



September 2018

Staffing

A big Wellholme welcome to:
Janine - who is our new EYP based in the 2-5 room working alongside Jenni, Sharna and the team.
Also to Jennifer - our new apprentice who will be working in the 2-5 room gaining some early years' experience.

Holidays

October Break is week commencing Monday 29th October 2018. There will be no funded places this week.

Closure Dates

The nursery will be closed as follows:

Staff Training Day

Tuesday 20th November 2018.

Christmas

Closed from Monday 24th December 2018*
re-opening on Wednesday 2nd January 2019.

* Funded places will finish on Friday 14th December 2018



Looking back on last year.....

We have had a fantastic summer at Wellholme Park children's Centre with lots of wonderful activities for the children to take part in.

We've looked at holidays and sea creatures and have had in depth discussions regarding the changes in weather and seasons.

Our 3 year olds have started to look at initial sounds and letter recognition and our 2 year olds have enjoyed participating in small social interaction groups including turn taking and recognising feelings.

We had a brilliant visit from zoo lab, our local PCSO Jane and we have also most recently been for walks to the park and around the local area.

Our Summer Event was really successful with a total of 132 people attending. It was a great afternoon with some excellent feedback from parents.

We are looking forward to welcoming the new and existing children back in September and are excited to start planning activities based around our new topics which we have listed below...

Room 1

It's the start of a new term in the baby room and following the children's interest in animals we are going to explore lots of different animal themes activities and play opportunities throughout the month of September.

Book of the month- Dear zoo - Please ask a member of staff for a free book start pack which includes our book of the month

Songs of the month- Old Mc Donald had a farm, Alice the camel and I had a tiny turtle- Copies of the words are available for parents so they can continue the fun with children at home.

Room 2-5

Over the next few months the children in room 2-5's topics will be:

All about me – This is a good way for both the new and existing children to introduce themselves and discuss their families with each other.

Animals and their habitat – we will be looking at lots of different animals and where they live.

Transport – we will be discussing the different ways we get places.

Autumn – we will be seeing big changes over the next few months and we will be exploring these with the children.



Catch the Comment

If you have any feedback please feel free to fill in a "Catch the Comment" form. For example we would like to know:-

- How satisfied are you with the Children's Centre?
- Do you have ideas on how we can improve services?
- Compliments are welcome too!

Each quarter all completed Catch the Comment forms are entered into a prize draw to win a shopping voucher.

This is your chance to tell us all the good, the bad and the ugly. Please use it! You can get a form from anyone at Reception or from our Catch the Comment board in the entrance.

Weaning

Babies get most of the nutrients they need from breast milk or first infant formula until they are around 6 months old. However, breast milk will also help protect your baby against illness and infections for as long as you carry on feeding them.

Waiting until your baby is ready for solid food means they'll quickly be able to feed themselves and will be able to swallow more easily.

Your baby may be ready for solid foods if they:

- Chew their fists
- Wake in the night even though they were sleeping through before
- Want extra milk feeds

But these are all normal behaviours for babies and not necessarily a sign that they are hungry or ready to start solid food.

Starting solid food won't make your baby any more likely to sleep through the night. Extra milk feeds are usually enough until they're ready for solids.

Parent reminders

Existing parents – it wouldn't harm to re familiarise yourselves.....

First day calling procedure

All parents should be aware that we are now operating the above procedure. This means that should your child not attend a nursery session and we have not received confirmation of the reasons for this; we will ring each of the contacts listed on your registration contract until we have established why they are absent. If we cannot make contact we will visit your home and if we have still not made contact – we will contact the police. We hope you will understand that this has been introduced to ensure the safety of your child(ren).

Holidays

Please you let your child's keyworker or reception know if you have any upcoming holidays. This will allow us to update our records and stop us from phoning you on the beach☺.

Medication

If your child requires medication administering to them whilst at nursery; you must inform a member of staff. Staff are not allowed to administer any medication that has not been properly authorised by a parent or carer.

Parent parking

Please can we remind all parents to stick within the designated parking areas and not to park outside the car park after the tarmac finishes. Thank you!

Mobile phone use

Please do not use your mobile phone whilst inside the nursery building. This is to ensure that no photos are taken of children whose parents may not have consented to this.

Access to the building

Please can all parents make sure that they do not allow anyone to enter the building that they do not recognise as another parent. This will help us ensure the safety of all the staff and children in the centre.

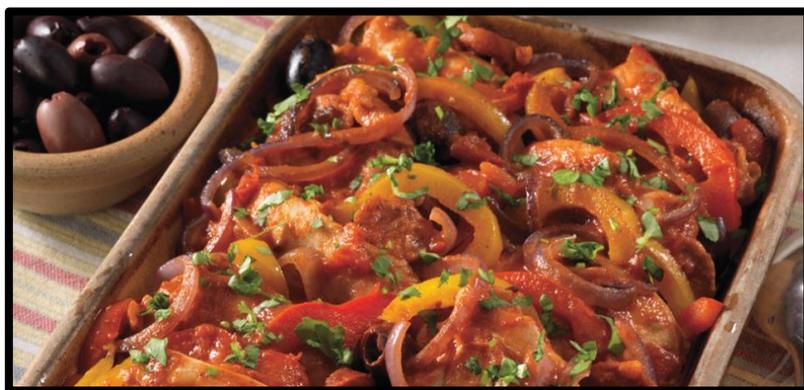
Resources

We are looking for some spare clothes for the children. Occasionally if a child has an accident (either toilet or food related), we may need a change of clothing. If you have any spare clothes, shoes or wellies that you no longer need would you consider passing these on to nursery? All donations will be gratefully received.

