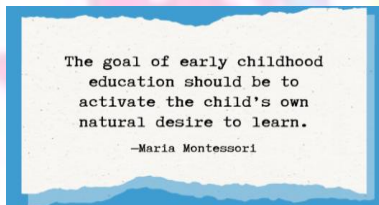


September 2025



Dear Parents,

Welcome to our September Newsletter!

The lovely Autumnal weather has provided lots of opportunities for us to explore the change in seasons. There has been bug hunting, conker collecting, nature walks, different colours and textures and lots of focus on practicing the Montessori flip for putting on our coats.

A big focus this month has been on our Art Month. All the rooms have explored a range of mediums such as collage, clay, paints, pastels, chalk, pencil, charcoal to name a few. We have looked at some different art styles such as cubism and pointillism. The children have drawn self portraits and pictures of their favourite things. We hope that you enjoyed seeing some of their work at the Stay and Play - the children certainly enjoyed showing their work to you!

As the weather is changing, please can you check that any coats, wellies and puddle suits still fit so that we can continue to use the garden and go on walks.

Our 100 Duck Challenge and 'duck hunting' was very popular with the children. Thank you so much for those of you who engaged with the activity and our Facebook page. The children

who had heard the clues from their parent were very excited to share the information with everyone else.

This month we had an adventure when we decamped to our Fulford nursery for the day. The children were amazing (as we would all expect!) and made the most of the different environment to explore. Thank you to those parents who had a longer drive to drop off or pick up.

Coming up....

We realise that plenty of notice is helpful when you are trying to arrange things around work and below are dates of a few things that are coming up between now and Christmas.

Friday 10th October - Hello Yellow (children and young people's mental health)

Friday 14th November - The great 'SPOTacular' for Children in Need

Wednesday 19th November - Stay and Play

Saturday 29th November - 'Step into Christmas' Fayre and Party

Wednesday 17th December - Christmas Show

Outdoor Clothing

Please bring puddle suits and wellies that are clearly labelled as we will continue to use the outside area as the weather becomes wetter!

Thank you

Staff Updates

As you will know, Elle started her Maternity Leave - a little earlier than originally planned - and we hope that Elle can rest a little over the next couple of weeks. We are all looking forward to seeing the new baby. We will keep you up to date!

Beth is returning from her Maternity Leave and will be back working in the nursery (initially for 3 days a week), in January. We are looking forward to having her back in the Toddler room. You may see Beth over the next couple of months as she eases herself back in through Keeping in Touch days.

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Our company is committed to supporting and developing staff through appropriate and necessary training. We believe this directly contributes to the outstanding care and learning experiences we provide for the children at our nursery. We currently have Courtney and Maisey working hard towards their Level 3 Early years qualification. All staff are busy reading and digesting the new guidance for the EYFS, Ofsted, nutrition and safeguarding, reading revised policies and updating the relevant training courses!

Nursery News

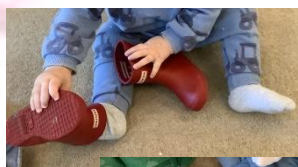
Babies

Busy, busy, busy in babies this month. There have been so many lovely activities to celebrate our Art Month. The babies have definitely embraced the job in hand! They have worked with dough, large scale painting which definitely included some textile painting as well as painting with brushes, leaves, wellies and fingers. They have had a great



time exploring the textures, mixing colours together - some activities on the floor, some on the table and some on the trays to support

physical development – both fine and gross motor.



As well as art activities we have spent time encouraging and supporting independence such as putting on shoes and wellies.



There has been lots of

scooping and pouring going on and, as they are always made so enticing to the children, they love to explore. This helps to strengthen their muscles and coordination to feed themselves and also prepare them for later writing development.



Exploring in the garden has been thoroughly enjoyed with the posting and pouring as well as the sand pit, balls and chalking. An outing to the Church field – collecting conkers and kicking leaves helps to encourage a love of the outdoors and future explorations.



Matching activities with colours and shapes are very early maths development and the children enjoy exploring these activities.

Home Learning

Collect a few leaves with your child when you are out walking or in the garden. Put them on a tray or in a bowl so that they can explore the textures and colours. Bring a leaf into nursery and we will build these into the play for the day - talking to the children about which leaf was brought and encouraging pride in showing and sharing with others.

Toddlers

Art Month in Toddlers included lots of different creative activity. Clay was used to shape and mould models, fingerprints and coloured dots were used to demonstrate pointillism, collage trees using paint and tissue paper, printing with different objects, self-



portraits, chalk pictures and much



more! The Toddlers were so proud to show their families their work.



We have been looking at autumn colours and talking about the changes in the environment - spotting and examining spiders and bugs using magnifiers and bug bottles. We had



an autumn kitchen which had lovely crunchy leaves and smooth, shiny conkers that were weighed, measured, paired and compared.



