

Westhill Primary School Nursery Weekly Newsletter

13th October 2023

THE END OF ANOTHER TERM!

We can hardly believe we are at the end of term 1 already. We have had a lovely first term, catching up with our returning children and meeting all our new friends. The next two weeks are the October holidays and although we remain open, this is only for our all-year entitlement children.

After the holidays, we are welcoming 6 more new children and we are very excited to meet them!

If you are off for the next 2 weeks, we hope you have a lovely holiday and that the weather is bearable. We will see you all back from Monday the 30th of October.

NURSERY PHOTOGRAPHS

Tempest photography will be visiting the nursery on Monday 13th November to take individual photographs of the children. Any children that do not attend on a Monday are welcome to come in, between 9-9.30am with a parent to main School Office where we will meet you and take the children for their photograph.

MULTI AGENCY Q and A SESSION

You will all have received an email from us this week regarding the planned multi agency question and answer session which will be held on Thursday the 9th of November in the hall at Elrick Primary. There was a form attached to the email for you to complete which will help us to plan the support we can offer our families. Please complete and return the form even if you cannot attend the session as the more responses we get, the more targeted we can be with our support.

NURSERY LUNCHES

Early Years Guidance supports the children having their lunch within the nursery room, therefore, from next week, we will be staying in the nursery for our lunch. This will give us the opportunity to have table helpers, support the children to lay the table, make their own choices around the food they are offered and enjoy a more homely environment.

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NEW MENUS

The new nursery menus, which begin from the 30th of October are attached to this email.

TESCO TOKENS

Last year, whilst we were planning our new garden, we applied to Tesco for money to support the project. As they are so busy with requests, we have waited very patiently for our turn.

From Monday the 2nd of October Westhill Nursery Garden Project will be featured and tokens can be popped in our box. All three causes will get some money, it just depends who gets the highest number of tokens; the most tokens get £1500, the next gets £1000 and the least gets £500.

Please pop as many tokens in our box as you can and ask all your friends and family to support us too. Our boxes will be in three different Tesco's, the one in Westhill, the one on the Lang Stracht and the main road in Dyce, so please keep a look out for us and get those tokens in our box! We will feature in the stores from next week to mid January so please keep those tokens coming!

We plan to use the money we get to revamp our sandpit and messy area up the back of the nursery garden as the children have come up with some ideas for this area...

CHRISTMAS CARDS FUNDRAISING

Please return these as soon as possible (we are open to some children in the holidays if you would like to pop in then with your forms)

All the children should have taken home a large order form for submitting their artwork and for ordering this year's fundraising Christmas cards and gifts. The children have made their pictures in nursery already, so you just need to take it home, order online, tick the box to say you have ordered and return the form to us.

Our absolute last date for returning your form to us will be the 3rd of November.

Any questions, please see Mrs Borthwick

BISCUIT AND BLETHER AFTERNOON

Thank you to the Parents who attended our Biscuit and Bletcher on Monday. It was a positive experience and there were discussions regarding a possible Christmas get together. As a staff, we would love for a small number of Parents to come and wrap the presents for the children (whilst having a cuppa and a bletcher of course!). If you would be able to help with this, please pop me an email.

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Also, if you have any ideas how we could use the snug room please let us know, we are happy for Parents to use it independently, without a member of the nursery staff.

CALLING ALL GRANDPARENTS!

Thank you to all the families who have kindly let us borrow your Grandparents, we have had so much fun with them!

Continuing with our family nurture theme, we would love if any Grandparents would like to come in to spend some time with the children. They may have a skill to share, enjoy story telling or even just like to come to see what we get up to in nursery. There won't be set times for this, so they are welcome whenever they have some time to spare (not between 11am and 12pm as that is lunchtime).

Please let Mrs Borthwick know via email if you have a Grandparent to share with us.

