October 2026

The Yorkshire Montessori Nursery



Dear Parents,

We are definitely feeling a change in the weather but enjoying the Autumn season and particularly the colours it brings. We will continue to enjoy the outdoors as much as possible so please ensure your child has appropriate, named, clothing for them to be warm and dry. We know how much children enjoy wearing wellies but please add a pair of shoes to their bag as wellies all day are not recommended and can be a trip hazard indoors.

We have been focussing on independence and particularly self-care across the nursery, in particular putting on our own shoes, wellies and coats. The children are certainly developing their skills in this, and some can flip those coats at great speed!! This is so much help when we have a large group getting ready for the outdoors, and we have some of the older children helping others which is lovely to see. Hopefully you are seeing some increased independence at home?

Nursery Holidays/Closures

23.12.2026 – Nursery Closes at 6.00pm for Christmas

Reopen – 4th January 2027

Staff Training Day 2027 –

25th March

31st August

Our Pre school Nativity will take place on 16th December – further details to follow.

Christmas Fayre – 9.30 – 12.00

Please come and join us at our Christmas Fayre on **Saturday 5th December**. There will be lots of fun, festive activities to enjoy across the nursery, delicious refreshments and of course a festive tombola!! If you have any prize to donate, we would be very grateful!!Hope to see you there.

Staff News



Hi, I'm Rachel and I have joined the team here at Fulford Montessori. I have 2 teenage sons and what my family call a 'mini farm' where I keep bees, chickens, and am trying to grow veg! I also have a cat and a dog. I have worked in primary schools and early years settings, and I have a Level 4 in Education, SEN and Mental Health.
I can't wait to meet everyone!

Safeguarding

Ellie and I are the Designated Safeguarding Leads at the nursery, please come and talk to us if you have any worries or concerns, we may be able to help with.

From watching smart TVs to seeing family members using devices, many children aged 5 and under are already experiencing screen time in some way. Click on the link below for a guide to help your child develop good screen time habits that support them as they grow.

https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/screen-time-tips-to-support-0-5-year-olds/

Funding for Childcare…

If your child will be eligible for funding for the first time in January it is important that you visit the Best Start in Life website to check your eligibility - you can use the link: - **beststartinlife.gov.uk**

If your child attends another setting or childminder in addition to our nursery, please let us know and fill in their details on the Parent Declaration form you will be asked to complete.

If you have any questions, please pop into nursery or e mail either

fulford@yorkshiremontessorinursery.co.uk

Or Allison at Head Office on

headoffice@yorkshiremontessorinursery.co.uk

Everyone needs to revalidate their eligibility every three months to ensure funding continues

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Babies – during October we have been busy exploring different textures and enjoying sensory activities. This has included mark making with cars, our fingers and various paint brushes in shaving foam, paint and oats. We used bubble wrap and paint to explore the texture with all parts of our body by walking and crawling over it. To help develop our physical development, we have also been using the tunnel and soft play as well as the baby gym, climbing up and down the stairs confidently. On our walks we have been collecting leaves and sticks to use in our art and exploration trays. Leading up to Halloween we explored pumpkins, painting them, washing the paint off and reading books all about them including 'Peekaboo Pumpkin'.







Toddlers – Under 2's – this month we have been exploring Autumn activities. We have been on lots of Autumn walks, looking at the changing of the seasons, and the environment outdoors. We have enjoyed lots of sensory activities such as exploration of leaves, twigs and conkers which we have also collected on our walks. We extended this exploration to creative activities, rolling the conkers in paint, watching closely the marks they made as the children moved their trays up and down. We talked about the trees and the leaves changing colour and falling from the branches. The children made their own interpretations of tree pictures, as well as printing with apples to create pumpkin pictures. The children baked some delicious tree biscuits, listening carefully and following instructions.

Whilst in the garden we have been using the available resources to create a balancing beam to practice our gross motor skills, extending this further by using the Pikler indoors and the tunnel. We have also enjoyed solving difficult jigsaws, threading, colour matching and using a variety of construction equipment to build with.







