Next Steps @ St Johns

Working together to build a firm foundation for learning and caring

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6th November 2026

This week at Nursery . . .

It has been an incredibly busy first week of our new term. Filled with lots of exciting activities and opportunities to learn.

Inspired by the time of year, we have explored activities based upon fireworks. The children have loved creating their own colourful paint prints. This was a perfect opportunity to use descriptive language to recall the noises that fireworks make. Some of our favourites included; 'bang!', 'fizz!', 'pop!', 'whoosh!' and 'boom!'.

We were also fascinated by a firework inspired science experiment. By mixing oil and water, and then adding drops of food colouring, we watched in amazement as the colours fell through the water. There was lots of excitement as we watched the colours 'explode' like fireworks in the sky.

We were very excited to enjoy our first Forest School session of the academic year. This week was all about becoming familiar with our woodland environment, and learning some important rules to help us stay safe while exploring.

We did ensure that we made time to enjoy another firework themed activity, by making our very own nature fireworks! We collected small leaves and placed them inside a cardboard tube, which had a balloon attached to the bottom. After a countdown, we stretched and released the balloon, sending the leaves flying out of the top like a firework! The children were really good at working together; gathering leaves, helping one another master the technique and taking turns.

STAR OF THE WEEK

Phoebe



Awarded for making us all laugh, growing strong friendships & being an amazing tidier.

Well done!

















As well as these exciting activities, we have also begun our new theme, 'Once Upon a Time'. Our first traditional tale has been The Three Billy Goats Gruff.

The children have loved listening to the story and finding out about the three goats, and the mean troll who learns the important lesson of sharing and being kind to others.

We have been busy bringing the story to life by retelling it with props. We have also used our mathematical skills to order the goats by size, and some of the children enjoyed the challenge of building a bridge for the goats to cross! They have been thinking carefully about how to make their bridges strong and sturdy enough to hold the biggest goat. Lots of problem-solving, creative thinking and perseverance have been taking place!





Home Learning Challenge

Attached to this letter is an optional home learning activity. If you do spend time completing it over the weekend, please add any photos and videos to Tapestry, we would love to share them with children back at nursery next week.

Home learning challenges will be offered throughout the year to further support and embed the themes of learning that are being focussed on at nursery.

Parent's Evening - Friday 13th November

We are looking forward to meeting with many of you to discuss your child's progress. If you have not yet booked, this can be done via the Arbor Parent Portal or please speak to your Keyworker to arrange.

INSET Day Wednesday 25th November

The school will be closed for an INSET day on Wednesday 25th November. The is not for nursery and we will be OPEN as usual. However, please note that as the school kitchen will be closed, please remember to provide a packed lunch for your child.

Dates for the Diary

Friday 13th November - Parent's Evening

Wednesday 25th November - The Nursery will be OPEN, however as the school kitchen will be closed for an INSET Day, please provide a packed lunch for your child.

Wednesday 23rd December - Friday 1st January:
The Nursery will be closed for the festive period and will re-open on 4th January.

Nursery Rhyme of the Week

The Wheels on the Bus



