

August 2024



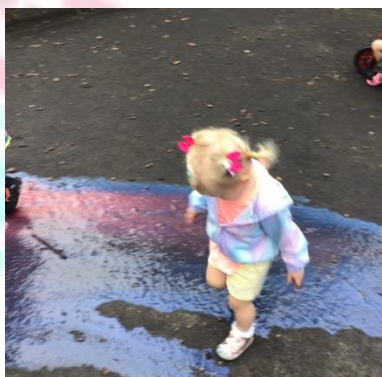
The Yorkshire
**Montessori
Nursery**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have thoroughly enjoyed seeing pictures of you off on your holidays this summer so thank you for sharing!

We hope to still be able to enjoy some nice weather into September, however please do start thinking about appropriate clothing for lower temperatures and rainy days, as we will continue to spend plenty of time outdoors in Autumn.

We have now said 'Farewell' to our older children who are leaving us for Reception class. We wish them the best of luck in their new settings and can't wait to see those 'first day of school' photos!



Baby Room

The baby room have welcomed some new starters this month, with more new friends joining us in the next couple of weeks!

With new starters comes a little movement throughout the building. As we move back into our baby room environment, some of the older ones will begin their natural transition to the Toddler room.

This month the babies have done lots of learning alongside their toddler friends including planting & gardening, sensory play, plenty of outdoor play and learning all about themselves.

August 2024



Toddler Room

The toddlers (and babies) have explored the sun, moon and stars, and learnt that we live on planet Earth. They learnt a planet song to teach the names of other planets, and used balloons to make their own planets.

In their gardening topic, they planted sunflowers and grass seeds. They have been taking care of some different herb plants and talking about the needs of plants and the responsibility of caring for living things.

The focus on stories has introduced different themes, such as discussing emotions with the Colour Monster, or looking at size and order with Goldilocks.

In their 'All About Me' topic, the children thought about what makes them unique, about their families and enjoyed creating self portraits using various materials.

Preschool

In preschool, the children have had a very crafty and creative month. They have been learning about different artists, from Van Gogh to Salvador Dali and more. With this topic, the children have learnt to use a range of resources and techniques to create art including painting, collage, sculpture and portraiture. They have created some truly wonderful and unique pieces of work using their learnt skills.

We have had a big focus on physical development this month and made use of the lovely weather to get active outdoors. We have had activities related to the Olympics as well as balancing, football, throwing and catching, races and obstacle courses.

The preschool children have had a big spark on mathematics activities lately, so they have also been extending their knowledge of measurement by working on estimation using non-standard units of measurement. The shop roleplay also sparked an interest in the concept of money and the value of coins. The children also enjoyed learning about prepositions using manipulatives including on top, under, next to, inside.

August 2024

Shared learning:

Personal, Social and Emotional Development - Supporting Transitions

During the early years, children are exposed to quite a number of big transition periods. From the first time they leave their parents to the last day of nursery, and more in between, these can be difficult times for young children and we can see emotions being expressed through behaviour. There are ways that both parents and practitioners can support children through these difficult periods.

- **Communicating**

Parents and practitioners can communicate changes effectively and clearly to children. This can help alleviate anxiety and build trust.

- **Establishing routines**

Following regular routines can help children anticipate what will happen next in their day, which can make transitions smoother.

- **Building relationships**

Strong relationships between parents and practitioners can lay the foundation for positive transitions.

- **Encouraging independence**

Encouraging children to develop self-help skills, such as putting on their own coats, can help them prepare for new experiences.

- **Discussing emotions**

It's okay and healthy to feel unsettled when there's a change. Parents and children can discuss any stress they are feeling about the transition.

- **Reassuring children**

Reassuring children that they will still have important people and things in their lives can help them prepare for new experiences.

Continued

Alongside these methods, we encourage parents to utilise the opportunity to talk to us during key transition periods. Parents and carers are always welcome to arrange to meet with staff to discuss their child's progress and address any concerns.

