

# Woodentops Preschool

## Nov/Dec 2019

Blogs on the website and Facebook

Jackie does a monthly blog of the fun and learning the children have had. To keep children safe the photos are anonymous.

### 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! If your child borrows Woodentops clothes, please return them, washed, as soon as possible.

### Term Dates

Autumn term- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept to 13<sup>th</sup> Dec, Half term-21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> Oct.

Spring term 2020- 6<sup>th</sup> Jan to 3<sup>rd</sup> April, Half term- 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> Feb.

Summer Term 2020- 20<sup>th</sup> April to 17<sup>th</sup> July Half term-25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> May

VE day Bank holiday Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June

### This term

**Remembrance Sunday**- This year's Remembrance Service and Parade will be held on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November. The service starts at 10.15am in the Market Square followed by the parade to the War Memorial, leaving promptly at 10.30am and laying of wreaths at the War Memorial at Potton Cemetery in Sandy Road at 11am.

Woodentops have a wreath to lay on memorial. We would love some families to join us. Meet us in the square at 10am.

**Christmas Concert** on 6<sup>th</sup> Dec at 11.30. Join us to listen to our alternative carol concert plus have some Christmas cake, coffee and tea.

**Quiz Night**- On the 6<sup>th</sup> December, we are having a quiz night from 7.30 to 10.30pm. Last time this quiz night was very popular so get your tickets early. Its £4 per person with a team maximum of 8. The bar will be open and they now sell Prosecco!

Tim is the Quiz Master! And there will be some fun picture rounds written by Kathryn.

**Last day of term 13<sup>th</sup> Dec with our Christmas party** 10 to 12pm. There will be **NO normal session** on this day, Woodentops is only open between 10am and 12pm that day. Father Christmas is hoping to pop in at the end. So join us at 11.30 to see your child get their present.

### FUNDED 30 hours

Remember to redo your 30 hour code by the expiry date the HMRC have given you. If you don't you will be liable for preschool fees for the extended 30 hours.

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

### 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.

### Mother's Day treat

This is on the 20<sup>th</sup> March-from 8 am to 10am. Join us for a bacon or sausage sandwich.

### Fathers Day

Join us on the 19<sup>th</sup> June to celebrate those important men in your lives with bacon or sausage rolls. Its from 8am to 10am.

### 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.

### The Signing Company

Jules is continuing to bring Sam on Wednesday mornings to do sing and sign with our children. The children really enjoy these sessions and a few of them are using sign in their play which is lovely to see.

### Home Bears

We now have 3 gorgeous Home bears to go home with you. They love joining in all your fun activities and we really like it when you bring them back with lots of pictures in their diary.

### Your supplementary fee of £1 covers:-

On the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016, the Department of Education issued the following guidance on 'Additional Services'.

'You should use the government funding to provide high quality, flexible early education and childcare. You shouldn't use this to cover the cost of consumable items such as drinks, meals, nappies or additional services such as baby yoga, music lessons and school trips. You can charge parents for additional items or services.'

From the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 the supplementary fee of £1. will cover the costs of all consumables, wipes, snacks and baking sessions. This additional charge also covers the cost of your child's diary, monthly newsletters, learning journals, craft supplies and personal care consumables.

### What does your hourly fee cover?

I've worked out what percentage your hourly fee of £5.25 covers. At the moment, 71% goes on wages, pensions and tax, 9% goes on rent, insurances and the annual Ofsted fee and the remaining 20% is used for snack, resources, visitors, paper towels, wipes etc. In April 2020, the minimum wage will increase which will then reflect in the fees as the government funding may only be increased by 6 to 8p per hour. The proposed wage increase will be around 10% - 42p per hour.

### Important Dates

- 6<sup>th</sup> Nov - Signing with Jules
- 10<sup>th</sup> Nov- Remembrance service
- 13<sup>th</sup> Nov - Signing with Jules
- 20<sup>th</sup> Nov- Signing with Jules
- 27<sup>th</sup> Nov - Signing with Jules
- 4<sup>th</sup> Dec- Signing with Jules
- 6<sup>th</sup> Dec – Carol Concert
- 11<sup>th</sup> Dec - Signing with Jules
- 13<sup>th</sup> Dec -Last day of term and - **XMAS PARTY 10 to 12 2020**
- 6<sup>th</sup> Jan – **BACK TO PRESCHOOL**
- 17<sup>th</sup> Feb – **HALF TERM**
- 20<sup>th</sup> March – Mother's Day breakfast
- 3<sup>rd</sup> April- Last day of term
- 16<sup>th</sup> April- **Schools Admissions confirmed**
- 20<sup>th</sup> April- back to school
- 8<sup>th</sup> May -VE day (Bank Holiday)
- 25<sup>th</sup> May to 29<sup>th</sup> May- Half term
- 19<sup>th</sup> June – Fathers day breakfast
- 10<sup>th</sup> July- possible sports day
- 17<sup>th</sup> July- Last day and End of term party

**Junk- Thank you all for your fabulous supplies, this term we don't need any more junk especially as we are now working to being creative for Christmas.**

### The Gates

Please make sure you **shut both gates** when going in and out of Woodentops. This is to keep all our children safe going in and out of Woodentops.

### Shannon

We'd like to say huge congratulations to Harry and Shannon on the birth of Mason.

### Any Questions

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

### Lunches-

We are **NUT** free setting so no nuts/ sesame biscuits in lunches please including Nutella. We have some severely allergic children. Please provide spoons if your child has a potted desert- we have very few spoons.

### Driving in the car park

Please drive slowly into Woodentops. Remember it is a pathway as well as a car park, so there is often people walking with little ones and buggies. Please park considerately and avoid blocking cars in. If staff must leave it is often for an emergency.

### Toys from home

Bringing toys from home is a lovely way for your child to share. Once shared they will be put in your child's bag or by their name. Cuddlies are necessary when a child is feeling sad and are used then. Thank you.