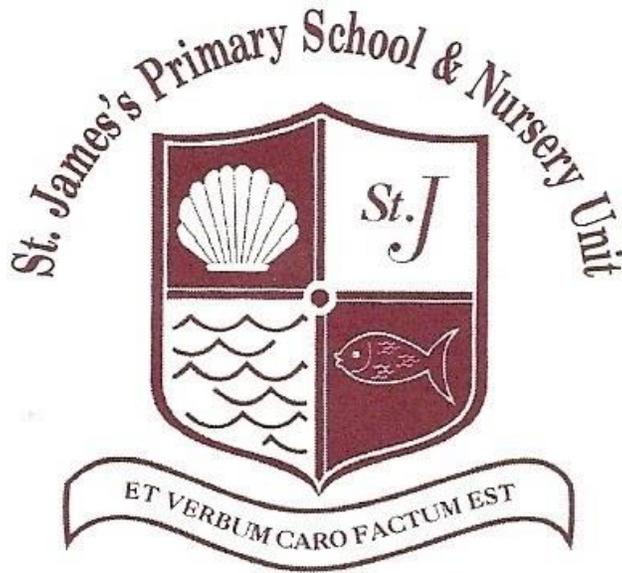


# St James's Nursery News



## May 2024

With the weather getting warmer and the days brighter, we are excited to engage the children in lots of fun outdoor learning activities, including regular visits to our school garden and forest school area. We will look out for minibeasts and begin to learn about life cycles.

Our theme for this month is 'Crazy Creatures' which offers children the chance to explore different habitats, from the jungle to the ocean. There will be lots of imaginative play opportunities as children get to fight dragons, discover 'dinosaur bones' and dress up as jungle explorers.

We are thrilled that we will have a visit from Wee Critters this month to consolidate all this fun learning!

You can help your child at home by helping them to practise writing their name in preparation for Year 1. Continue to read books to your child and point out printed words and their meaning in their environment.

## May Learning Focus



**Theme:** Crazy Creatures!

**Colours:** Yellow, Black, Red

**Shape:** Rectangle

In May we will learn about all sorts of creatures. We will observe the lifecycle of butterflies and frogs. We will have real caterpillars and tadpoles at the investigation table. We will become eco-investigators and go for bug hunts in the outdoor area while learning about minibeasts. We will learn about jungle animals, dinosaurs and mythical creatures such as dragons, giants and mermaids!

We will be placing emphasis this month on using mathematical language during play activities. There will be plenty of experiences to consolidate all 2D shapes covered this year.

Lots of opportunities for language development will arise through discussion about weather and new life. We will continue to foster and encourage children to 'write' for themselves.

As the weather improves, we hope to give children the opportunity to work in pairs or teams during outdoor games. We will focus on developing gross motor skills to handle hoops, throw, catch and kick a ball. Children will talk about taking care in the sun.

## Dates For Your Diary



### MAY

- **Friday 3rd May** - Nursery fund due
- **Monday 6th May** - School is closed to children
- **Friday 17th May** - Jo Jingles
- **Wednesday 22nd May** - Wee Critters
- **Monday 27th May** - School closed to children
- **Tuesday 28th May** - School closed to children
- **Wednesday 29th May** - School closed to children

### JUNE

- **Monday 3rd June** - Nursery fund due
- **Thursday 6th June** - PTA Summer Fair
- **Thursday 20th June** - Nursery End of Year Celebration
- **Friday 28th June** - School finishes half day for the summer holidays. End time to be confirmed.

## Can you help us?



We would love to immerse our children in real life learning experiences. This month we are hoping to engage children in learning about different life cycles. If you happen to find frog spawn or tadpoles when out and about with your children we would be very grateful if you could gather these and bring them into Nursery.

We are always very grateful for donations of unwanted toys from home.

We would particularly welcome donations of dragons, dinosaurs or jungle animals to match this month's theme.

## 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.

Over the next half term your contribution will help us to provide:

- Daily snack
- Our monthly birthday cupcakes & birthday bubbles
- Replenishable resources for play such as playdough etc.
- Monthly Jo Jingles sessions
- Wee Critters Visit to Nursery
- Photographs for our End of Year Portfolios

- And many other exciting things!

We are only able to provide all of the above with your contributions. Our next payment for those paying half-termly is due on **Friday 3rd May**. We hope you are able to continue to support our Nursery Fund.

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

## 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 politeness. At the end of the month one child from each class will be awarded a special certificate for being polite. You may want to talk with your child about politeness and what being polite entails.

Politeness in Nursery can be ... using lovely manners when talking to adults and friends.

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.** This month children will learn about different lifecycles, including those of butterflies and frogs.

**We can be healthy and well.** With the better weather and longer days, children will spend lots of time outdoor learning in the fresh air engaging in physical activities.

**We can be connected.** Children will be encouraged to develop their teamwork and collaboration skills. Children will play in pairs or teams during outdoor games. The children will also be learning about their impact on nature and the creatures which inhabit our world.

## Care in the Sun



With the warmer weather upon us, it's crucial to ensure our little ones are protected from the sun's rays while enjoying outdoor playtime at Nursery. Sun safety is paramount in maintaining their health and well-being. Remember to apply sunscreen with a high SPF before dropping off your child, and provide them with a wide brimmed hat to shield their face and neck. We'll also be encouraging frequent water breaks to keep everyone hydrated. Let's work together to make sure our children have a safe and enjoyable time in the sun!

## May Songs, Poems and Rhymes

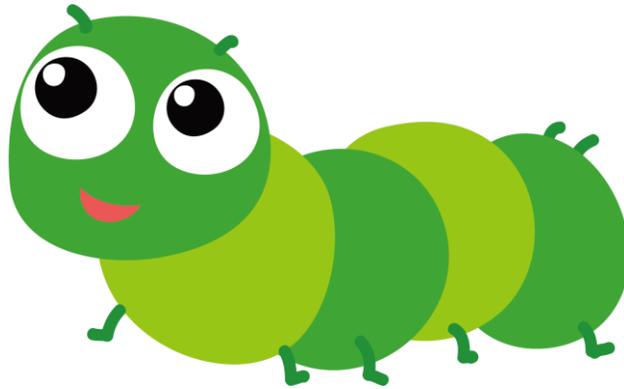
### The Caterpillar Poem

Caterpillar, caterpillar  
Crawling up a tree.  
Caterpillar, caterpillar  
Crawl on me.

Caterpillar, caterpillar  
Curl up tight.  
Caterpillar, caterpillar  
Sleep all night.

Caterpillar, caterpillar  
When you wake,  
Give your wings a gentle shake.

Caterpillar, caterpillar  
Don't be shy.  
Now you're a beautiful butterfly.



### **Incy Wincy Spider**

Incy Wincy Spider climbed the water spout,  
Down came the rain and washed the spider out.  
Out came the sunshine and dried up all the rain  
So Incy Wincy Spider climbed the spout again.



### **There's a Worm at the Bottom of the Garden**

There's a worm at the bottom of the garden  
And his name is Wiggly-woo.  
There's a worm at the bottom of the garden

But all that he can do,  
Is wiggle all night and wiggle all day  
No matter what the folks may say.  
There's a worm at the bottom of the garden  
And his name is Wiggly- woo.

