

# Woodentops Preschool

## Posts on Facebook and Instagram

Jackie tries to do a weekly post of the fun and learning the children have had. To keep children safe the photos are anonymous.

## Oct 2022

### Hello Everyone

Welcome to the first newsletter of this term. We are so proud of how well your children are all settling in.

### Lower School open dates

**Potton Lower** is on the 7<sup>th</sup> December- evening meeting.

**Gamlingay Village Primary** is on the 12<sup>th</sup> Oct 9.30 to 10.30 and 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 1.30 to 2.30, with an open evening on 18<sup>th</sup> Oct from 6 to 7pm.

**Sutton Lower** is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct or 7<sup>th</sup> Nov from 3.40 to 5pm.

**Wrestlingworth** is on the 6<sup>th</sup> Oct tours from 9.30, 10.30 and 1.30pm.

**Everton Heath** is on the 17<sup>th</sup> Oct 3.30 and 6.30pm.

### Woodentops wants to encourage Lifelong Learning- We

encourage children to have a regular early bedtime routine and a morning routine. We prepare children to be: -

**Independent-** be able to open and eat their lunch independently, go to the toilet and wipe themselves; get dressed and undressed.

**Routines-** leave their grown up with a quick goodbye.

**Sharing and taking turns-** be able to play with others, share toys, take turns, use manners, respect others and toys.

**Self-Confidence-** explore new things and ask for help.

**Being Active-** enjoy playing outside, run, climb, jump, skip, balance and hop, joining in with The Barns sessions and signing sessions, use different equipment- balls, hoops, spades etc.

**Stories and talking-** share stories and look at books, like to talk to others and ask questions.

**Listening to others-** sit and listen for a short while and follow instructions.

**Mark making and counting-** enjoy making marks using lots of different things, be able to count groups of objects and enjoy number rhymes and counting games.

**When the children leave Woodentops we want them to succeed in their next adventure of life and learning.**

### 30-hour Code.

Please remember to renew your child's 30 hour code. You should get an email from gov.uk. It should be done by October half term. If it's not renewed you will lose the funding for the next term. If your child is turning 3 before 31<sup>st</sup> December 22 and you work for more than 16 hours or earn more than £150 per week you can apply for a 30 hour code (an 11 digit number) through [https://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare?utm\\_source=childcarechoices&utm\\_medium=microsite](https://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare?utm_source=childcarechoices&utm_medium=microsite)

### Mobile Phones and Photos

Please **DO NOT USE** your mobile phone on Preschool premises, from the entry gate to the exit gate. This is our way of keeping all your children safe.

### Session fees.

The funded session fees are £3.50 for a 3-hour session and £7 for a 6-hour session. Funded sessions are 9 to 3pm, 9 to 12pm or 1pm to 4pm.

### Hourly Fees

Our hourly fee is £6.50. This is the fee for non-funded hours.

### Important Dates

**24<sup>th</sup> Oct to 30<sup>th</sup> Oct-** Half Term.

**31<sup>st</sup> Oct-** back to school

**16<sup>th</sup> Dec-** last day of term

**4<sup>th</sup> Jan-** Spring term starts

**13<sup>th</sup> Feb to 17<sup>th</sup> Feb-** Half Term.

**31<sup>st</sup> March-** last day of term

**17<sup>th</sup> April-** Summer term starts.

**29<sup>th</sup> May-2<sup>nd</sup> June-** Half Term.

**19<sup>th</sup> July -** last day of term.

### Our Accreditations

#### Communication Friendly award.

Fabulous news. We were awarded our re-accreditation in July from Central Beds. Jackie receiving the award.



## Talking to Staff

Please remember to talk to staff regarding Preschool business at Preschool. Out of school they are trying to be 'ordinary' parents/people.

## Our Woodentops Animals

**Rainbow**- our Dwarf hamster, loves being with the children, she always wakes up for snack time. Her favourite foods are grapes, apple and cheese. Rainbow will be 2 years old in February 2023.

## Illness

**Sickness and Diarrhoea** - Just a reminder that children must remain at home until 48 hours have passed since the last episode of diarrhoea and /or vomiting.

**Covid**- Please keep your child at home if they have tested positive for covid for 5 days after the test day.

**Calpol/Nurofen Medicines**- Please do not send your children in if they have been given any of these medications. If they need them to function, they are not well enough to attend preschool.

## June 22 Questionnaire

We had some lovely responses from our last questionnaire and had 42 responses, over 75% of our families. Some responses included- 'I love how supportive Woodentops is with both parents and children'; 'Staff are amazing'; 'It's home from home'; 'Promoting independence, growth and aspirations'; 'Staff are so caring and kind'.

## The Beds and Luton Children's Community Health Hub.

The Health HUB is our one stop service for Health Visiting, School Nursing 0-19 and our Looked after Children Teams for parents, carers and professionals. The Luton Community Paediatric Service can also be contacted via this number, but for emails please continue to use their own dedicated email address. To access the Health HUB call us on 0300 555 0606 or email: [ccs.bedsandlutonchildrenshealthhub@nhs.net](mailto:ccs.bedsandlutonchildrenshealthhub@nhs.net)

The trained Hub administrators will be at the end of the phone to help, advise, and to signpost to you to the correct services.

## Children's colds

It's normal for a child to have 8 or more colds a year.

This is because there are hundreds of different cold viruses and young children have no immunity to any of them as they have never had them before.

They gradually build up immunity and get fewer colds.

Most colds get better in 5 to 7 days but can take up to 2 weeks in small children.

Here are some suggestions for how to ease the symptoms in your child:

Make sure your child drinks plenty of fluids.

Saline nose drops can help loosen dried snot and relieve a stuffy nose. Ask a pharmacist, GP or health visitor about them.

If your child has a [high temperature](#), pain or discomfort, children's [paracetamol](#) or [ibuprofen](#) can help. Children with [asthma](#) may not be able to take ibuprofen, so check with a pharmacist, GP or health visitor first. Always follow the instructions on the packet.

Encourage the whole family to wash their hands regularly to stop the cold spreading.

We are a well child setting and if your child needs Calpol/Nurofen equivalent medication to keep going, please keep them at home. When the medication wears off they get very uncomfortable and upset. The children would much rather be at home with their mummy and daddy.

## Naming Clothes and bags

Please name your little one's clothing and bags. They are so easy to lose when we have 28 little ones in setting.

## Lunches

Please cut your child's grapes in half lengthways and also tomatoes. This is to prevent choking. Avoid any nut products please including Nutella. No sweets or pieces of chocolate please.

## Any Questions

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

## Entrance to Woodentops

Our entrance gate is by the football club ticket office. The exit gate is by the Office doors. Please make sure anyone picking up your child knows too. Please **shut the gates** when going in and out of Woodentops.