



# Next Steps @ St Johns



Working together to build a firm foundation for learning and caring

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## This week at Nursery . . .

1st March 2024



This week has been another exciting and busy week at Next Steps!

We began the week learning all about the life cycle of a flower and in particular daffodils, as the children were pleased to see our daffodils growing in the planters in the playground.



We have enjoyed sharing the story 'That's Not a Daffodil', - a lovely tale about a boy observing the changing plant as it grows. He describes it in some funny ways, for example "Grampa's hairs in the wind!"

The children enjoyed investigating real daffodils in different stages of growth and learned new vocabulary such as roots and bulbs. They used this knowledge to complete a cutting and sticking sequencing activity.



We have also been creative, making our own flower pictures but we are keeping them as a surprise for a special day next week. Watch this space!



At Forest School this week we enjoyed exploring the mud!! It reminded us of pictures from past years at Glastonbury Festival! The children have really grown in confidence in the woodland, joining in with activities and following instructions to return to the 'log circle' when staff call "1, 2, 3, where are you?"

If your child does not have wellies at nursery, can we ask that you provide a pair for the wet and muddy days. Do please ask if you would like to check the size of your child's wellies.



### STAR OF THE WEEK

Leo K



for being so kind and helpful!

Well done !

### Future Additional Sessions

If you are considering changing or increasing your child's sessions from April, or September, please discuss this with us as soon as possible to secure the sessions you require.

Thank you.



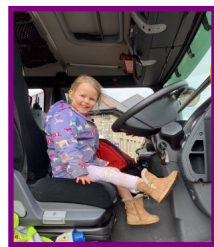


On Tuesday we were very lucky to see a real fire engine when firefighters came to school to teach Reception children about fire safety. We managed to talk to the fire fighters about their job and they showed us the fire engine. Some of us sat in the seats and tried on the helmets, - they were very heavy! We were even allowed to use the hose. The firefighters helped us control the water as we squirted it at a cone. It was great fun, even though we did get a little bit wet!



We have a large quantity of lost property. If you are missing anything, please pop in to have a look. We will aim to get the table set up outside, the weather has been against us this week! Any unclaimed items will be donated to the clothes bank within the next couple of weeks.

A reminder that World Book Day is next Thursday (7th March). Children are invited to come to nursery dressed as their favourite book character. It would be lovely for the children to bring a copy of their favourite book in to share with us too. Please do not send in any precious or special items. We cannot wait to see your costumes!



### Funding for 2 year olds:

Please note that the new funding for 2 year olds for eligible 'working' families will be available from 1st April 2024. A funding code is required from HMRC which can be obtained by 31st March 2024 to start receiving funding from 1st April 2024. The funding will start the term after the 2nd Birthday. Applications should be made at <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Two-year funding is still available for families who are entitled to additional government funding. A code is required from the Local Authority and parents can apply at <https://parent.bathnes.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/home>

### Spare Clothes

We are getting particularly low on spare clothes, especially trousers. If you have any to donate then we would be very grateful.

### Funding

Please remember to renew or apply for funding for the Summer Term, (from 1st April).

The deadline is 31st March 2024.  
[www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/](https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/)

### Nursery Closure Dates

Please note the following dates when the nursery will be closed:

Easter: Friday 29th March - Monday 8th April inclusive.  
Nursery will re-open on Tuesday 9th April.

Monday 6th May: Bank Holiday  
Monday 27th May: Bank Holiday

Summer Closure: 5th August - 16th August inclusive.  
Nursery will re-open on Monday 19th August.

26th August: Bank Holiday