



Newsletter

Issue 34/Apr 2016

Welcome to our newsletter for the Summer term of 2016.

Since our last newsletter there have been lots of exciting outings and developments that I am sure you will all have been keeping track of on our closed Facebook page. The children enjoyed a trip to Robin Hood Airport in Finningley to see the Vulcan Bomber and had lunch on a training aircraft. Mini Kicks resumed with a whole new cohort of children practising football skills and team playing. Lucy, our Joint Manager returned from maternity leave and now works on a part time basis on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. We've had a Teddy Bears picnic raising money for Crackerjack and we had a clothing collection for the Starlight charity.

Our Facebook page has been a great success and parents /carers have commented that it's lovely to be able to see what the children get up to during their days with us; especially those of you who never get to come to the nursery through work commitments etc. If you haven't already asked to join please go to Facebook and search for Wilsic Road Day Nursery. You can request to join us on the page. Either Lisa or myself will reply to you as soon as we see your request. Please note that once your child leaves the nursery you will be deleted from our list of people with access to the site as part of our data protection policy. We go live soon with Tapestry (our on line assessment record) which you can actually add to. We will need your email address so please give yours to a member of staff.

I have been updating our website and it is now live. You can take a look on www.wilsicnursery.com. We now have a full copy of our menu on the site as well as a new feature titled Parent Testimonials. I remember when I was looking for a nursery for my eldest daughter the biggest influence on my decision of where to go was personal recommendation. If you would like to give us a testimonial please write or type it up and hand it in to one of the staff. You don't have to have your name or your child's name on it if you prefer. It would be very much appreciated.

Our menu is in the final stages of being updated. In response to parental requests we are removing as many jars of pre prepared sauces as we can and replacing them with home made versions in order to cut down on sugar and salt. Our tea time snack menu is also changing. We are removing the pre prepared items such as ravioli and spaghetti hoops and replacing them with things like savoury muffins and stuffed pitta pockets. The tea time snack menu will also be available on our website as soon as it is completed.

I often get comments from people regarding our staff turnover as the nursery seems to have the same staff from one year to the next! I'm so proud of the fact that my staff are so happy that I've added everyone's "joining date" to the staff page on the website. I think it reflects really well on the nursery that our happy environment makes it very rare indeed that anyone leaves. It also gives parents and carers confidence their child's learning journey with us will have continuity.

Finally, it has been brought to my attention that some parents /carers are being scaremongered into thinking that they have to put their children into a school nursery in order to guarantee a place at the school in their reception class. Can I just clear this up? School places are allocated by the local authority. They are not decided on by school teachers. The authority will look at a set of criteria including residency in the catchment area and siblings already attending. Please consider this information carefully before making any decisions. The high ratios of qualified staff we offer to the children are one of the most important things the children need at such a young age.

We are now offering a drop off and collection service to and from St Marys Nursery. This will mean that children can be dropped off with us, you can go to work and we can take them to St Marys, collect them when they finish their session and they can spend the rest of the day with us. We're also in the process of applying for planning permission to extend our opening hours to 7.30 am in response to parental requests.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- 30/4/16: Scarecrow Festival & Tour de Yorkshire. Cyclists will be coming along West gate through the centre of the village and up Sunderland Street. Scarecrows will be positioned along this route. Come and see our contribution to this lovely village festival.
- 6/5/16: Trip to Sandal Beat Wood for den building! Packed lunch will be provided for eating in the great outdoors.
- 12/5/16: Beautiful Lifestyle Photography from 9.30am
- 16/5/16: All Parental Declaration forms for funded children must be returned by this date.
- 30/5/16-3/6/16: Half term week. No funded places during this week.
- 10/6/16: Commonwealth flags going up to celebrate the Queens Official Birthday on Saturday 11th June.
- 20/6/16: Trips to Langold Water Park throughout the week.
- 11/7/16: Review week. A chance to speak to your child's Key Person and discuss your child's development. Please make an appointment.
- 14/7/16: Last day of funding for 2,3 and 4 year old children this academic year. Funding resumes from Thursday 1st September 2016.

A date is being finalised for a trip to Sundown Adventureland which we will keep you informed of as soon as we can.

