



Westmill Nursery

Learning through play

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MARCH 2010 NEWSLETTER

This half term has started off really well, the children have returned from the half term break refreshed and ready to go! We have a lot of exciting plans during March and April and have added a reminder of these dates at the end of this newsletter.

Parent Consultation Evening

Following our annual questionnaire we will be holding our parent consultation evening on **Monday 8th March, 7 to 8pm**. Please do come along to this informal session, everyone is invited, it is essential and important to us to gather your views and ideas on how we can improve the service we offer you and your child/ren.

Refreshments will be on offer (including a glass of wine)! During this session we will be explaining and showing you the systems we have in place to plan your child's progression through the Early Years Foundation Stage and also answering any questions you have.

If you are unable to make it and would like to contribute, please note down your suggestion and hand it to a member of staff or pop it into the suggestions & complaints box (this can be found in the parent's box)

Please complete and return the reply slip at the end of this newsletter by Friday 5th March indicating if you will be able to join us, this will give us some idea on the number of parents to cater for.

We look forward to welcoming you and thank you for your support.

Snow update notice on website

I think that Monday 22nd Feb took us all by surprise again with a heavy downfall of snow in the morning. Please accept my apologies for not posting a notice as usual on the home page of our website advising you of our plans to either open or close. Unfortunately my wireless router decided to crash on me that morning of all mornings! All is now fixed and fingers crossed do not anticipate any more crashes or in fact anymore snow I hope! Thank you for your understanding.

Acceptable Use Policy

Within the last couple of weeks we have introduced a new policy for the nursery regarding the acceptable use of mobile phones and cameras. This is to ensure that clear procedures are followed and adhered to to safeguard the children in our care. May I stress that this policy has not been introduced following any concerns.

Statement of intent

It is our intention to provide an environment in which children, parents and staff are safe from images being recorded and inappropriately used in turn eliminating the following concerns:

- 1) Staff being distracted from their work with children
- 2) The inappropriate use of mobile phone cameras around children

Aim

Our aim is to:

- Have a clear policy on the acceptable use of mobile phones and cameras that is understood and adhered to by all parties concerned without exception.

Camera:

Photographs taken for the purpose of recording a child or group of children participating in activities or celebrating their achievements is an effective form of recording their progression in the Early Years Foundation Stage. However, it is essential that photographs are taken and stored appropriately to safeguard the children in our care.

If you would like to read a full copy of the policy this can be found in the policy pack in the parent box within nursery or downloaded from our website www.westmillnursery.co.uk . Click on 'parent resources' on the home page, then click on 'policies'.

Sainsbury's and Tesco Vouchers

We are collecting these vouchers again this year. Don't forget to collect these next time you shop and pop them into the collection boxes on top of the wooden locks. Please also ask family and friends to collect them on our behalf if they don't know of a school to donate them to.

In previous years we have been able to exchange the vouchers for some wonderful resources including our balancing beam, CD ROMs, assortment of physical equipment, gardening equipment etc. We would love to be able to do the same this year so please get shopping and collecting!

Thank you to Louise who has kindly volunteered to co-ordinate again this year.

Thank you Paul.... A HUGE thank you to Paul (Megan's daddy) who kindly fixed and updated our nursery computer with essential memory. The children are thoroughly enjoying using it again.

Parent Helpers

Just a reminder that parent helpers are always very welcome to join us for whole or part of a session. This gives you a real chance to see the things your child does at nursery and is also a very rewarding experience. If you would like to join us please just pop your name on the parent rota which is on the parent notice board and mention it to a member of staff. Thank you – we are gentle with you!

Update on Training

Lorna has successfully completed a renewal of pediatric first aid.

Karen has attended 'the coolest café in town' – I hope you agree a cool name for a cool course all about particularly supporting boys in their mark making.

Jo has begun her NVQ2 in Children's care, learning and development. Jo is thoroughly enjoying this and already using some of the skills she has learnt within nursery.

Lorraine is continuing to study for her BA (Hons) in Education Studies and is in the last semester!

Reminder of some dates

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| Tues 2 nd March | 9.30am 'Streetwise' Road Safety Session – Everyone invited |
| Mon 8 th March | 7pm to 8pm Parent Consultation Evening |
| Wed 17 th March | St. Patrick's Non-Uniform Day – come dressed in GREEN |
| Fri 26 th March | Holi – Non-Uniform Day – come dressed in BRIGHT COLOURS |
| Thurs 1 st April | End of Term |
| Mon 19 th April | INSET DAY |
| Tues 20 th April | Beginning of Summer Term |

Kindest regards

All the team at Westmill Nursery

Parent Consultation Evening

(please tick)

I will be able to attend the parent consultation evening on Monday 8th March

I will not be able to attend the parent consultation evening on Monday 8th March

Name: Childs Name: