

NEWSLETTER from the NURSERY

September 2021

"The child, making use of all that he finds around him, shapes himself for the future."

Dr Maria Montessori



Welcome to September's newsletter. I hope you enjoy reading about all the different activities and other things that have been happening in the nursery this month.

Verity is on leave at the moment, so it will be me, Amy, who is taking care of any requests or requirements. I look forward to catching up with you!

We'd also like to introduce you to some people you'll be seeing in nursery this term and where they'll be in terms of rooms.

Neil Collins, Deputy Manager of our Fulford nursery who has been with the company for many years, Neil is a Montessori Teacher and is here to support our work and changes to the rooms. Come and have a look. He'd love to tell you about it and share his passion for Montessori. The children are enjoying his time with them immensely. We're reflecting on our ethos and the cohort of children we have, whilst making some

positive changes to the environment inside and out. We hope you like it!

D'Arcy Brooks is the Deputy Manager from our Moortown nursery and she's working with me in Toddlers as we lead some developments there and settle in our new staff to our practice and to you, our families. Please stop and say 'hello' and have a chat if you can.



We have a few new team members joining us this month and each room will be very happy to introduce them to you. They'll also come and say 'hello' and talk about the day they've had. They bring passion, music, experiences and knowledge with them, so welcome to them all.

'Stay and plays'

Our team is excited to welcome you all to our Halloween Stay and Play sessions this month, where we can bring together our teams, new and old, with our families.

- **Babies 26/10 at 4:15-5:30pm**
- **Toddlers 27/10 4:15-5:30pm**
- **Preschool 28/10 4:15-5:30pm**

At our preschool event, we'll be there to answer all your Montessori questions and give you a chance to explore the rooms and have a go at some activities your children have been enjoying.

All children are welcome and can dress up if they would like – you can too if that

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suits you! We look forward to seeing you all for some spooky fun!

Dates for October

These are the festivals we will be looking at this month:

12th National Day of Spain

15th Dussehra

31st Halloween

Montessori at Home

We'd like to give you a bit of insight into our Montessori practice. In a separate email we'll be sending out Helen Gratton's heartfelt and informed ethos for our nurseries, explaining how that works for the children and our rooms here. We hope you find it interesting and see why we are so passionate about how we guide children and how they learn and develop.

Dr Maria Montessori outlined various 'sensitive periods' for children, periods of time when their brain development was honing in on particular areas.

One of these is '**Expressive Language**': the use of words to communicate where we see a progression from babbling, to words, to phrases, to sentences, with a continuously expanding vocabulary and comprehension. Here at nursery we provide for different experiences, resources and conversations to enable an effective growing vocabulary. We talk a lot, we read and we sing, all to extend this communication. This month, we're also asking you to practice 'listening'. It's the other side of conversation and it's a really important tool for social skills, being courteous, developing friendships and developing knowledge of course. Exaggerate your expression, turn your

head, pay lots of attention to what you're being told. Remember that your little one will need longer to think about a question, or about what he/she has just seen or heard, before giving a response, so be ready to pause and wait. But learning conversation cues like listening really helps a development of communication.

Tell us all about it: new words, new experiences, new conversation and post us something on Tapestry. We love to see what you're doing at home! Thank you.

Here's a round-up around the rooms for the past month:

Explorers

This month explorers have been focusing on their motor skills, through manipulation of their senses. We have had lots of messy play activities with shaving foam, paint, water and leaves which has encouraged the babies to use their hands to manipulate different materials. We have also used the garden and been on lots of walks in the past weeks to explore the change in season. The babies have been very interested in the new sounds they can discover and our conversations about the changing colours and weather patterns.

Inventors

The Inventors have been looking at classic fairy tales this month. Each week we looked at a different story and focused some activities around them. The children's favourite was '**Jack and the Beanstalk**'. They all really enjoyed exploring different textures, tastes and smells when exploring different types of beans. The changes for Autumn have been big on 'sparks' of interest especially on walks and our time out in the forest garden! We've also had some children settling in from the baby room and the

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toddlers have been very friendly and welcoming to their new friends. Thank you to them all. We've said goodbye to some of our older toddlers as they have now moved up into the pre-school room. We will still see lots of them as we play together outside!

Pioneers

Preschool have been focusing on the wellbeing of ourselves and the wellbeing of the world. We have been learning about the body through exercise. We had a visit from a dentist who talked to the children about the importance of oral health too. This is an area which has received new focus in the reforms of the EYFS, our statutory framework. So, we are all enjoying some healthy conversations about teeth!

Can you send on Tapestry photos of your little one brushing their teeth at home? We'd love to create a gallery of shining molars. Thank you!

The children have been practicing taking care of pets in our vet role play too and we've also learnt about reusing and recycling. Thank you to our parents who parents and children who contributed to our junk modelling creations. They were awesome!

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. Thank you.

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@yorkshiremontessorinunrury.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 £75.00 will be made where fees continue to be late. Our thanks again for your help.

Safeguarding Lead and Deputy

In Verity's absence, Amy Smith is the Designated Safeguarding Lead for the nursery. Neil Collins is also a Designated Safeguarding Lead. Should you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact Amy or Neil. You can also phone Leeds 'Front Door' on 0113 222 4403 or for out of hours phone 0113 535 0600.

Nursery Holidays for 2021

23rd December – Close for Christmas at 6pm

4 January – Re-open from 7.30am

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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 ask that you keep your child away from nursery for the first 48 hours following initial medication.

monthead@

yorkshiremontessorinursery.co.uk

Twitter/Facebook

Follow us on social media!
We're very excited about our new look Instagram account with its updates and news, and comments on these fantastic early years with some useful connections too.

Facebook continues to give you all our daily news and information. Twitter will always provide links to newsletters and Helen Gratton's blogs. Enjoy!

Thank you very much

Amy Smith

Deputy Manager

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