

# Westhill Primary School Nursery Weekly Newsletter

## 24th November 2023

### CHRISTMAS PLANS

The children are very welcome to wear their Christmas jumpers throughout December to nursery (as long as you don't mind them getting messy!).

The last week of term we plan to have pyjama days on the Tuesday and Thursday (19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Dec). On these days, the children are welcome to wear their pyjamas, onsies, dressing gowns or slippers to nursery and we will have some cosy chocolate at snack time and enjoy stories and a pantomime on our smart board.

On the Monday, Wednesday and Friday, the children are welcome to wear their party/Christmas clothes. We will not be having a specific party as it is difficult for us to find times that all the children would be included. However, there will be opportunities across the last week to dance to Christmas music and maybe play a few party games.

The children have already been getting into the Christmas spirit by sewing a Christmas tree on Mrs Nightingales sewing machine and decorating their environment with Christmas lights!

### SNUG ROOM/FAMILY NURTURE

We would like to request donations of Christmas books and stories for our

#### *\*\*\*Big Christmas Book Swap\*\*\**

If books could be donated by Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> of December, we will be able to offer them for a swap from Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> of December. The books will be displayed in the Snug Room for you and your child to choose.

The books you kindly donate can of course be second hand as long as they are in readable condition and if you have more than one, that is fine too (please ensure the books are not well loved as they will not be returned, this would be a permanent swap). All children and families will have the opportunity to look through the selection of books and choose one to take home to share with their family.

Although this book swap is specific to Christmas, we do hope that if it is successful, we will run a book swap across the year to share our love of reading and stories.

Thank you for your support in this, we hope you all get the opportunity to use it! 😊

### VISION VALUES AND ETHOS

A few years ago we worked with the children and families to consider and renew our Vision, values and Aims/Ethos for Westhill Nursery. During the In-service days we compacted this into a wee image which includes all our Vision, Values and

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Aims/Ethos. This image has been attached to this newsletter and we would be very grateful if you could have a read through and pass any comments on to us via Mrs Borthwick's email. This ensures we are relevant with what we are doing and the areas identified are still what is important to our children and families.

Thank you for your time in this matter. 😊

### JUNK REQUEST

Thank you so much for all the junk! We have plenty now thank you so no more donations please. 😊

### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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...

### NURSERY LUNCHES

Lunches are going very well in the nursery and the children are able to be self sufficient and independent. We realised very quickly that sitting all the children together was just too much, so we now have two lunch sittings each day. There is a table helper every day who serves their friends and the children help themselves to their sides from a lazy susan in the middle of the table, the children are offered the choice of staying for pudding or not. The children who are not eating are busy in the back room of the nursery or outside in the garden.

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We are super proud of the children who have adapted very well to change and a new routine. 😊

### TISSUES

Please could we ask each child to bring a box of tissues to nursery for the use of all the children. As I am sure you can imagine, we need our stock replenished often!

### 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](mailto: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.

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### LOST PROPERTY

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](http://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](mailto:wp.parentcouncil@googlemail.com)

### NURSERY UNIFORM

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

<https://www.schoolwewearmadeeasy.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](mailto: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 Primary School Nursery Weekly Newsletter 24th November 2023

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

Mrs Fiona Borthwick and the nursery staff. 😊

[fiona.borthwick@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:fiona.borthwick@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

01224 472900 (ext 3)