

# Woodentops Preschool

Jan/Feb 2020

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.

**pjohominWelcome**

We hope you all had a fabulous Christmas and would like to wish you all a happy new year.

**Childrens Clothes**

Please **Name** all your children's belongings including shoes!!! We have quite a few children with the same shoes and same bags/lunchboxes which can be very confusing for all, please display name on the outside.

**Term Dates**

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

Autumn Term 2020- 7<sup>th</sup> Sept to 18<sup>th</sup> Dec, Half Term-26<sup>th</sup> Oct to 30<sup>th</sup> Oct.

**This term**

We have **Mother s day breakfast** on the 20<sup>th</sup> March. All children will be inviting their Mums/ Mummy's, Aunts, Grandma's to join them for a breakfast butty of either bacon or sausage- we do cater for vegetarians and vegans too. The morning starts at 8am for those children that come in at 8, all others can come in at 9am. We will be sending out invites and slips that need to be returned so we can get the right numbers. There will be fun activities to do with your child/children for you to take home. The session finishes a 10am. Those children who normally do a Friday will stay for their normal session.

Our **Easter Party** will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April, we will only be open from 10am to 12pm that day. All children welcome, this is a free session.

**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.

**Fathers Day**

Join us on the 19<sup>th</sup> June to celebrate those important men in your lives with bacon or sausage rolls, we do cater for vegetarians. 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.

**School visits**

This year we have 21 children going to school in September 2020. Once your child's school has been confirmed we will do a parents evening to talk about helping prepare for the transition to school. We have some visits planned for Potton Lower- 30<sup>th</sup> April, 7<sup>th</sup> May and 4<sup>th</sup> June. A session will also be arranged in June. The parents evening is usually at the end of June with the shuffle up day the Friday afterwards, these have yet to be confirmed.

**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.'

Our supplementary fee covers the costs of all consumables, wipes, snacks and cooking sessions. This additional charge also covers the cost of your child's diary, monthly newsletters, learning journals, craft supplies and personal care consumables.

## Fee increases

Due to the increase in minimum wage, we are reviewing our rates for April 2020. Minimum wage is going up by 6.2% which makes a huge difference to our small business outgoings. Fees will be going up to £1.30 per hour for funded children and £5.55 per hour for non funded children

## Important Dates

### 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

30<sup>th</sup> April- PLS visit

7<sup>th</sup> May- PLS visit

8<sup>th</sup> May -VE day (Bank Holiday)

25<sup>th</sup> May to 29<sup>th</sup> May- Half term

4<sup>th</sup> June- PLS visit

19<sup>th</sup> June – Father's Day breakfast

10<sup>th</sup> July- Family Pic Nic

17<sup>th</sup> July- Last day and End of Term party

### Autumn Term

7<sup>th</sup> September

## 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.

## Any Questions

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

## Lunches-

We are a **NUT** free setting so no nuts/ sesame biscuits or confectionary 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.

## 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.

## Items we would love to have

**Paper, ribbon, plastic pots, sticks, feathers, wool, baskets, buttons, costume jewellery, jam jar lids, bottle tops, card, bangles, corks and anything you may consider safe and interesting to play/construct with.**

## POP celebrations 2020

August bank holiday weekend is Carnival time where we decorate a lorry (following the POP theme) with the childrens artwork and designs and then all of us- including children, parents, grandparents and carers, ride round Potton in the carnival. We keep coming 2<sup>nd</sup> in the competition.

## Driving in the car park

Please drive slowly into Woodentops. Remember it is a pathway as well as a car park, so there are 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. A Car Safety booklet is available if you are unsure about car seat laws.