  
Soon you'll hear a pecking, pecking sound  
The egg will crack and out I'll pop.

**Mother's Day Song Sung to: "You are my sunshine"**

I love you mummy  
My dearest mummy  
You make me happy  
When I am sad  
I want to tell you  
I really love you!  
When I'm with you I am so glad!

**5 Green Shamrocks (Put your child's name into the rhyme)**

Five green shamrocks, sitting by my door  
(Name) picked one and then there were four  
Four green shamrocks, green as green could be,  
(Name) picked one and then there were three



Three green shamrocks, sitting by my shoe  
(Name) picked one and then there were two  
Two green shamrocks enjoying the sun  
(Name) picked one and then there was one  
One green shamrock for St Patrick's day fun  
(Name) picked one and then there were none.

### **Mary Had A Little Lamb**

Mary had a little lamb, little lamb, little lamb  
Mary had a little lamb, little lamb, little lamb  
Its fleece was white as snow;  
And everywhere that Mary went,  
Mary went. Mary went,  
Everywhere that Mary went  
The lamb was sure to go

### **Seed Song**

5 small seeds all planted in a row.  
Out comes the sun and the seeds begin to grow.  
Down comes the rain and the buds begin to show.  
5 small seeds all planted in a row.

Repeat verse again as you count down from 4 until 1.

### **Old MacDonald Had a Farm**

Old MacDonald had a farm  
Ee i ee i o  
And on his farm he had some cows  
Ee i ee i oh  
With a moo-moo here  
And a moo-moo there

Here a moo, there a mooE

verywhere a moo-moo

Old MacDonald had a farm

Ee i ee i o

