



Welcome to the Summer term.

We're looking forward to lots of lovely weather and fun activities at Woodentops. We have 2 Open Mornings booked for parents to look round Woodentops and meet us. These are organised for 3rd May and 15th June 9.30 to 11am.

Party on Potton

We have entered a float into the Carnival on the 27th Aug, we have already managed to book a lorry to take us round and the overall theme is 'Party time'. We thought that we would base our float around the 'Mad Hatters Tea party'.

We are looking forward to working towards this theme throughout the summer and want as many parents, carers and children to participate in the production and the actual ride on the day.

Preparing for school.

To help your children prepare for their next step we thought we'd give you some pointers:- Encourage your child

- *to dress and undress themselves including zips on coats
- *to put on and take off their shoes
- *to tidy away toys
- *to do lots of counting and sorting
- *to use scissors/pens/pencils/tweezers/playdoh/messy play/cooking activities/outside play/visit parks/pegs/dressing up
- *read books everyday with them
- *to do lots of talking

Stay and Play

We're offering the 'Stay and Play' on Monday afternoons, 1.30-3pm and Friday mornings, 9.30-11am.

The idea is parents and carers with young children will get to experience what Woodentops is all about. It also helps the children to settle a lot easier when they do start preschool.

The session costs £2 per family or carer attending, this includes the snack, drink of milk and the activities we may be doing that day.

Dates

8th April- staff sorting out toys and equipment

11th April- Staff training day

12th April -Back to school

15th April-Staff Meeting

27th April- Potton Lower school visit

2nd May Closed- Bank Holiday

3rd May- Open Morning

3rd May- Central Beds development officer visiting

4th May- Asda coming to do a food activity

11th May- Sutton Lower school visit

30th May- Half term

6th June- Back to school

8th June- Potton Lower School visit with school lunch try out.

Funding

Children are entitled to funded hours the term after they are 2 or 3 years old.

Some children can access the 2 year old funding, you should receive a letter from Central Beds telling you your child is eligible for it but occasionally they do miss people out. You can apply here:-

<http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/children/childcare/financial-support/2-year-old-childcare.aspx>

All 3 and 4 year old children are entitled to 15 hours of free early years education per week. They can have 39 weeks in a year.

We need to see your child's birth certificate and record the certificate number plus you need to record your NI number and DOB.

Website and Facebook

Our website is www.woodentops-potton.com and Jackie tries to put up a blog every week or so, about what the children have been doing in the setting. She makes sure that no children's names are included and that any photos taken do not have children in them. Children's permission is always asked before pictures are taken of their artwork, construction or models.

<https://www.facebook.com/Woodentops-Preschool-495593883909021/> this our Facebook page. We try to put photos and information up on it too, again with no reference to children's names or photos of them.

Snails

Following on from the African land snails visiting last term, Jackie has now got 2 snails who want to become 'Woodentops Snails'. One is an albino snail and the other is a brown one. They are going to be in Woodentops daily.

The children will be learning to care for them.

They will be able to take them home for the weekend too. There will be an instruction card attached so that everyone knows what they like to eat and drink.

The 'shuffle up' day at Potton Lower and Sutton Lower schools have yet to be confirmed. Plus the date for the new intake parents evening at Potton Lower which they generally hold in June has also yet to be finalised. As soon as we know the dates you will all be informed.

Messages

We have our Woodentops mobile phone on constantly during setting hours. The number is 07947892823

We also use a texting service to let you know of anything that may be happening at preschool.

SUNHATS & SUNCREAM

With the glorious sunshine around we do need to ensure the children will have adequate sun protection. Please send in a sun hat with your child's name on. We do have 'La Roche-Posay 50+spf' suncream at woodentops for the children.

Injuries/Accidents

Any bumps, bruises or accidents that happen to the children at home, do tell us. We have to record them to ensure we keep the children safe.

Any accidents/incidents that happen at preschool will be recorded and will need to be signed when the child is nicked up