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What a busy month September has been!! We really enjoyed welcoming you all back inside to play!! The feedback has been really positive, the children LOVED showing their parents around.

Please can we make sure all the children have appropriate clothing for the change in weather...although at the moment this could range from sun cream to a winter coat!!

Dentist Visit:

The **Early Years Foundation Stage** (EYFS, 2021) has been updated to include the requirement: 'The provider must promote the good health, including the oral health, of children attending the setting.' This has been included because good **oral health** habits need to be formed from the earliest age. We have the exciting opportunity to visit a dental practice in November. The aim of the visits would be to help introduce the dentist in an unintrusive manner. The children will be able to sit in the chair and talk with the dentist. I would like to stress that this NOT a check-up-it would be for educational purposes only. There will be more details regarding this experience to follow.

Staff news

This month we have said goodbye to Emily from the baby room as she moves to Redcar to be closer to family in her new house! She will be dearly missed.

This month we have welcomed Amy to the Preschool team. The preschool team is made up of Laura, Amy, Karen, Nikki and Bethany.



Meet Beckie!



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Beckie is our Deputy Manager and Qualified Forest School Leader. She will be working across all three rooms to provide all the children with opportunities to explore nature. If you would like to hear more about the benefits and opportunities that arise with Forest School, please speak to Beckie.



Forest School

We are looking forward to restarting our Forest school sessions with you from the beginning of October. We will be using the church grounds opposite the nursery to begin our Forest School sessions and will be sharing some regular updates about their sessions with you. Please look out on Tapestry for an update on when your child will be taking part in the sessions.

Toddlers:

This month in toddlers we have been learning a lot about cheetahs because all of the children have been going to visit the zoo. We have been baking, making hot air balloons and practicing our cutting skills. We have also been celebrating many 2-year-old's birthdays. Some toddlers have been painting their nails at home with parents so they have been creating their own pictures of outlines of their hands and then painting their fingertips. There have been lots of toddlers interested in potty training and doing really well with that at nursery.

NEWS FROM OUR ROOMS

Babies

This month the babies we have shown a great interest in rice sensory trays, with spoons and bowls. This encourages spoon control and fine motor skills, resulting in helping the babies to be independent at mealtimes. The babies had a trip to the library, where we got to read lots of new books. On our way to and from the library we got to see lots of wildlife and vehicles which we spoke about as we walked along.

Home learning:

For home learning this month we would like to encourage communication and language. When reading your toddler's favourite stories, ask them a variety of questions about the story you are reading.

Home Learning:

What items can you find at home to encourage spoon control? You could use a variety of things such as dry pasta or rice.



Pre-school

Pre-School children have been busy talking about road safety. We went on a walk to the park to put this into practice. We noticed that it was much cooler than it had been! Discussions then began about temperature and seasonal changes. We

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have also been learning all about forms and have explored the life cycle of a chicken, where we discovered that the chicken keeps the eggs warm. Some fascinating conversations were had! The children have been interested in shadows also, and how they are made. We looked at books that contain shadows such as the *Gruffalo's* child and made our own shadows with torches.

Home Learning:

Meal of the month:

Cheese Muffins

Preheat your oven to **190C** and line a muffin tray with paper cases.

Measure **250g of SR flour** and **1 tsp baking powder** and add them to a mixing bowl.

Grate **200g of cheese** and add it to your mixing bowl and mix it all together. Set it aside for now.

Add **1 egg, 175ml milk** and **75g melted butter** to a separate mixing bowl. Gently whisk it so it is well mixed.

Tip the dry ingredients into your mixing bowl with the wet ingredients.

Gently mix it all together with wooden spoons until it is all just combined. Don't over mix it – it will be a little lumpy. Just mix it until you can't see any flour.

Divide the cheese muffin mixture among the cases.

Bake the muffins for **18-20 minutes**.

They're ready when they have risen and turned a nice golden-brown colour.

Remove them from the oven and leave them cool in the muffin tin.

At home, you could go for an autumn walk and see what you can find, you could even bring your findings into the nursery or share your findings with us on Tapestry!



Online Safety:

Please find attached a link to 'Net Aware'. It is a website created by the NSPCC which allows you to have a look at the Apps some children might be using online and seeing how safe they are. <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

I have also attached a link to 'Internet Matters'. Here you can find advice from 0-5 right through to teenagers-for some of you this might be useful.

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/0-5/#new>

Reminders:

As we are trying to ensure the children have as much fresh air and outdoor play as possible please can you pack the following in their bags:

1. Warm hat/Sun hat
2. Change of clothes x2
3. Waterproofs
4. Wellies

We want to minimise any cross over between children so would prefer each child to have their own wherever possible, which therefore minimises the risk of any sharing of clothing etc.

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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@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 £75.00 will be made where fees continue to be late.

Nursery Dates for October:

Stay and play- Thurs 21st Babies

Stay and play- Mon 25th Toddlers

Stay and play- Tues 26th Preschool

Keep an eye out of Tapestry for more information regarding the stay and plays.

Important Information:

Every organisation that works with children needs to have someone that takes the lead on safeguarding and child protection. For Yorkshire Montessori Nursery, it is the nursery manager and deputy. We refer to them as a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). The DSL responds to child protection concerns and oversees the training of all our staff in safeguarding matters. At Strensall the Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

- **Becca Caselton**
- **Beckie MacGregor**

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!

Becca 😊