

*“Where learning is Fun”*

# Woodentops Preschool

**May 2017**

**Breaking news**- Open Evening on the 17<sup>th</sup> May from 7 to 9pm. This is for new parents looking for preschool for their children. Please pass on the date to your neighbours or friends. Current parents are more than welcome too.

Thank you.

## 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!

We have lots of Woodentops clothes missing, please could you return them- they are all named.

## Fees

The invoices were sent on 1<sup>st</sup> May via email, please contact Jackie if you have not received it. Payments are due at the end of May. 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 10<sup>th</sup> May. 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.

## Quiz Night

We have booked our Quiz night for the 9<sup>th</sup> June 7.30 to 10.30pm. Teams of 6 people £10 per team. Bring your own snacks and the bar will be open.

## Father’s Day Celebration

On the 16<sup>th</sup> June, the children would like to invite their important ‘male’ adult to celebrate Father’s Day by doing a special breakfast. It’s from 9am to 10am. Those that do not normally attend on a Friday can come in at 9 with their special Adult, normal session for Friday children. RSVP 1<sup>st</sup> June.

## 30 Hour funding

All children who are 3 before Sept 2017 need to apply for the code to enable them to access the extra 15 hours. We have a meeting with Central Beds on 10<sup>th</sup> May so we will know more information after then I hope. Also all parents need to apply for their code the term before their child is 3.

## Stay and Play

**No** stay and play on 16<sup>th</sup> June and 23<sup>rd</sup> June.

## 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.

## Phonics Fun

We continue to do the phonics songs. The children love them. You can get a free app here - <https://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/jolly-phonics-lessons/id1149029299?mt=8>

## 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.

## Stratton Upper School Students

We have 2 students coming from Stratton Upper for 2 weeks' work experience from the 8<sup>th</sup> May to 19<sup>th</sup> May. They are here to find out about our working environment.

## Communication Friendly Award

We have our Childcare Development Officer, Laura Ross, coming for a visit with Emily Winch (Speech and Language Therapist) on the 18<sup>th</sup> May. They will be looking at the portfolio we have prepared and seeing if we meet all the standards to be a Communication Friendly Award Setting

## Physical Activity and Nutrition

Jackie has been on some training to do with this. It's about the children being able to access at least 180mins (3 Hours) of physical activity and us all as adults providing them with nutritional food that will give the energy to be active for at least 3 hours in the day. The Early Years Foundation Stage (government guidance) recommends children under 5 do at least 3 hours activity every day.

## Standalone Farm

We are visiting Standalone farm on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June for our annual school trip, meeting at Standalone car park at 10am. Children need to be picked up from the farm at 2pm. Cost is £5 per child, this includes entry to the farm and an ice cream/lolly. Adults are more than welcome to come too; the cost is £5 per adult. There will be no usual session at Woodentops.

## 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 has been sprayed with WD40 so is easier to close, the lock should be slid across. This is to keep all our children safe going in and out of Woodentops.

## Important Dates

4<sup>th</sup> May- Simon Visiting  
8<sup>th</sup> May- Jodie Visiting  
9<sup>th</sup> May- Simon Visiting  
10<sup>th</sup> May- visit to Sutton Lower school  
11<sup>th</sup> May- Cooking  
15<sup>th</sup> May - Jodie Visiting  
16<sup>th</sup> May- Cooking  
18<sup>th</sup> May- Simon Visiting  
18<sup>th</sup> May- CFA visit  
22<sup>nd</sup> May- Jodie Visiting  
23<sup>rd</sup> May- Simon Visiting  
26<sup>th</sup> May- Cooking

## 29<sup>th</sup> May HALF TERM

9<sup>th</sup> June-Quiz Night  
14<sup>th</sup> June-Potton lower school visit including lunch  
16<sup>th</sup> June-Father's day celebration  
21<sup>st</sup> June- Potton lower teachers visiting

## Any Questions

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

## Lift off to Language

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

## 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.