



Having fun...



The newsletter cover features an orange border decorated with white and blue handprints. The title "Lisbellaw Community Nursery Newsletter" is written in bold black text, with "October 2025" in large, stylized orange and yellow letters. A central illustration shows a group of diverse children holding hands in a circle. At the bottom, there is a decorative border of colorful autumn leaves in shades of yellow, orange, and red.

Theme for this month: **Our Wonderful Bodies**
Colours: **Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple**
Feeling: **Happy**

Some things we will be doing:

- Walking around the school grounds to observe the changing colours, gather leaves and other natural materials
- Painting and printing with various kinds of natural materials collected on your walks at home
- Doing lots of handprint art (and maybe even footprint!)
- Choosing which resources we want to use from the art trolley and being creative
- Learning about our bodies and how to look after them
- Talking about how we can use our head, eyes, ears, mouth, hands, feet to do good things and sometimes not so good things
- Learning our golden rules and taking them home to teach to our families
- Taking turns during table-top games
- Taking part in 'circle time'
- Taking a bus trip to Castle Coole, hopefully this month with our new shared education partner (see page 5)
- Gaining independence and making our own choices at various activities
- Using tweezers to sort small coloured items
- Learning to use scissors

If you need to come up to Nursery during the morning, for example if you are picking your child up early, please come inside the front door and ring the bell to get our attention. We are busy during the morning and will not necessarily see you standing outside, even if you have told us first! Thank you.

Action rhyme

There's a wide-eyed owl
Forefingers and thumbs around eyes
 With a pointed nose
Forefingers and thumb make a point
 He has pointed ears
Clenched hands, forefingers up for ears
 And claws for toes
Make hands into claws
 He sits in a tree
 And looks at you
Circles around eyes again
 Then he flaps his wings and says,
Hands to chest and flap elbows
 "Tu-whit, tu-who!"
Hands cup mouth to hoot.



Other action rhymes will include:

- Here we go round the mulberry bush
- Heads, shoulders, knees and toes
- One finger, one thumb keep moving
- Two little dicky birds
- The hokey cokey

Other songs to listen to

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZanHgPprl-0&list=RDZanHgPprl-0&start_radio=1

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ahpruY9eYM&list=RD3ahpruY9eYM&start_radio=1

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-lj3_oAap30

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-J7HcVLsCrY&list=RD-J7HcVLsCrY&start_radio=1

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1NXZnhLCzJo>

Action song (*Children twirl round and gently fall as they sing!*)

The leaves are falling down,
The leaves are falling down,
Orange, yellow, red and brown,
The leaves are falling down.

Rhyme

Way up high in the apple tree,
A little brown worm smiled at me.
I winked my eye, and what do you suppose?
A shiny red apple dropped on my nose!
Ouch!

The wiggle chant

I have a little wiggle
Deep inside of me.
I've tried to make it stop
But it just won't let me be!
So I'm just going to ...
Wiggle my arms, wiggle my toes,
Wiggle my bottom and wiggle my nose,
Wiggle my shoulders and wiggle my thighs,
Can anybody wiggle their eyes???
And now I think I've wiggled my fill
So I am ready to sit quite still! (Mrs Saunders is hoping this works!!)

Finger rhyme(*Raise fingers one by one*)

1 little leaf
2 little leaves
3 little leaves today
4 little leaves
5 little leaves
Whoo! Blow them all away!

(*Blow and close fingers up into fist*)**The listening song (Tune of Frère Jacques)**

Eyes are looking,
Ears are listening,
Lips are closed,
Hands are still.
Feet are very quiet,
You should really try it,
Listening well, listening well.

Rhyme-All of me

My hands are for clapping,
My arms can hug tight,
My fingers can snap
Or turn out the light.

My legs are for jumping,
My eyes let me see,
This is my body
And I love all of me!

