

Woodentops Preschool

March 2023

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.

Hello Everyone

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

30-hour Code.

Please remember to renew your child's 30 hour code. You should have got an email from gov.uk. It must be done by the end of March to get your funding for the summer term. If it's not renewed you will lose the funding for the next term. If your child is turning 3 before 31st March 23 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

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 £5 for a 3-hour session and £10 for a 6-hour session. Funded sessions are 9 to 3pm, 9 to 12pm or 1pm to 4pm.

Hourly Fees

Our hourly fee is £7.50. This is the fee for non-funded hours. We are open 8am to 4pm Monday to Thursday and Fridays 8 to 1pm.

Important Dates

17th March- Mothers Day celebration

24th March- Stay and play for our Summer term starters.

31st March- last day of term

17th April- Summer term starts.

29th May-2nd June- Half Term.

16th June- Fathers day celebration

19th July - last day of term.

Last day of term- 19th July 2023

On the last day of term, we will be open from 10am to 11.30 for the children to enjoy a super story session with Widdershins Theatre. We will be inviting parents in from 11.30 to 12.30 to join in with a picnic for themselves and their children.

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

Snowy- our new little Dwarf Russian hamster enjoys coming into see the children. She stays at Jackie's at the weekends and holidays.

Sticky- Our stick insect, he tends to come out at night and loves to eat bramble leaves. He also holidays at Jackie's house.

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 medication to function, they are not well enough to attend preschool.

March 23 Questionnaire

We will be sending our questionnaire out this month- both as a survey monkey and paper form. It's really helpful to have your views about Woodentops and how we manage your children's care.

Spaces for the summer term

We have some afternoons available if you would like to increase your child's morning session to a day session. All mornings are full.

Extra Hours

If you need extra hours or to extend your child's day please ask, we have to ensure we keep to our ratios and if you haven't told us you need earlier or later hours we will be turning your little one away if we haven't got the correct staff to child ratio.

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** 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, we will name them using a sharp pen.

Please put your children in Velcro shoes, this encourages them to put their shoes on themselves and promotes their independence.

Summer wear

Please remember to put your children in closed toes shoes, **NO** crocs or sandals. This is because we have lots of toys that would hurt their feet if they accidentally dropped anything on them. In warm weather please apply sun cream prior to your child coming in, we will reapply after lunch.

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 and almonds. No sweets or pieces of chocolate please.

Iconnect

We are hoping to launch our new app in April 2023. Parents will have an app called parentzone. I have a meeting on 10th March and will know more information then.

Any Questions

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

September 2023

We will be opening 4 days a week from September, **Monday to Thursday** 8am to 4pm. Children will still be able to access their full 15 hours and 24 of their 30 hours. Funded hours will be between 9 to 12, 9 to 3pm and 1 to 4pm

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.

Toys from home

We prefer not to have toys come from home- we're always worried about losing them. If children want to show us their toys, they can and then we will put them in their bag so they are safe.

Cuddlies are necessary when a child is feeling sad and are used then. Thank you.