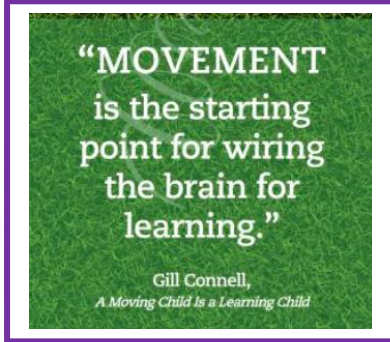


August 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a very busy summer at the nursery as you will see and enjoyed a wide range of activities, trips and events.

We have said 'goodbye' to nearly all our school leavers now and are so proud of them, they are ready for the move to school. We would love to see a picture of them on their first day! Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Graduation, it was lovely to see so many of you.

Also, the Summer Fayre was a great event with lots of stalls and activities for everyone to enjoy. Again, thank you to all who attended - we raised £400, which will be shared between the Meanwood Olympics and St Gemma's Hospice.

As we move into Autumn we hope to be able to still spend lots of time outside so please ensure your child has suitable clothing for all weathers.

We will be celebrating all things Art in September. The children will be exploring various artists, different techniques and resources. We would like to invite you to an Arty Stay and Play event at the nursery on Tuesday 30th September.

Update from Department for Education

The new Best Start in Life brand identity has launched, bringing together cross-government and cross-sector services supporting children and families from pregnancy through primary school.

A new website beststartinlife.gov.uk goes live on 1st September, replacing Childcare Choices. Visitors to the current Childcare Choices website will be automatically diverted to the new website.



Baby Room

We have welcomed several new children to nursery in recent weeks. They are settling in well and getting to know their new friends and exploring their new environment and resources. We have spent a lot of time outside and the children know the routine of - suncream, hats and shoes before we leave the room

We have enjoyed time in the garden, the local library and Little Leeds Café. The children really enjoy these visits, exploring different environments, experiencing different sights and sounds and learning new vocabulary. A big spark has been colours, the children have been naming colours, matching items of the same colour - the yellow activities and resources were particularly enjoyed. We will carry this on into next month.

The children have continued to develop their motor skills and hand/eye co-ordination by scooping, pouring and spooning various items from one container to another. From these activities the children are developing the skills they need to feed themselves, which we are seeing at mealtimes.

We celebrated International Orangutan Day with themed activities which the children really enjoyed along with singing songs and finding monkeys in books.



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Toddler Room

A big spark this month has been caring for babies. We have a lot of new arrivals amongst our families, and we have been supporting the children with their experiences. They have loved bathing and dressing our babies and showed such care. They worked really hard with the clothes fastenings and Velcro on the nappies. I am sure they will be very helpful at home!! Please upload any pictures to Tapestry so we can chat to the children about their new siblings.

We have also been talking about emotions with the children and how they and their friends may be feeling. We linked this with The Colour Monster book and the children made their own colour monster and had a great time choosing what colours theirs was going to be. This led on to discussions about being kind to our friends and using kind hands. The children enjoyed making friendship bracelets for their friends.

The children are enjoying the freedom of choosing activities from our Montessori shelves and are developing great skills using various utensils to transfer different objects. The children have also been developing their gross motor skills, enjoying time outside. They practiced their yoga poses in the garden and are showing great balance and recall from previous sessions. They have also enjoyed time at Forest School exploring the tent, hut and tree and were particularly interested in the feeling of the bark. They used natural materials they found to create works of art.

Shape and colour is a big interest at the moment and we will continue with this spark throughout September.

Preschool

What a busy and emotional month it's been upstairs! We want to start by saying a huge 'Congratulations and a fond farewell' to all our wonderful "big kids" who have now made the exciting leap into school. It was so special to celebrate their time with us during the beautiful graduation ceremony — we were all so proud to see them off on their new adventures. We miss them already!

While we said goodbye to some familiar faces, we've also been warmly welcoming new children into our space as they transition from other nurseries and our toddler room. It's been lovely to see new friendships blossoming and to help these new friends feel right at home.

This month, we've noticed that the children in both rooms have been fascinated with building and creating. They've been working together, using different materials to build magnificent towers, cozy dens, and everything in between! Following their lead, our practitioners have been busy creating an even more open-ended play environment, providing a wide range of materials for the children to use however their imaginations see fit. It's been incredible to watch their creativity in action. We've also been listening to your feedback! We know that supporting your child's learning at home is important, and we're excited to announce that we've introduced a Home Learning Wall and a Lending Library right inside our room. These

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resources are designed to give you new ideas and tools to continue the learning fun at home. Please feel free to check them out!

Finally, we're creating a new "All About Me" board in our room, and we'd love for you to contribute. This board will be a celebration of our diverse community. We would be so grateful if you could bring in a picture of your family or something else that represents your culture or family life. This will give us a chance to have some wonderful conversations about our differences and what makes each of us special. Thank you, as always, for your partnership and support. We are looking forward to a fantastic September!



Nursery Holidays for 2025

Christmas: We close on Tuesday 23rd December
Reopen Friday 2nd January

Safeguarding

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 come through the main gate to collect your child.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead for our setting is **Christine Coates**
The Deputy Designated Safeguarding lead is **Ursula Rowe**

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.

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 £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, @yorksmontessori on Twitter and on facebook at @yorksmontessori

You can contact us at the nursery on -
TEL: 0113 2686141

Christine Coates: Nursery Manager
christine@yorkshiremontessorinursery.co.uk

Ursula Rowe: Deputy Manager
Moortown@yorkshiremontessorinursery.co.uk

Shared learning:

At nursery all our children enjoy physical activities both inside and out. Physical development in the early years involves the growth of the brain and body, leading to control over muscles and senses, and the development of both gross motor skills (like running and jumping) and fine motor skills (like buttoning and mark making). This is crucial for overall health, well-being, independence, and lays the foundation for future learning and social engagement.

Key Aspects of Physical Development

- **Gross Motor Skills:**

These are large-muscle movements involving the arms, legs, and torso.

Holding their head up, rolling over, crawling, walking, running, jumping, and climbing.

- **Fine Motor Skills:**

These are small, precise movements using small muscle groups in the hands, wrists, and fingers.

Holding small objects, feeding, drawing, buttoning, and eventually writing.

- **Sensory Awareness:**

Children develop an awareness of their environment through their senses (sight, touch, smell, sound, taste) and also develop their internal senses of balance (vestibular) and body position (proprioceptive).

- **Physical Health and Self-Care:**

Gaining independence in meeting basic physical needs like resting, nutrition, hygiene, and safety.

Why It Matters

- **Foundation for Learning:**

Strong physical skills enhance confidence and the ability to engage in activities, supporting emotional well-being and broader learning.

- **Health and Well-being:**

Regular physical activity helps children develop strong bones and muscles, promoting overall health.

- **Independence:**

Physical development builds competence and enables children to perform daily tasks and take care of themselves.

- **Social Skills:**

Through physical play, children learn to interact with others, build relationships, and grow in independence.