REPORTING ABSENCES

If your child is going to be absent, please either call the nursery 01224 472900 ext 3 (will take you right through to speak to a member of the nursery staff) or email fiona.borthwick@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

***DO NOT** call or email the school office as we do not have access to the answer machine or school mailbox so will not get your message.*

Council and Care Inspectorate guidance stipulates that we must know where every child is whom is expected to be in nursery. If we do not receive a call or email, then we will work through your emergency contacts list. Policy states that if we do not get an answer then we would contact Social Work and the Police.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

We have new online forms this year to be completed if your child has any dietary requirements, for example, allergies, intolerances, or lifestyle choices. Please follow the link below if your child requires a special diet. Thank you.

<https://forms.office.com/e/hDnuMFnpjx>

SPARE CLOTHES

We have a stock of spare clothes in the nursery in case the children require anything, but we are currently running low on trousers. If you have any spare or old leggings or tracksuit bottoms (age 3/4/5yrs) at home going spare, please could we have them as donations? Thank you.

LOST PROPERTY

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Lost property is located to the left of the main nursery door at the ramp. You are welcome to come and have a look at any time if you have lost any items.

WESTHILL NURSERY FACEBOOK PAGE

Keep up to date with the latest info, key dates (Parent Council meetings, pyjama day and the likes!) and get to know other parents and carers. All are welcome, it's a great way to keep in touch and arrange playdates or track down muddled-up jumpers, and we can also share any queries or concerns with the PTA team. Search Westhill Nursery on Facebook to join, or click here:

www.facebook.com/groups/westhillnursery.

PARENT COUNCIL

If you would like to get in touch with Westhill Primary School Parent Council, please use the email below.

wp.parentcouncil@googlemail.com

NURSERY UNIFORM

If you would like to order nursery uniform, please use the link below.

<https://www.schoolwearmadeeasy.com/badged-school-uniform/r-w/w/westhill-nursery>

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

If you would like to get in touch with the after school club, please use the email below.

outofschoolclubwesthill@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

APPROPRIATE CLOTHING

Please ensure your child is appropriately dressed for the weather when they arrive at nursery. If they come to nursery in wellies, then please provide a pair of indoor shoes to change into as wellies are not the comfiest for the children to wear all day. As the weather turns warmer (fingers crossed!) please do not send the children in Crocs or open toed sandals as these do not fit very well and don't protect their feet very well.

NURSERY DAYS

Westhill Nursery is open from 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday, 50 weeks of the year. The nursery will close to the children on in-service days, occasional days and public

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holidays as well as for 2 weeks at Christmas. We offer two sessions a day morning session 8am to 1pm and afternoon session 1pm to 6pm.

For your convenience and to offer you flexibility, we have a soft start and finish at either end of the sessions as follows:

Morning session – drop off between 8am and 9am

1pm pick up – collect between 12.45 and 1pm (please no later than 1pm as we have more children arriving for the afternoon session)

1pm drop off – drop off from 1 to 1.15pm

All children in afternoon/full day sessions – pick up from 3.15pm to 5.55pm

Each day you arrive with your child you will be asked who is collecting them and at what time. If this changes during the session, PLEASE DO get in touch with us and let us know by calling 01224 472900 and pressing for ext 3 which will take you right through to speak to a member of the nursery team.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Monday 16th to Friday 27th October (inclusive)
OCTOBER HOLIDAYS – **only all year children attend.**
- Thursday 16th and Friday 17th November
IN-SERVICE DAYS – **no children attend.**
- Monday 25th December 23' to Friday 7th January 24' (inclusive)
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS – **no children attend.**
- Thursday 8th and Friday 9th February
OCCASIONAL DAYS – **no children attend.**
- Monday 12th February
LOCAL HOLIDAY – **no children attend.**
- Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th February
IN-SERVICE DAYS – **no children attend.**
- Monday 1st to Friday 12th April
EASTER HOLIDAYS – **only all year children attend.**
- Monday 6th May
MAY DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY – **no children attend.**

Mrs Fiona Borthwick and the nursery staff. 😊

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fiona.borthwick@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

01224 472900 (ext 3)