When settling a child into the setting, into a new room, or when they are ready to move on from us, your child's Key Worker will write checkpoint reports to make you aware of their development and next steps. We always welcome parents' voice on these reports, so please feel free to add comments as you wish!

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 hrs following initial medication.

Childcare Funding

The current offer

Eligible working parents of 2-year-olds can also access 15 hours of childcare support. Eligible working parents and carers of children aged 3 - 4 can get an additional 15 hours of childcare support, bringing the total support they can get up to 30 hours a week. This is stretched across the year.

The expanded offer

From September 2024, 15 hours childcare support is due to be extended to eligible working parents of children from the age of 9 months to 3-year-olds.

If you currently have 30 hours funding, you need to revalidate your current code with HMRC to continue to get the funding from September.

You can check your eligibility via Childcare Choices at:

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

August 2024

Crispy Baked Chicken

Ingredients:

4 x Chicken Breasts
2 x Large Eggs
100g Plain Flour
90g Cornflakes

1 tsp Smoked Paprika
1 tsp Cayenne Pepper
1 tsp Garlic Granules
½ tsp Cracked Black Pepper
Pinch Salt



Method:

1. Prep your baking tray with greaseproof paper and set aside.
2. Whisk the eggs in a bowl, and in a separate bowl decant your flour and a pinch of salt.
3. For the crumb, gently crush the cornflakes with your hands. We still want some big, crispy pieces so don't worry too much about crushing them all into a powder.
4. To your crushed Cornflakes; add the Smoked Paprika, Cayenne Pepper, Garlic Granules, Cracked Black Pepper and a dash of salt. Mix together well.
5. Take your first chicken breast and roll it in the flour, then submerge it into the whisked egg; you may need to turn it in the egg a few times to get it fully covered. Move over to the cornflake crumb and toss the chicken in it a few times, ensuring it is completely covered. Transfer to your baking tray.
6. Repeat this process with the remaining chicken breasts.
7. For best results, pop into the oven on high/200 degrees for ten minutes, then turn down to medium/180 degrees for a further 7 minutes.
 - Alternatively, they can be popped into the air fryer with a spray of low-fat oil for 15 minutes on 180 degrees.

Times may vary dependant on size of chicken breast – please check with a knife or a thermometer before serving.

Serving Suggestion; Serve with spicy rice and coleslaw, or mashed potatoes and tender stem broccoli.

Enjoy 😊

August 2024

Facebook

If you'd like to follow us on Facebook, we'll keep you up to date with lots of activities here and other related interests too. Search for Yorkshire Montessori Nursery. Photos follow our strict guidelines, and we never identify a child by name or photo.

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, 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.

Extra Sessions

Please can we ask that if you require any extra sessions for your child or need to make a change to your permanent sessions, these must be confirmed by someone in the office. We ask for 1 months' notice to any change in permanent sessions to allow for payments to be amended.

Nursery Holidays/Closures

23.12.24 – Nursery Closes for the Christmas Break
Reopen – 2nd January 2025

Imogen Hardy: Nursery Manager

Sara Counce: Deputy Manager

headingley@yorkshiremontessorinursery.co.uk

Dates for your diary

6th September – National Read a Book Day

7th September – Ganesh Chaturti

13th September – Roald Dahl Day

15th September – World Afro Day

18th September – National Fitness Day

22nd September – Autumn Equinox 

26th September – European Day of Languages

Safeguarding

The designated safeguarding leads for our setting are **Imogen Hardy** and **Sara Counce**.

Two thirds of the child car seats checked by Good Egg Safety in the UK are found to be fitted incorrectly. Properly fitted car seats help prevent children from being thrown about inside vehicles in a collision or ejected if there's a crash.

This summer, as part of Vision Zero, our aim to eliminate road death and serious injury by 2040, the West Yorkshire Vision Zero Partnership are providing **free** child car seat checking events in conjunction with Good Egg Safety. Details of the Leeds events are on [Get your child car seat checked for free | Leeds for Learning](#)