How you can help us this month:

- Please encourage your child to notice the changing autumn colours when you are out and about, and to notice the conkers, acorns and beech nuts on the ground or on the trees when you are out for a walk. They may bring some brightly coloured leaves and a few conkers, acorns etc to nursery for our autumn activities.
- Please encourage your child to learn the songs/rhymes on the back of this newsletter.
- Now that we are in for the full morning session we hope to get a regular daily half an hour outdoors. Could you please ensure that your child has a coat in school every day.
- It would be really useful if you would please teach your child how to get their coat off with the sleeves the right way out, so that it is then easier to put on again. Thank you.
- Children should wear trainers and loose fitting trousers in order to be able to play safely on the climbing frame.
- Thank you for your punctuality with paying snack money.
- Thank you for adhering to the slightly staggered pick up times. After half-term parents will be able to collect their children from table-tops time on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Circle time

A very important part of our Nursery curriculum is 'circle time' where we split into three groups to discuss issues which help to build up the children's self image and self-esteem, and help them to learn to respect others. This has already been introduced as a whole group and will become established as a weekly (Wednesday) activity in October. A particular focus of our discussions this month will be how we can be kind. Our Golden Rules will be sent home this month. Please put them somewhere you can see them and regularly discuss them with your child. Thank you.





Dates for your diary:

- A reminder that the parent information evening will be held next Tuesday October 7th at 7.30 pm in the nursery. It will last no more than an hour. There will be a practical introduction to our curriculum, information about our 'Positive Behaviour' policy and our 'Big Bedtime Read' home-lending programme. A cup of tea will be served.
- You should have already received a parent-teacher meeting appointment for Wednesday 8th or Thursday 9th October. Only two parents requested a particular day so hopefully all times will suit. Please send your reply as soon as possible. Parents of children in their preschool year will receive some information prior to the meeting (by the end of this week Fri October 3rd). Please fill in the information requested and return it when you come for your meeting. Thank you.
- The school photographer will come to take individual and sibling photos of all children in nursery/primary school on the morning of Tuesday October 14th. A nursery class photo will probably be taken at a later date. I will let you know if and when it is confirmed. Please try to keep a clean sweatshirt for the photo
- We normally take our first trip by bus to Castle Coole in October, but I am waiting to see what is happening with the new shared education programme (see page 5) before I can commit to a date. I will let you know and send a permission slip as soon as we have the details.
- School will be closed for half-term for the week beginning Monday October 27th. School reopens on Monday November 3rd.
- Please keep the morning of Friday December 5th free as our Nativity play will take place in the school assembly hall at 10am. Additional family members may attend as well as parents as we have the space.

Big Bedtime read home-school lending programmes

In order to introduce our Big Bedtime Read programme, we are having a bedtime story night on Thursday October 23rd at 7pm. Children can come to Nursery in their pyjamas, bring a beanbag or something comfortable to sit in, and a cuddly bedtime toy if they wish. They will get toast and milk or water for supper and then we will have some stories. They will receive their first bookbags on that evening. In the past the children have been accompanied by an adult but they came on their own last year and were much easier to control! We are therefore going to continue with that this year so it'll let you off bedtime reading that evening!



Health Visitor Programme

As part of Stormont's Early Intervention Transformation Programme, your child's 3+ health review will be carried out at Nursery. The aim is that the health visitor co-ordinates with nursery staff to help improve outcomes for all children by identifying and addressing any health-related issues which may impact on their learning. Our usual health visitor is currently off work and so it is unclear at this point when the programme will take place this year. When I know the details I will let you know and then a health questionnaire will be distributed to all parents regarding your nursery child. Afterwards, any concerns will be followed up with your family health visitor. If you DO NOT consent to your child taking part in this programme, please let Mrs Saunders know by sending an email. Thank you.

Aspire PeacePlus shared education programme

We have been accepted onto the Aspire PeacePlus shared education programme this year and will receive funding to enable us to engage in some shared activities with St Ronan's nursery in Lisnaskea. This will enable children to make friends and mix with others outside of their immediate community and will help them develop respect for all. Mrs Saunders is attending an induction day this week and so we will know more about how we proceed after that.

PTA Coffee Morning—please keep the date free!

The PTA is holding a coffee morning in the primary school on Saturday November 29th to raise much-needed funds for school and nursery. As well as eating and drinking there will be a cake stall and some Christmas activities, in particular photographs with Santa. It will hardly come as a surprise to you that we will be asking for the help of parents in order to make this a successful event! More details will be provided nearer the time but I just wanted to give you advance notice so that we can get as much support as possible. In the meantime please spread the news and keep the date free. Thank you.

