

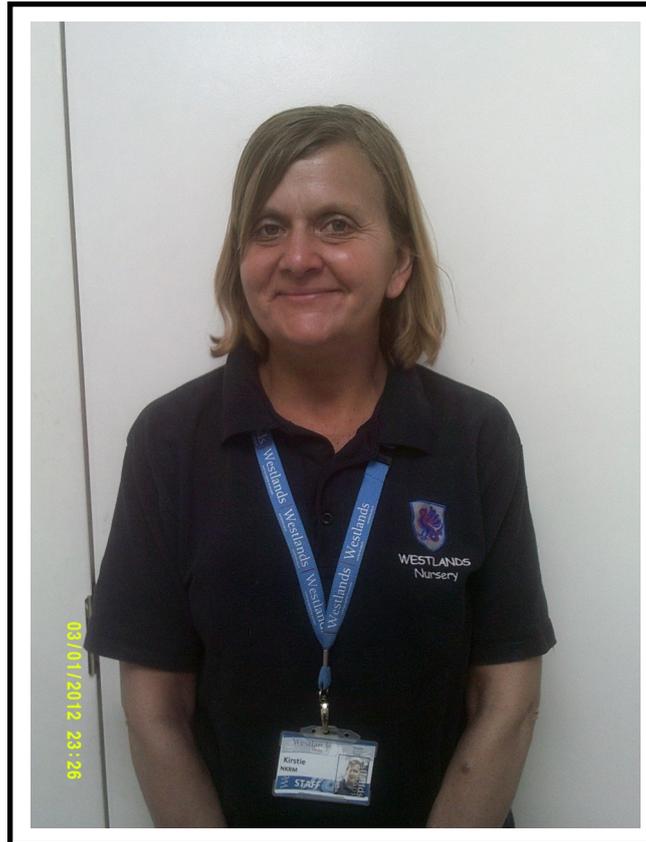


# Westlands Nursery Newsletter

Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 1JS Tel: 01795 430629 E-mail: OfficeNursery@westlands.kent.sch.uk

Interim Manager: Mrs Caroline Taylor

February 2016



It is with great sadness that we must share with you the news that Kirstie Mitchell passed away on Friday 5th February 2016. As you know Kirstie was an Early Years Practitioner in the 3-5 year old room. She was well loved by staff and children alike and will be terribly missed by everyone who knew her. Our thoughts are very much with her family at this difficult time.

You are welcome to contribute to our collection as we plan to commemorate Kirstie in some way. We will share further details of this when we have had time to reflect and consider our thoughts.



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## Congratulations Caroline!

As you will know, Caroline has stepped up into her new role of Interim Manager since Melissa left at the start of the term.

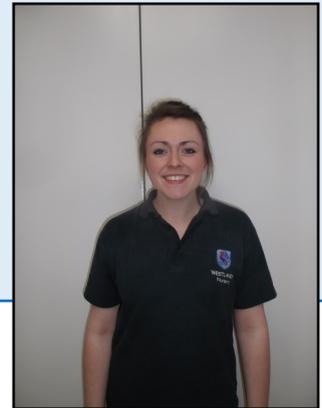


Caroline has worked in the nursery for five years as Deputy so is already well known and experienced in our nursery. Parents have always found Caroline to be friendly, approachable and professional. The relationship between Westlands Nursery and Westlands Primary School has developed into a much closer link over the course of this term thanks to Caroline's enthusiasm. This will benefit our children as we will be able to share the outstanding practice seen in the Early Years at Westlands Primary School. We are very excited about this and are looking forward to seeing the opportunities this will continue to offer in the future.

We're sure you will join us in congratulating Caroline in her new role.

## A big "hello" to Emma!

Emma Brown will be joining us after half term in the 3—5 year old room as an Early Years Practitioner. The children will already know Emma as she has been our cook! She will have her own key children who we're sure will agree that she's a lovely person to know.



## Attendance

Please ensure your child is on time for their session.

Morning: 8:45am—11:45am

Afternoon: 12:30pm—3:30pm

Being on time for their session helps the children to settle more quickly into play. Children can come to nursery on their scooters or bikes but please take these home again as we don't have anywhere to store them safely.

Please ring us to let us know if your child will not be attending their session. If we don't have accurate registers this can affect our funding—which could impact on the resources we are able to provide for your children.

## Dates for your diary

Last day Term 3	Friday 12th Feb
Non-contact day	Mon 22nd Feb
First day Term 4	Tues 23rd Feb
World Book Day	Thurs 3rd March
Easter Bonnet Parade	Thurs 24th Mar
Last day Term 4	Thurs 24th Mar

All our term dates can be found on our [website: westlandsnursery.org.uk](http://westlandsnursery.org.uk)



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## What's going on in the Baby Room next term?

We will be learning all about our families next term. To help us, please bring in photos of where your baby lives, their bedroom, favourite toys, photos of the people who live with them and also any pets they have.

If you would like to have your photos back please let us know so we can return them. We will be making a keepsake book to be kept here at the nursery.

## What's going on in the 2-3 and the 4-5 year old rooms next term?

Both rooms will share the same focus next term. This means we can really get to grips with a shared theme but with slightly different activities to match the children's developmental needs.

Week 1: Spring

Week 2: Spring / Mother's Day

Week 3 & 4: Zoo animals

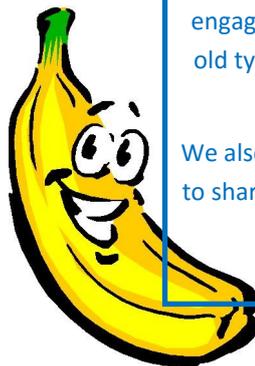
Week 5 Easter

If the children have any books or toys which relate to the topics and would like to share them please send them in. Other toys (apart from comforters) should be left at home in case they get broken or lost.

### Keeping our children safe

Please help us keep all the children safe in the nursery by not opening the front door yourself, or letting other adults in.

Please ask a member of staff to let you out.



### Outside Area

We would like to make our outside area even more interesting and engaging for your children—but we need your help! If you have any old tyres, kitchen utensils or paint that you can give us we would be very grateful.

We also appreciate any fruit or vegetables donated for all the children to share at snack time. Please place any items in the basket provided.

Thank you!



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## Learning Journals & Keeping in touch

Please come in to look at your children's learning journals. These are kept in your child's tray. When you have finished looking at it please fill out the front sheet of the folder with any comments you wish to share.

We encourage you to take these folders at the end of each term to add your own comments/pictures about things your children might have done during their holidays.

Don't forget that we are always here to help and support you and your child. If you have any queries or concerns please get in touch.

## What to wear at nursery?

To help children feel comfortable, keep safe and enjoy their time at nursery we advise the following:

- Wear sensible shoes that children can run in and keep small feet dry and warm (or keep them cool when the weather is warm!)
- Wear old clothes so that paint and mud don't spoil new clothes.
- Keep jewellery for special occasions, not for nursery. We do allow small stud earrings to be worn.
- Send in sun hats, sun cream etc. when the weather is warm and sunny.
- Write your child's name in all clothing, lunch boxes and shoes so we can return anything that gets mixed up or mislaid.



## Nursery Fees

A reminder that fees must be paid on time. Fees are due 2 weeks after the invoice date. If payments are not received your child's place may be withheld until full payment is received.

Please speak to a member of staff if you are experiencing problems in paying for your child's nursery place.

## Westlands & Woodgrove Merge

The potential merge of Westlands and Woodgrove Nurseries is still under consultation. We will keep you up to date with any changes and developments.