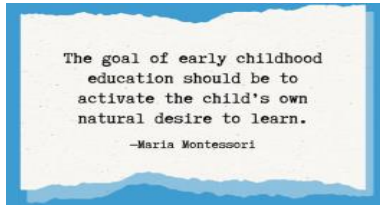


August 2024



Dear Parents,

Welcome to our August Newsletter!
We have had a lovely mixture of weather, needing wellies one day and sun hats the next. In fact - some days we have needed wellies in the morning and sun hats in the afternoon!

We have enjoyed going out on our walks and the children have particularly enjoyed going to the park. A lovely, whole nursery picnic in the church field was enjoyed by all. We took blankets, activities and our tasty tea and spend a lovely afternoon exploring under the trees.

Following July's annual preschool graduation ceremony, August has seen us, with a mixture of sadness and pride, saying goodbye to our leavers as they spread their wings and move on to new adventures. It has been a pleasure to have a part in their story and wish them all well in their next steps. They are all truly amazing!

As usual at this time of year we are welcoming a number of new families in all of the rooms your children may well be introducing you to their new friends.

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.

Funding for Childcare...

A brief summary of the new funding is below.

*From **April 2024**, eligible working parents of 2-year-olds will be able to access 15 hours childcare support.

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

*From **September 2025**, eligible working parents of children under the age of 5 will be entitled to 30 hours of childcare a week.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU REVALIDATE YOUR FUNDING CODES TO ENSURE THAT THEY ARE VALID FOR SEPTEMBER

Staff Updates

This month we have a couple of staffing updates.

Dawn has been started as our evening housekeeper and is very, very welcome!

Maisy has started working with us for a couple of days a week over the holidays and will then move to full time from September. Maisy will be an apprentice Early Years Practitioner and her main base will be Toddlers.

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We would like to congratulate Beth, who is expecting a baby in January. I will keep you updated about when Beth will be on Maternity leave.

Also!

We have 2 staff progressions in the nursery from August 1st -
Bethany who will become Assistant Room Supervisor (temp) in Preschool
Eleanor who will become Assistant Room Supervisor in Babies
Well done to both!

Nursery News

Babies

We have continued to build the confidence of the babies in the garden, particularly early in the mornings when the temperature and shade is good.

Tactile 'messy' activities have continued to be a focus to encourage different tastes, smells and texture. The babies enjoy this and often climb into the activity trays to fully immerse themselves in the experience!



We have had lots of 'Summer' themed activities, talking about colours, making ice creams, exploring sea creatures and making the most of the warm weather with lots of water play.



Babies have been joining toddlers and preschool on some of their walks and enjoyed the picnic.



Many of the children are developing their language skills really well and are repeating words, animal sounds and parts of songs. It is lovely to hear!

Home Learning

Many of the children are enjoying climbing at the moment. Any activity which enables them to practice their climbing and gain confidence is great. Working together in finding safe climbing solutions such as on soft furnishings, will enable this area of development.

Toddlers

August has seen lots of themes and focus' for Toddlers who have been trying to use both inside and outside the nursery to create exciting opportunities to support the children's learning.



We have been out on many walks and 'snack' picnics and return to nursery very animated and keen to discuss their adventures.

We have been looking at their families and the children still love telling us about the family members in the photos. It is not an option to walk past the board without being shown who's who! Thank you for all the photos, we couldn't have made the family trees without your help!



Quite a few of the toddlers have been to the seaside which has led to activities around the beach – sand and sea. We have made sand pictures, beach trays, fishing, sea creatures, sand trays and making ice creams!



Home Learning

If you are visiting the beach, ask your child to collect (a small number!) of pebbles or shells. They can sort them into size order and tell you about which one is bigger, smaller or the same as well as which is their favourite and why.

It would be lovely then to bring them to nursery, or add a photo to tapestry so that we can continue the discussions

Pre school

This month in pre school we have been exploring ponds.

We counted frogs and explored habitats and life cycles.

We have done some super listening with Mrs Browning's box, exploring different sounds that objects make

We Learned a little about Canada as one of the children let to live there. We made Canadian flags, created some bunting to display in the room and talked about where their friend was going to live.



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We talked about and explored different parts of the plants and flowers whilst planting to brighten

up the front of the nursery. We have also practiced our still life drawing – including some beautiful flowers brought in by some of the children.



We have practiced our balancing and team working skills by building our own obstacle course. We worked together to plan and build the adventure!



The British summer has allowed us to experience different weather conditions in June and July. We have made the most of the rain by creating a chocolate factory with some puddles in the garden and also explored animals in the ice to cool ourselves down!

Home Learning

As we have been exploring numbers, can you go number spotting in your environment?

Where can you find numbers? Send us some photos on Tapestry!

Safeguarding

Karen, Tina and Sharon are the Designated Safeguarding Leads at the nursery, if you have any worries, concerns or need help and support please come and talk to us.

If your child has had a bump or fall etc at home, please remember to pass this on to staff so that we are aware.

Just a reminder.... Please do not have your phones out in any area of the nursery. This is part of our safeguarding policy and it would be really helpful if you could complete any call before coming in to collect your child. Thank you 😊

Illness

We ask, in line with our policies, that any child who has sickness or diarrhoea does not attend nursery for a clear 48 hrs after their last 'episode'.

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 dose.

Please remember to let us know if your child has had Calpol at home when you drop them off. Thank you.

Immunisations

As you will be aware there is some national concern around the increase in infectious diseases such as measles. As a part of this we will be updating our immunisation records by re completing the immunisation forms that were initially completed when your child came to the nursery.

If you would like to find out more about immunisations and the current concerns, there are QR code links in the nursery entrances.

Sun Cream

We are ever hopeful that we will see the sunshine! As you will be aware, we do provide suncream for your children at the nursery. As we have a number of children and staff with allergies, some very severe, these have been selected to ensure that they include no products to create a reaction in most people. If your child is unable to use these products, please speak to a member of staff as you are welcome to bring your own suncream but we would need to ensure that its ingredients do not create a risk for any children or staff.

Thank you.

Nursery Holidays/Closures

23.12.2024 – Nursery Closes for the Christmas Break

Reopen – 2nd January 2025

You can contact us at the nursery on strensall@yorkshiremontessorinursery.co.uk and

Allison at Head Office on headoffice@yorkshiremontessorinursery.co.uk

Best wishes,
Karen