

# Westhill Primary School Nursery Weekly Newsletter

15th December 2023



## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

This will be the last newsletter of this year.

All the staff at Westhill Nursery would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

We have enjoyed a lovely first two terms with the children, learning lots of new skills and enjoying new experiences.

In January we will welcome five new children to our nursery and we are looking forward to that. In the New Year we will hit the ground running with the learning and continue to have the best fun at nursery! 😊

***PLEASE NOTE, THE NEW TERM BEGINS ON Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> of January 2024 and the nursery is closed to all children for the full two weeks of school holidays.***

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Today the children enjoyed a lovely Christmas lunch with the nursery staff. It was very festive with turkey and all the trimmings, jelly and ice cream and festive songs playing. As you can see below, the children had a lovely time!



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SNUG ROOM/FAMILY NURTURE

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

Next week will be your opportunity to choose a book with your child from our Book Flood. There will also be sachets of hot chocolate which you are welcome to take for your child. The books will be available in the Snug Room from Monday, and we encourage you to take a Christmas Selfie with your child too in our Christmas selfie booth.



We are very grateful for all the donations we have received, and these opportunities for the children would not be possible without your support, so thank you. 😊

TESCO TOKENS/SUBSEA7 DONATION



Our token box is still filling up in Tesco and we have until the 14<sup>th</sup> of January to keep it going. Please remember to pop some tokens in when you visit and ask friends and family to do the same.

We heard from Subsea7 this week who would like to donate a further £400 to our outdoor fundraising efforts. This was unexpected but extremely welcome and we are very grateful for their support.

If we achieve the most tokens at Tesco and add the £400 donation, we will have close to £2000 to spend. We have spoken with the children and undertaken some research and decided that we would like to use this money to create a Sensory/Harmony garden in our courtyard area. This would offer a quieter space for the children to access, de stress and relax. This area would not only benefit the nursery but also the school children as they would be able to access the space too.

So, please keep posting the Tesco tokens and keep your fingers crossed! We look forward to sharing the children's and our ideas as the area develops in the New Year.

EARLY YEARS DROP IN SESSION

The Early Years Team are running a series of drop in sessions to discuss Early Learning and Childcare funded spaces. These are aimed at all families with nursery age children. Please read and pass on to any families you may be aware of that are in the process of accessing nursery places for their children.

The flyer is attached.

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### 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.

### 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).

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#### 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.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](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 colder, please ensure they have plenty of warm clothes to go with their jackets, for example, hats, gloves and scarves. Please remember to **NAME ALL** items as this will make it much easier for us to find should they get lost.

#### 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 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)

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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)