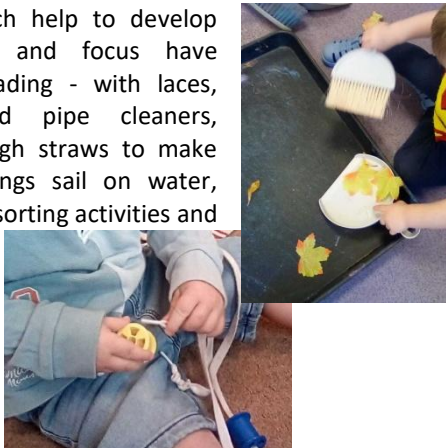
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We have focussed this month on working with the Colour Monster to explore feelings and emotions. The books are very popular with the children who are developing an



understanding of different emotions and beginning to recognise some of their own feelings. We have had stories, finger puppets and activity trays

Activities which help to develop concentration and focus have included threading - with laces, spaghetti and pipe cleaners, blowing through straws to make our rubber rings sail on water, matching and sorting activities and sweeping have been very popular.



Home Learning

Collect leaves and conkers from the garden or on a walk. Ask your child to sort them into groups. For example, twigs, conkers, leaves. Talk about the colours and textures and ask if they can find the biggest and smallest of each. Take a picture for tapestry or bring them to nursery so that they can show their friends

Pre school

Art month in Preschool was full on. It focused on supporting children to explore art in many ways. Modelling with clay and salt dough, learning about different approaches to art, printing and layering, looking at details and replicating these in



paint, pencil, chalk, charcoal and other materials. The



children explored colours and experimented with colour mixing. Self-portraits were amazing and it was lovely to see these and lots of other art, displayed for parents and families to see at the stay and play. But this is not all! We have

continued to use our days to have other fun and adventures such as....

Making their own playdough hedgehogs! A lovely activity which allowed lots of conversation about nature and wildlife and about what the children have seen in books or real life.



Building on colour and number knowledge and confidence through activities such as the balancing bears where children were

practicing their dexterity skills and colour matching as well as practicing great perseverance.



They matched colours and textures of pompoms and used tweezers to carefully place the pompoms on the corresponding picture.



The 100 duck challenge created much fun and excitement. But also – a sense of community and teamwork. Concentration and observation skills were

key and developing a system to ensure that you look everywhere! For those who did not see this – have a look at the photos on our facebook/instagram pages. We have some brilliant and very thorough duck hunters!



We have made the most of the lovely autumn weather to explore the outdoors. We have visited the park and the Curly Whirly Bridge and explored the garden and spent time climbing, exploring and tending our plants in the nature garden. We have found bugs and worms, dug in the mud, collected sticks and leaves and talked about the weather, changes, growing and living things and just about everything!



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A visit to collect conkers was a great highlight and the children had a fabulous time exploring a local garden to find lots! They saw acorns, conkers in and out of their shells and

spoke about how trees grow from these. The children were so proud and excited to gather the conkers and to show them to their friends back in nursery.



So many activities – which will go on through October – have come from these conkers such as rolling, painting, sorting and counting. More of this to come!



We have been exploring our senses and discussing which parts of our bodies these relate to with tasting sessions with sweet and sour tastes. Different scents and smells such as coffee and citrus. Listening to and making different sounds. Talking about what we can see and touching, feeling and describing different textures. Sensory learning is a key area in Montessori learning and expanding understanding of their senses will continue to support their development.

We have encouraged children to think about how we care for ourselves and talked about what we need to be healthy, about health food, exercise, keeping clean, looking after our teeth and wearing clothes that are appropriate for the weather.



Home Learning

Nature gives us lots of opportunities at this time of year.

If you are out walking, visiting family or friends or in the garden, encourage your child to collect five items. When you are home, let them lay them out on a tray or cloth and tell you about them, the colours, the biggest and smallest, where they are from, whether something will grow from them. They could arrange

in different orders. For example, smallest to largest or most favourite first.... Take pictures for tapestry so that they can share their finds with the other children or bring them in!

Safeguarding

Karen, Tina and Laura 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.

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Funding for Childcare...

It is important that you go on to the Best Start in Life website to check your eligibility - you can use the link:- beststartinlife.gov.uk

If you will be new to funding from January, you will need to send a code to nursery along with your National Insurance number and take in your child's Birth Certificate or their passport so we can validate their date of birth.

Everyone needs to revalidate their eligibility every three months to ensure funding continues.

Please let nursery have your code as soon as you receive it.

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.

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.

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

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

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more about what we get up to! Follow the links below.

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

Nursery Holidays/Closures

Tuesday 23rd December 2025 – Nursery Closes for the Christmas Break
Reopen – Friday 2nd January 2026

Best wishes,
Karen