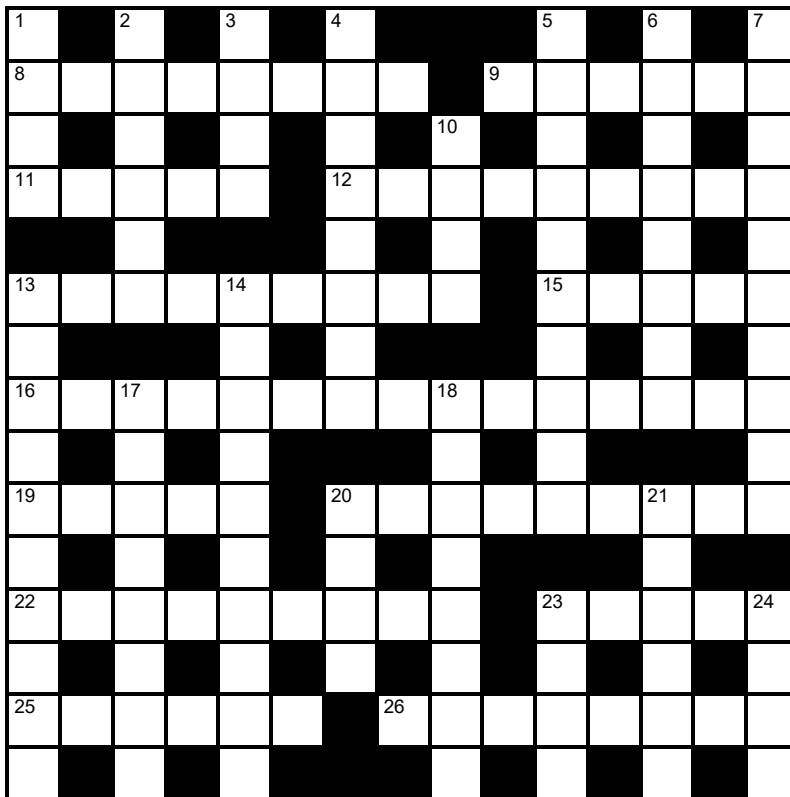


If delivered to us by 8 across or 24 down, the unclued entry at 16 across could be the title of a Nursery Rhyme. Eight of the letters in that unclued entry are given by the crossing down answers. The other seven are provided (in order) by an extra letter yielded by the Wordplay in each of the seven asterisked across clues. What is the (English) Nursery Rhyme?

**Across**

- 8** Read out one of these, then film policeman (8)
9 *Scrap area and derelict land (6)
11 *Child's bedtime in orderly homes (5)
12 Speculator right? With help behind the scenes (5,4)
13 Refrain from chat when mingling with crowd (9)
15 *Order back, feel unwell, returning virus (5)
16 See preamble...
19 *Infatuation about Sally's daughter (5)

- 20** Be in earth, out of it? (9)

- 22** *Smooth running of tribunal over college exams at first (9)

- 23** *Story about the Queen at some point in the future (5)

- 25** Youngster hides away from boozy dozens, spotted prowlers (6)

- 26** *Think of uniform over school dinner? (8)

Down

- 1** Have waterproof clothing taken up (4)

- 2** Blow me when shown by score? (6)

- 3** Employer's trick when cycling (4)

- 4** Official document shows power behind American Left (8)

- 5** Worker with grouse turns to take another look at online publication (10)

- 6** Partygoer complaint claims "a smear" (8)

- 7** Too bad about knight; rook, keep at the front (10)

- 10** Put down and face the other way (4)

- 13** Caught investing in firm, university register switched official (10)

- 14** Very hard curbing desire, hot unhelmeted motorcyclist one begs for ride (10)

- 17** Waterworks purple: excessive indulgence getting end away (8)

- 18** Protection for wet blanket (8)

- 20** Examine pump when temperature dropped (4)

- 21** Quick on the uptake when Mummy wants end to playtime (6)

- 23** Supplied temporarily, in particular Wednesday to Saturday (4)

- 24** Resisting cafe owner on knees regularly (4)