



## St Clare's Abbey Nursery Newsletter April 2024



**Welcome to our very first St. Clare's Abbey Nursery newsletter! We are so excited to share our Nursery news with you. Please let us know what you think of our newsletter and whether there is anything else you would like us to include in it.**

**Many thanks,  
Mrs Gallagher, Mrs Dineen, Miss Aggie, Mrs Edita and Miss O'Hanlon**

### **Visitors to the Nursery in the Coming Weeks**



We will be having visitors to the Nursery to talk about their jobs and show the children many of the tools and equipment that they use. These visits will enrich the children's language, add to their role play and extend the children's knowledge of the world around them. Thank you so much to all of our visitors for so generously giving of their time.

- Fionn's Mummy will be visiting our afternoon class to talk about being a doctor.
- Michael-Patrick's Mummy will be visiting our morning class to talk about food preparation.

### **Some of the learning we will be exploring during this month (and the coming months):**

- Zipping up our coats independently.
- Pouring our own drinks.
- Buttering our own snacks.
- Piercing the milk carton with a straw, without help.
- Taking turns and sharing resources.
- Recognising numbers to 5.
- Counting objects by moving them.
- Beginning to represent numbers using fingers, marks on paper or pictures.
- Using scissors accurately and safely.
- Developing our pencil grip.
- Developing our cross-lateral skills.
- Beginning to form some letters.
- Writing our own name with help.
- Recognising the role of some people who work in the local community.
- Identifying mothers and their offspring by name.

### **Other News... OCN Accreditation in Outdoor Practice**

Mrs Gallagher and Mrs Dineen will be completing their second module in Outdoor Learning over the course of the next few months. They look forward to bringing back and implementing their new learning within the Nursery.

## Learning Bags

We have created a range of learning bags for **you and your child** to enjoy at home. We ask that you give at least 15 minutes of your undivided attention to your child during this “Special Play Time”, a phrase coined by Dr Carolyn Webster Stratton. Special Play Time has been proven to be invaluable for the building of your child’s self-esteem, play skills, concentration skills, joint attention skills, positive behaviour outcomes...the list is endless.

Please write a little comment in the notebook provided – whether your child enjoyed the activity, if anything was missing, suggestions for the future etc. We would also love to see some photos of you enjoying your learning bags at home. Feel free to send these in via Seesaw.

The return dates for the Learning Bags this month are as follows:

- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April
- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April

## Movement of the Month

### Cross-Lateral Movement

This month we are focusing on developing our cross-lateral movement. Cross-lateral movement is any motion that requires coordinating movement on both sides of the body. When the movement crosses from one side of the body to the other, it is called crossing the midline.

Cross-lateral movement creates connections from one side of the brain to the other, across that connecting highway, building the bridge between the two halves of the brain and creating the capacity for ever more complex sensory processing, complex movement and complex thinking to happen.

### Suggested Activities For Home:

- Crawling
- Walking
- Running
- Climbing
- Clambering
- Cycling
- Dancing



## Thought for the Month

*“No matter how old you get, may you always stop to fill your pockets with smooth stones, empty snail shells & other little treasures.”*

*Nicolette Sowder*