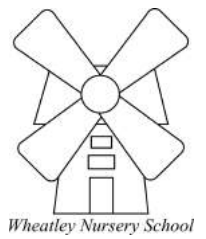


Wheatley Nursery School Newsletter

September/October 2023



Dates for diary

Individual photographs 10th October (if this is a day your child does not attend you are welcome to email Anna to book a slot for a photograph)

Half term 23rd - 27th October 2023

Parents/carers' key people meetings 1st November

Autumn Term 1

We would like to welcome our new staff member Amber. She will be working alongside the children in Little Windmills.

Welcome/Welcome back to Wheatley Nursery School. It has been lovely to see you on the gates when I am at Wheatley on a Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday. We have a very exciting term planned with visits to the library and into the local environment to look at the changing seasons.

A focus on communication and language.



Communication is really important and the building blocks for all of the other areas of the curriculum. Following the lockdown periods of time we are finding that children are starting school with delayed communication and language skills which can then lead to frustrations in other areas. As part of our curriculum and our everyday interactions we focus on developing children's language and vocabulary.

Typically:

Children say their first words about the age of one (although they understand them for some time before this).

By about 18 months children should use about 20 words, but they'll understand more.

By two years old, we expect children to say 50 words and understand between 200 and 500.

By three years old they'll be able to use about 300 words.

Nursery Update

Welcome back to all our children and their families and a very warm welcome to our new children.

The lovely warm weather has been much appreciated and the children have been enjoying playing in the garden.



Hairdressers

We have turned the outside house into a hairdressers and the children are engaging in lots of role play fun there.



By the time a child reaches five years old they'll know and use as many as 2,500 words.

Children need to:

Learn to understand words, sentences and conversation

Learn how to talk using words and sentences. This is often called 'expressive language'

Say speech sounds correctly so they can be understood by others.

Know how to use their language socially. For example, listening

as well as talking, or talking to a teacher differently than to a friend. This is often called 'pragmatic language'

Vocabulary is a strong indicator of reading success (National Literacy Trust, 2017). We know from research that the size of a child's vocabulary is the best predictor of success on future tests. Children with a poor vocabulary at five are four times more likely to struggle with reading in adulthood (Why Closing the Word Gap Matters: Oxford Language Report, 2018).

In school we spend a lot of time supporting children's communication and language development through our scaffolding children in their independent play, introduction of new or more complex words during stories and at group times.

There are lots of different things you can do to help your child's vocabulary development. Here's just a few:

Having a child's attention is important for word learning.

Saying an object's name while helping your child to look at it helps them to learn and remember names for objects that they haven't seen before.

We know that having words and objects together is really helpful for early language development, from around six to 18 months. So, it helps your child to see the object you are talking about, as well as hearing its name. This helps them to make the connection and gives you the chance to explain what new words mean.

Encourage your child to use new words by giving them choices. So, rather than saying "would you like a snack?" ask them "do you want raisins or cucumbers?"

Repetition is really important. Children need to hear a new word lots of times before they learn it properly, so keep saying the word you want them to learn!

Talk about how words are linked together and how they link to words they already know. They might be similar in what they mean (tall, high, long), or be words in the same group



During child initiated play time a group of children were playing a game involving taking their dolls to the doctors and this quickly turned into a hospital being set up in the nursery. The children are having a wonderful time playing hospital based role play games together.



(cat, dog, hamster). Talking about these things helps children learn words well.

There are different types of words and children need to learn them all. So, they need a good vocabulary of doing words (like walking, swimming, driving), describing words (like big, heavy, red), and words that can be used to name things.

Here are some easy ways to extend vocabulary at home

Label items

Labelling items throughout the day will help children to learn the names of objects. Once a child is using single words they will begin to try adding two words together.

Narrate their play

It is a good idea to narrate a child's play to encourage vocabulary. Using single words or joining two words together will enable the child to hear the words and try copying.

Tell stories using puppets

Puppets are a great resource to use when developing children's vocabulary. Puppets can be used to aid songs and stories, or to talk to the children about particular subjects such as following the golden rules. Children respond well to puppets due to the ability to use their imagination, increasing their listening and attention skills. The more attention a child is giving the puppets, the more vocabulary they will be able to take in.

Correct mistakes with care

When a child makes a mistake with vocabulary or pronunciation, it is important not to make them feel embarrassed. You should correct them in a gentle way, possibly repeating the sentence or word back to them in the correct way. You should make the child aware of how the word or sentence should sound without making them feel they have done something wrong.