Early Essence

Can you access your child's online learning journey? This is a great way to see your child's progress and see what they have been up to within nursery as well as adding exciting things they have done at home! If you need a new password or have any problems logging in then please speak to Helen at Reception.





Spanish Chicken Recipe

Ingredients (serves 4)

- 4 Chicken Breasts (Diced)
- 1 Red Pepper (Sliced)
- 1 Green Pepper (Sliced)
- 1 Yellow Pepper (Sliced)
- 2 medium Sweet Potatoes (Peeled and diced)
- 1 400g tin tomatoes
- 2 medium onions
- 3tsp Tomato Puree
- 1tsp Garlic Powder
- 1tsp Chilli Powder
- 1 pint of Vegetable Stock

Directions

- Sweat onions till cooked.
- Add diced chicken and cook till brown.
- Add garlic, chilli powder and tomato puree – mix well.
- Add peppers, sweet potato and tinned tomatoes.
- Add vegetable stock and mix well.
- Cook for approximately 30 minutes over a medium heat*.

* *Ensuring the chicken is cooked all the way through and the sweet potato is soft.*

SERVE WITH RICE OR NEW POTATOES

Bonfire & Firework Safety (IT'S ONLY ONE MONTH AWAY !!!)

Always follow the firework code.

Babies or children can wriggle in your arms and reach out unexpectedly – avoid holding a baby in your arms when you have a sparkler.

Children under five are too young to safely hold a sparkler and don't really understand why they might be dangerous. Avoid giving them one to hold by themselves.

Did you know that:

- All fireworks should have a BS7114 mark?
- A sparkler can reach a temperature of 2000°C?

Have a bucket of water ready to cool them down immediately avoiding someone picking a hot one up from the ground.

Teach children not to wave sparklers near anyone else or run with them.

Payments

Your nursery invoice is prepared on the 15th of the month for the following month. May we remind you that this must be paid before the 1st of the following month to secure your child's nursery place and allow them to attend their sessions. Thank you.

Early Education Funding

As Early Education Provider, Wellholme Park Children's Centre is required to follow the guidelines set out by Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council to ensure that children for whom we receive EEF attend the sessions which are being funded to a satisfactory level.

We must record when sessions are missed, when children are late in or collected early. It is the responsibility of the nursery staff to ensure they note these details on the register and we are regularly audited by CMBC on our record keeping.

We realise that there will be occasions where lateness or absence is unavoidable and appreciate you taking the time to explain the circumstances with staff.



Not receiving your group wide quarterly newsletter?

The introduction of GDPR in May means that an organisation is no longer allowed to contact you unless you "opt in" to received emails, telephone calls etc... As a result of this we have been unable to contact a lot of our families.

As the parent of a child attending nursery we should have asked you to complete a form to resume this contact. If you have completed one of these, you should have received the recent group-wide Autumn newsletter....

If you haven't received this – please call in at reception so we can check you are on the mailing list.

Thank you.

Keeping in touch

As some of you will know we recently requested some feedback from yourselves regarding how we perform as a nursery.

The main issue raised was to do with how we communicate with you..... So I thought I would take a look at how we keep in touch and make sure that you are all aware of the methods we make use of. These are listed below:

This Newsletter - which we aim to send out every term.

The North Halifax Partnership sends out a group-wide newsletter by email to you each quarter. (See note above re GDPR)

When you collect your child at the end of their nursery session your Early Years Practitioner should chat through your child's day. However, we hope you can appreciate this is quite time consuming for staff at a particularly busy time of day. So if you don't get the opportunity to talk to a staff member we also use the daily board in room 2-5 and a daily sheet in room 1; both of which summarise your child's day.

We have a facebook page on which we will post details of events or activities. You may see your child's picture on there if you have given us consent to post this.

We have multiple display boards in the main corridor which detail what we have been or will be getting up to. These also show information from the kitchen and wider business such as job vacancies. We also put up flyers around the centre to promote groups, courses and activities.

We upload your child's pictures on to the Early Essence program giving a summary of the activity whilst linking this to key developmental stages. This is also a great platform for you to add pictures and comments regarding your child and things they do at home.

We carry out a Parents evening once a year where we will feed back on your child, their development throughout the year and agree any next actions, if they are needed. However this is not the only channel open to you should you have any issues or concerns regarding any aspect of your child's care...

We operate an "open door" policy regarding any queries you may have, allowing you access to a senior early years practitioner or the deputy manager at all times.

You can also speak to the reception staff who will direct your query to the correct member of staff.

Can you think of any other ways in which we can improve our communications with you?? Please put your ideas in the space below and hand this in to reception. We will consider any ideas you may have to help us to improve on this.

Thank you