



Westmill Nursery

Learning through play

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SEPTEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER

A very warm welcome to the following children and their families who are joining us this term, **Gemma, Callum, Lucy, Amelia, Eleanor, Rose, Charlotte, Flora, Fred, Alice, Ellie, Oliver, Kitty, Ross, Freddie, Levi, William, Isaac, Iris and Katie.** We hope that they all settle well and enjoy their time with us.

We hope that you all had a lovely summer holiday and are looking forward to a new term. The start of a new term is generally a busy, but enjoyable time for us as we welcome back some old faces and welcome some new!

It's good to talk.....

Please remember that if you wish to discuss anything and it could wait to the end of a session we would appreciate it as this will enable us to settle the children back into a routine as quickly as possible. Thank you.

Graduation 2011 – Class of 2011!



We were very lucky and the sun decided to shine for our very special little ones who graduated at the end of last term. It was lovely to see so many families join us for a picnic and presentation of certificates & gifts. Everyone had a lovely time and we are sure our Class of 2011 have begun their new schools with the enthusiasm they had at Westmill. Well Done everyone!

Thank you Team

I would personally like to thank everyone who has passed on their good wishes to me and my son whilst we were away in America receiving treatment. It was reassuring to know that everyone was thinking about us.



We arrived back in the UK just before the end of term and it was lovely to catch up with some of you before the summer. Jake is doing well now after experiencing some horrible side effects of treatment over the holidays.

I am incredible grateful to my amazing team who continued to run Westmill in my absence very smoothly during what is a busy term for transition and during a trip that of course was not planned for the year. Every member of the team worked hard and continues to do so, I am so proud of them.

I know that most of you liaised with Kim at some point and again, she did an amazing job wading through paperwork and organising our registrations. I have now resumed by role as Nursery Manager and Kim is now busy moving house!

I am sure it won't take me too long to get back into 'the swing of things' and I look forward to catching up with everyone very soon.

Exciting News.....

From January we will be introducing 2 afternoon sessions a week, Tuesday and Thursday. Further details will follow shortly. If you are interested in registering your child for these please do contact Lorraine.



Bramble Hill Children's Centre Grand Opening & Fun Day

Seth Ward Community Centre on
Thursday 8th September 3 to 5pm

Lots of exciting things happening, to include, balloon modeling, ball pool, arts & crafts, visits from the police & fire service, raffle etc.

Hopefully see you there!

Uniform

If you would like any replacement uniform, we have a good stock available in nursery, please ask any member of staff. Polo shirts are £5.50 and Sweatshirts £7.25.

Have your details changed?

It is essential that we have up to date contact details for parents/carers and emergency contacts. If any of your details have changed recently please let us know so we can update your child's record. Thank you.

Some helpful information on storing food

We have been advised by environmental health to remind parents about the importance of the correct storage of food.

They recommend that once food is initially cooked it is cooled and stored in the fridge within 90 minutes. This will ensure that food is safe for us to re-heat to the required temperature for your child at lunchtime.

If you prefer to supply your child with a lunch for us to reheat it is important that you write your child's name on the whiteboard above the lockers. In accordance with healthy and safety procedures we reheat the food to a high temperature and then wait for it to cool down to the required temperature before serving it to your child. This can take some time. Unfortunately if we do not know that your child's lunch needs re-heating they will be left waiting for their lunch to cool and have a hungry tummy!

If you would like us to heat tinned food please do not include this in your child's lunch box, as it is advisable not to place tins in a fridge. Please leave this separate and label it with your child's name. Thank you for your co-operation.

September Staffing

Due to the way we slowly integrate and welcome our new children during the month of September we have arranged our staff in accordance with the amount of children they will be caring for each day. At the beginning of September the number of children attending is relatively low and slowly increases throughout the month.

Just for September staff will be working on a rota basis and some will not necessarily be in on their usual days. Our sessions will run as usual and children's achievements will be observed and assessed as normal.

Preparing for Autumn weather

Please remember that your child will need a pair of wellingtons and waterproof coat in nursery every day. Please peg wellingtons together with a named peg and place them on the racks in the entrance hall. There are two racks, one for 'Chipmunks' and one for 'Penguins'. If you are unsure about which group your child is in please ask any member of staff, who will be happy to help you.

As always please remember to name EVERYTHING clearly. Thank you.

Let there be light!

Over the summer holidays our corridor area has been treated to new fire exit doors. These have really lightened up our corridor area and are still very much in keeping with our wonderful character building.

Harvest Hamper Donations

Harvest is a wonderful time of year for the children to gain a sense of appreciation of the food they eat, learning that not all food comes from 'Tesco's' or similar large supermarkets. In previous years the children have delivered several food hampers to elderly residents in Westmill which have been very much appreciated, we would like to make up some hampers this year with your support.



Please send in any items of food that do not need refrigeration **from Wednesday 14th September**. These could include tins, packets and even fresh fruit & vegetables. Please pop these in the basket on top of the lockers. The children will make up the hampers and deliver them on Friday 23rd September. Thank you for your support.

Reminder.....Lunchboxes

Thank you for providing such healthy lunches for your children, it is great to see so many children enjoying fruit and raw vegetables. **Please can you ensure that all grapes, cherry tomatoes, olives and similar foods are cut up to eliminate the risk of choking.** It is now our policy that all such foods are cut up. We are sure you will agree that an extra minute spent cutting up the suggested foods could save your child's life if they were to choke.

IMPORTANT - Notification of Leaving

If your child is leaving us at the end of the Autumn Term (Christmas) we require at least a terms notice in writing, which is now! If this is not received then 6 weeks fees are due in lieu of notice, based on your child's current attendance. This is still applicable for children in receipt of Nursery Education Grant.

Please contact Lorraine to let her know. Thank you for your understanding.

Time for Afternoon Tea?

We would like to invite you to join us for Afternoon Tea on Friday 4th November at 1.20pm, Everyone Welcome! Although this date seems a long way away we thought it would be useful to note in your diaries. It will be a good opportunity to meet other parents, look through your child's learning journey and chat with the staff.

Thank You Greg Hodge

A HUGE thank you to Eleanor's daddy who very kindly laid a small patio area over the summer holidays in our Secret Garden for our sand pit to sit on. This will certainly be well used!

Dates for your Diary

From Wed 14 th Sept – Please bring in donations for our Harvest Hampers	Mon 24 th – Fri 28 th October – Half Term	Fri 4 th November – Afternoon Tea
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Kindest regards

All the team at Westmill Nursery