Repeat repeat repeat

Repeating language is a great way for children to learn and extend their vocabulary. Adults should listen to what the child says and repeat back any key words. This helps the child to hear words spoken clearly and supports them in embedding the words into their vocabulary. Repetition is vital in building an understanding of words and learning to use them in context.

Use picture books and nursery rhymes

Picture books and nursery rhymes support children in developing single words that can then develop into sentences. Playing with rhyming words and being introduced to new words in context will help vocabulary development.

Use visual aids

Visual aids are a great tool in developing vocabulary. These aids can be widgets or real, everyday objects and can be used



Little Windmills update

Welcome back to all our children and a very warm welcome to all our new starters and their families. This is a lovely time of year where the children are exploring a new environment, seeking new experiences and getting to know new people! We have been busy in Little Windmills doing just that and have enjoyed a wonderful start to the new term!



to support children’s understanding of single words. When building up vocabulary, visual aids can be used to accompany a word.

Sharing books is a great way to introduce new vocabulary.



If you have any questions, queries or concerns do feel free to catch me then, alternatively you can email me on

WNShead@johnwatsonschool.org

Natalie

Headteacher

Provision	Session Times	Cost
Nursery School 3-5 yr olds	9:00 - 12:00, 12:00 - 15:00	£16.00
Little Windmills 2 Yr olds	9:00 - 12:00, 12:00 - 15:00	£17.00
Breakfast Club 2-5 yr olds	8:00 - 9:00	£5.00
After School Club	3.00-5.30pm	£15.00

Windmills Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club opens from 8am until nursery starts at 9am. The children have breakfast and then can play in the nursery.

Windmills After School Club After School Club Monday - Thursday 3 - 5.30pm £15.00 per session.

Each week we will have a different theme, during the first week we just let the children settle in and they had free choice - the train track and playdough were a favourite! We will be creating seaside themed goodies and exploring a world of dinosaurs during the next couple of weeks. We will be cooking each week, the cupcakes last week were very yummy!. This week we will be making pizzas and pancakes.

Example: Week 1 menu:

Monday - Beans on Toast

Tuesday - Pasta & Sauce

Wednesday - Crumpets & Cheese



Thursday - Cheese and Salad Wraps

Everyone will be offered yoghurt and fruit afterwards.

We are offering a drink and toast session.

3-3.30pm £3.00 a session

This is designed to help parents who need to collect children from other schools.

To book any of these sessions please email the office on

wheatleynurseryschool@johnwatsonschool.org

Our themes this term are:

- Me, Myself and I
- My family
- Vegetables are good to eat
- Harvest
- My body, Looking after my teeth
- Seasonal changes

Staff at Wheatley Nursery School

Head Teacher - Natalie Wilson

School Business Manager: Amy Wilkinson

Teacher - Judy Whittingham

Special Educational Needs Coordinator- Natalie Wilson

Early Years Support Workers

Laura Ashmore

Beth Ind

Anna Brand

Louise Noble (Little Windmills)

Lucy Sheldon -Moncur (Little Windmills)

Teaching Assistants

Sharon Butterfield

Sharon Slatter

Kayleigh Collins

Julie O'Day

Amber Hill

Apprentice - Daisy Pinkney

Administrator - Anna Harries

Wheatley Nursery School Website:

www.wheatley-nursery-school.org.

Our Facebook Page is working well, please like us by searching Wheatley Nursery School.



Contact: 01865 452 725 or

wheatleynurseryschool@johnwatsonschool.org

www.wheatleynurseryschool.org



In our grouptimes we are thinking about tuning into environmental sounds to develop listening skills and awareness of sounds in the environment. We have already made some shakers, filling bottles with rice and pasta. We sang a song where the children followed instructions to shake the shaker quietly, loudly, fast, slowly, in the air, roll on our tummy, and tap on the floor!

Snack Time

Healthy snacks are the best!

This year we will be having a shared snack. We are asking parents and carers to bring in donations of fruit, vegetables, crackers, cheese etc to share with their key group, each week. The children will be helping to prepare the snack and will be pouring their own water and milk. This all helps with fine motor development, self regulation and independence. We ask parents to avoid sending in any foods containing **nuts or sesame seeds** in order to maintain a safe environment for children with allergies.

Please remember that small fruits such as grapes and cherry tomatoes need cutting in order to avoid choking.

We enjoy celebrating the children's birthdays at Nursery. If you would like to bring in a cake for the children to share that would be lovely but please do not feel that you have to. Please avoid bringing in sweets, chocolate and no banners or balloons as this can cause disruption.