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Toddlers – Over 2's – we had a very busy October in Toddlers! We have done lots of autumnal and Halloween themed activities, including practicing our pouring and transferring skills. Their favourite by far was using hammers to hit pegs into pumpkins, which the children went to the shop and bought! We have been lucky enough to find lots of spiders in and around the nursery recently which has sparked lovely conversations about seasonal creatures and the counting of legs! We have been working on consolidating our knowledge of prepositions (in, on, under, next to), playing games and activities to see them used in practice. The children helped to make oaty biscuits for tea and shared them with everyone at nursery. We have been working hard on our self-serving skills at mealtimes, using tongs and spoons to put food on our own plates. Alongside baking for the whole nursery, we have been preparing snack for our room, using knives very carefully to chop bananas







Pre School – the children have loved exploring all things outdoors this month and making observations about the changes in the weather. There has been a lot of play and talk around the fallen leaves, rain, wind and chilly weather. The children have been making big piles with the leaves when visiting the yard, working well together. They also enjoyed adding washing up liquid to puddles to help with sweeping! They have been bringing in their favourite books to read (please keep bringing books in!) but Room on the Broom has been a focus for them this month. The children were inspired by the story to make their own potion using leaves and sticks they collected on their outings. They decorated their very own witches' hats and even made some edible ones which they enjoyed for snack! Pre school visited Aldi and chose different pumpkins to bring back and use for decoration or play. The children have rolled, painted, washed and finally cut the pumpkins open to explore their flesh. We have looked at all the different kinds of squashes and saved the seeds to make bird feeders out of.







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Home Learning

Montessori fosters independence by giving children the tools, environment, and freedom to do things themselves under the guiding principle, 'Help me to do it myself'.

One of the core areas of independence is Care of Self

Dressing and undressing: Putting on shoes, coats, and sleeves; using low-mounted hooks and accessible drawers and shelves.

Hygiene: Washing hands at low sinks, brushing teeth, and managing toileting use when developmentally ready.

Eating and drinking: Pouring water from a small jug into a glass, using cutlery, using child-safe knives to slice soft foods (like bananas), and self-serving food using spoons and tongs.

We encourage all our children - even the babies – to do as much as they can for themselves and support them to develop their self-care skills. One of the things we do is the Montessori Coat Flip – this short video shows how the children can put their own coat on.

The Montessori Coat Flip

Please let us know what the children do for themselves at home – the children love to share their Tapestry photos with their friends and are rightly proud of developing a new skill.

Illness

We ask that you **please respect** our policy to reduce illness spreading and keep children out of nursery for 48 hrs after their last bout of sickness or diarrhoea. This is to help prevent everyone else catching it, including staff who offer the continual care valued by your child.
If antibiotics are being used, we kindly as that you keep your child away from nursery for the first 48 hours following initial medication.

You can contact us at the nursery on

fulford@yorkshiremontessorinursery.co.uk

Allison at Head Office on

headoffice@yorkshiremontessorinursery.co.uk

Invoices and payments

Could you please ensure that all new Government Tax Free Childcare, Tax Free Childcare Payments, Vouchers and Bank Payments are made by the **1st of the month**, in line with our terms and conditions.

If you are changing the way you pay, e.g. With the Tax-Free Childcare payments, please let our accounts team know as soon as possible, or by 15th of the month on headoffice@yorkshiremontessorinursery.co.uk so we can locate your new payments quickly and easily. Thank you for your help.

Notice re payments after the 1st: Some payments have been increasingly irregular, such as Tax-Free Childcare, bank payments and voucher payments. Please check your account and payments, as you may need to specify the payment date for the 1st of a month.

A 'late payment charge' of £100.00 will be made where fees continue to be late.

Instagram, Facebook and Twitter

If you'd like to follow us on Instagram and facebook, we keep you up to date with lots of activities here and any other interests too. We are Yorkshire Montessori Nursery on Instagram, and on facebook at @yorksmontessori

Best wishes Rachael