

“Where learning is Fun”

Woodentops Preschool

March 2017

Breaking news- We are planning to open 8am to 4pm Monday to Thursday and 8am to 1pm on Fridays from Sept 17- what do you think? Please tell us if this would help with your childcare.

Childrens Clothes

Please **name** your children’s clothing including **their shoes**- quite a few of the children have the same type and we all get very confused!

Fees

The invoices were sent on 4th March via email, please contact Jackie if you have not received it. Payments are due at the end of March. If payments are not received, you are at risk of losing your child’s place at Woodentops. Arrangements can be made for a payment system if required. Please ask, we will try to support you as much as is possible.

School Visits

We are visiting Sutton Lower on the 22nd March. We will leave Woodentops at 1.15pm, using Jackie’s and Karen’s cars to transport the children. The children will join the reception class activities for the afternoon and then parents/carers can pick up from Sutton Lower at 3pm in their front car park.

Bags2school

We have a bag collection going at 8.30am on the 23rd March. You’ll be given a bag to fill of clothes, shoes and handbags in the next week. The bags are then weighed and Woodentops are given a donation. Please bring your bag in by Wednesday the 22nd. Thank you.

Mother’s Day Celebration

On the 24th March, the children would like to invite their important ‘female’ adult to celebrate Mother’s Day by doing a special lunch. It’s from 11am to 1pm. Those that do not normally attend on a Friday can come in at 11 with their special Adult, normal session for Friday children.

Phonics Fun

We have been doing CK, E and H. We are moving onto R, M and D. The children love them. You can get a free app here - <https://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/jolly-phonics-lessons/id1149029299?mt=8>

Book Week

We are celebrating book week the week beginning 20th March- Children can come in dressed in their favourite book character anytime that week. We would love the children to bring in their favourite book so we can read it at Storytime.

Stay and Play

17th March is our last stay & Play when we do the Caterpillar wiggle. More info to follow.

Mobile Phones and Photos

Please **do not use** your mobile phone at preschool. The children are so eager to speak to you and are very sad if you are on the phone. It’s also a way of keeping your children safe.

Talking to staff

Please remember to talk to staff regarding preschool business at preschool. Out of school they are trying to be ‘ordinary’ mums/people.

Blogs on the website

Jackie does a weekly blog of the fun and learning the children have had. No children are in the photos to keep their identities safe.

Healthy eating

This is information taken from the 5532 leaflet of what portion sizes are good for children- We have been surprised at the portion sizes. We have water available so the children can help themselves throughout the day.

5-a-day Starchy Foods (Potatoes, bread, rice & pasta)

- ½-1 slice bread
- 1-2 rice cakes or oat cakes
- 3-5 tbsp breakfast cereal
- 1-3 tbsp mashed potato
- 2-4 tbsp cooked pasta/rice;

5 -a-day Fruit & Vegetables

- ½-2 tbsp raisins
- ¼-1 banana
- 3-8 grapes- cut in half lengthways- to prevent choking
- ½-2 tbsp peas
- ½-2 tbsp broccoli;

3 -a-day Dairy Foods (Milk, cheese & yogurt)

- 1 beaker of milk (100ml)
- 1 pot of yogurt (125ml)
- 1 cheese triangle;

2-a-day Protein Foods 3 portions if child is vegetarian (Meat, fish, eggs, beans & nuts)

- 2-3 tbsp chickpeas, kidney beans, dhal, lentils or beans
- 2-4 tbsp cooked minced meat

<https://www.nutrition.org.uk/healthyliving/lifestages/feeding-your-toddlerpre-school-child.html>

Opening Times

Woodentops usual hours of handover are 9am, 12pm, 1pm and 3.45pm. We do different hours if a parent requests and if we can accommodate their child. Please do not think we are being awkward or rude for not letting you in if you arrive early, we must ensure the building is safe for the children prior to them arriving. Our insurance also covers us for the hours you have indicated you require.

Front Gates

Please make sure you **shut both gates** when going in and out of Woodentops. The large gate is a little stiff, so may need a good push or shove and the lock should be slid across. This is to keep all our children safe going in and out of Woodentops.

- RSPB visit- 29th March, from 1.15pm to 3.45pm. Older pre-schoolers only. Parents pick up from RSPB at 3.45 please.
- Permission slips coming out soon.

Important Dates

6th March- Jodie Visiting
9th March-Simon Visiting
13th March- Jodie Visiting
14th March- Simon Visiting
17th March- Caterpillar
Wriggle day
20th March- Jodie Visiting
22nd March- visit to Sutton
Lower school
23rd March- Simon Visiting
24th March- Mother's Day
celebration
27th March- Jodie Visiting
28th March- Simon Visiting
29th March- older pre-
schoolers visiting RSPB.
31st March- Easter party, 11
to 1pm, we have Ark Farm
coming at 11am.
18th April- Return to
preschool
9th June- Quiz Night-TBC

Lift off to Language

Karen is continuing her groups this half term. Karen works with 4 children for 6 weeks, developing and extending their communication skills doing short activities and songs.

Any Questions

If you have any comments or concerns please speak to a manager- Jackie, Karen or Sue H.
Thank you.

Toys from home

Bringing toys from home can cause issues for your child. They often do not want to share them- understandably, and others want to play with them. To prevent any upset, we would prefer the toys stay in their bags or at home. Cuddlies are necessary when a child is feeling sad and are used then.