

Welcome to Windmill Daycare

**November-
December 2021**

Exciting Times Ahead!

Dates for your Diary

Training Days

*Tuesday 4th January
2022*

Monday 6th June 2022

**Early closures for
Training, Daycare will
close at 4pm.**

*Wednesday 3rd
November*

*Wednesday 1st
December*

Wednesday 5th January

Christmas Closures

*Sessional Children will
break up on Friday 17th
December and Return
on Tuesday 4th January
2022.*

*Nursery will close at
4pm on 24th December
2021 and reopen on
Tuesday 4th January
2022*

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the second half of the autumn term. September and October went by so quickly. All the children have settled in nicely. We have lots of exciting things coming up over the next half term; we hope you can join us for some of the lovely events we have planned.

The children have been learning all about Autumn, they have been looking at the changes we can see on the trees, exploring colours and using leaves and Conkers to explore shape, size and number.

We hope you all enjoyed joining the children for National singing day, the children all worked very hard learning lots of new songs to share with you. Singing with children is a fantastic way to develop their listening and communication skills. If you would like any further information about the songs we sing at Nursery please speak to room leaders.

Thank you to everyone that donated to Young minds yellow day last term we raised £65.00 for the charity.

Primary School Applications

If your child was born between 1st September 2017 and the 31st August 2018 then they will start school in September 2022. The school application portal opens on 1st November 2021 and closes on 15th January 2022.

Please visit www.leedscitycouncilschooladmissions to complete the application online. If you require any help with this process, please see Nicola in the office, she will be more than happy to help.

Outdoor Clothing

Now that the weather is turning colder, please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather.

The children have the opportunity to play outside in all weathers; they especially enjoy splashing in muddy puddles.

The following items are needed in the colder months. Coat, hat, gloves or mittens and a pair of wellie boots.

Change of clothes in a bag so we can change their clothes if they are wet. Please label all clothing to reduce items being lost or mixed up.

Tapestry

All Parents and Carers should have received an email from Tapestry by now asking you to accept and set up an account.

If you have not please see Emma in the office.

The way we use Tapestry is going to look a little different from previous years, this is due to changes in the EYFS and the focus being on quality interactions with the children and not on evidence based paperwork.

Staff will continue to upload wow moments and special occasions and we will use it as a communication tool to keep you up to date with messages and reminders. We still encourage Parents and Carers to share what the children have been learning at home with us via Tapestry. We love to see what the children are doing with their families.

Staff

As we are a large Nursery, we understand it can be difficult to know who is who in each room and to put a name to a face. So over the next few Newsletters this section will be so you can get to know everyone. This half term will focus on the Daycare office staff.

Daycare Manager is Emma Wealleans. Emma has worked at Windmill for 7 years. Emma is also the Designated Child protection lead and SENCO for Windmill Daycare. She has a level 3 in Childcare and Education and a level 4 in Management. Emma has over 20 years experience working with children in Early years settings.

Assistant Manager is June Hughes. June has also worked at Windmill For 7 years and is also the room lead in the Daffodil room. June has lots of childcare experience and used to have her own childminding business.

Nicola Jowett is the administrative Assistant in the office. Nicola has worked at Windmill for 13 years. She is always ready to support parents to answer any questions or queries they may have or help with online support such as Primary school applications.



Emma Wealleans



June Hughes



Nicola Jowett

Events

We are so thrilled to be able to invite Parents/Carers into Nursery to join in and be part of events and experiences with their children. We have lots planned for this term!

Bonfire Night and Diwali Celebration. Wednesday 3rd November

We will be holding a small firework display, with no loud bangs or rockets so suitable for little ones on Wednesday 3rd November at 4.15pm until 5.30pm.

Tickets will go on sale week commencing 18th October 2021. £1.50 per adult and 50p per child, this includes a hot dog and a soft drink. Tickets can be purchased from the office.

There will be a tombola, chocolate apples, and some Diwali activities to take part in. We hope to see you all there.

Road Safety Week - 16th-22nd November

The children will be doing lots activities linked to keeping safe on the roads.

Singing around the Christmas Tree

Wednesday 8th December -more information to follow.

Christmas Dinner

Full daycare children will enjoy a Christmas dinner on Wednesday 15th December.

Friends of Windmill

Windmill Daycare is proud to have strong links with our community and values all our families. We are looking at starting a conversation group called Friends of Windmill. This will be an opportunity for Parents/Carers to share ideas, thoughts, and feedback about our Daycare provision. These sessions will be held once every half term. It will be an informal group discussion with tea and coffee and will help us to understand what we are doing well and what we could improve on for you and your children.

The first meeting will be held on Thursday 4th November at 10.30am. If you would like to be part of this, please register your interest with Emma in the office.

Children in Need Day- Friday 19th November

Children are invited to wear their pyjamas or Pudsey bear merchandise on Friday 19th November for a donation of £1.00 each. There will also be a bun sale at the end of the sessions outside the office. 25p per bun or 5 for £1.00.

All money raised will go to Children in Need.

Christmas Party

The Christmas party will be held on Friday 17th December. Please note sessional children's times will be shorter that day. An invitation for each child will be sent home soon with more details.