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Summer Term 2018

Hello, we are now well into the swing of the summer term and it has already been a busy one. We have been to see how tall the clocktower is. We investigated the mystery of the 'snow', learnt about Hanami and we have been observing insects in our garden. If you would like to know more about these and our other adventures you can find details in our Thinking Book.

Ofsted

As you know we had 'the' visit from Ofsted in January. I hope you have had a chance to look at the report. What is not in the report is that our Ofsted inspector told me how much she had enjoyed her day at WPS and that it made her realise how much she missed working directly with young children.

We often hear from visitors that WPS has a lovely 'feel' about it. Whilst that is a nice thing to hear – it is also fundamental to the well-being of the children & families that join us. At this early stage in their development children need to know that they are loved & valued. They need opportunities to make mistakes and to learn from them. We want them to feel secure in the knowledge that they can depend on us. We aim to balance individual initiative with a willingness to work with others. All these things will support further positive development in life as well as education.

I am so very proud of WPS and the work that we do here. Congratulations to our WPS family (staff, families, children & carers) – we all had a part to play in the outcome of the inspection. You are all OUTSTANDING!

Diary dates

Term Dates

Summer (1) 16th April-25th May

Summer (2) 4th June-20th July

(Inset days are to be confirmed)

Antiques Fair:

Thursday 17th May, 2018

Thursday 21st June, 2018

Antiques Fair

Every 3rd Thursday in the month the main hall is used for an antiques fair. On these days we use the garden entrance and the car park will be very busy. Please take extra care.

Fundraising dates

Pyjama Dress up (donations to TYMES Trust – see message from Sharon at end of letter for details) : 9th May

Sponsored Nature Walk & Picnic : 25th May

Fathers Day Craft : 11th June



Infection Control

It is inevitable that children will catch coughs/colds and other childhood illnesses at some point.

At WPS we have a duty to all our families (and staff) to ensure that we do all we can to control illnesses and infections. If your child is sick or has diarrhoea they **MUST NOT** come into preschool until they are clear of symptoms for 48 hours. If your child is poorly enough to have medicine to control fever or pain (ie Calpol) the best place for them is snuggled up at home. We have children attending WPS who suffer from low immune function and in addition staff have family members who are suffering from long term illness.

On occasion there may be exceptions to these guidelines. You can always call us for advice. However, if in doubt – keep them home!

NOTICE BOARD

Contact

It is extremely important that you ensure all contact details are up to date. We must be able to contact you in case of an emergency. Please also inform us of any new medical conditions/allergies.

Mobile phones

It is a safeguarding requirement that mobile phones and cameras are not used within the pre-school except those belonging to the pre-school. I must insist PLEASE that you do not use your mobile phone when in the pre-school. Particularly not for photos as we have some families who specifically ask for photos **not to be taken**. If you must take a call please do so in the foyer area before entering the setting to drop off or collect your child.

Car Parking

All pre-school parents should have a permit, which allows them to use the car park. These permits allow you to park in the Memorial Hall car park to **drop off and pick up** your child **from pre-school**. Permits must **only** be used at these times and on the days that your child attends. If you do not already have a permit please ask. Please make sure that it is displayed clearly in your car.

The memorial hall committee may challenge people who park in the car park, as unauthorised parking is an on-going problem.

EYFS curriculum

There is a link on our website (www.wendoverpreschool.org.uk) to the Foundation Years Website. Here you will find information about the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).

You may find the new publication [What to expect, When?](#) particularly useful when supporting your children at home and understanding their development.

If you don't have access to a computer please let us know and we can print information for you.

Sun Protection

During the summer months please ensure that your child is wearing sun cream BEFORE coming into the pre-school. We will top up sun cream if necessary (if you have given us permission to do so). It is also sensible for children to wear light clothing that covers their vulnerable skin. Don't forget a (named) hat!



Transitions to 'big' school

It is that time of year again when we are preparing some of our children for the move to 'big' school. We will welcome new teachers into Pre-school to visit the children during the next half term. This is particularly beneficial as they get to observe the children in a familiar environment and see them at play. We share information with new teachers that will help them to get to know their new students.

We always approach the end of term with mixed feelings. It is so hard for us to say goodbye to children & families that we have grown close to during their time with us. However, we also feel so proud that our little ones are fully prepared for their transition and for the next part of their learning journey.

We will soon set a date for graduation. This is a very informal get together during which our summer leavers will sing a song or two and be presented with their Learning Journeys and a little gift. All summer leavers and their families are invited to attend (even if it is not your usual session). Don't forget to bring your tissues – it does get a little emotional!

Collecting children at end of session

Can we please ask that children be collected promptly at the end of the morning to avoid disruption to lunch/afternoon sessions? Children should also be collected promptly at the end of the day in order to allow staff time to clean & tidy ready for the following day. We understand that there may be times when a delay in collection is unavoidable. In these instances please telephone to let us know. Please also write in the diary or call us to let us know if somebody else will be collecting your child (please note – that they must always have your password).

Parental Feedback

If you think there are areas of our provision that could be improved – let us know. Additionally, if you love what we do at WPS then it is good to know that too! There is a short feedback form at the end of this newsletter. Please fill it out and bring back into pre-school. We welcome input from all members of the family – so if Nanny or Grampy etc. would like to fill one out too we would be very happy to receive their comments. There will be copies available for those that can't print at home - just ask. The feedback forms can be anonymous if you wish (just leave them in the parent feedback box). I would appreciate you taking the time to do this for us. We are particularly keen to hear from our families that will be leaving us in July.

We hope you have a wonderful term.

Sharon & team x

Personal message from Sharon regarding Pyjama fundraising day 9th May 2018 –

My 12-year-old son, Toby, has recently been diagnosed with Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (M.E.). He fell ill in January this year and is now mostly housebound and unable to attend school. M.E. is a neurological illness and can be particularly severe in children. Pain, nausea and exhaustion are key features. Any exertion, physical, mental or emotional, can cause Toby to relapse. During a relapse Toby can also experience breathing difficulties & temporary paralysis. M.E. Awareness Week 2018 runs from Monday 7th to Sunday 13th May and provides a chance for charities and people affected by M.E. to raise awareness and understanding.

The WPS Fundraising committee have kindly agreed to donate the proceeds of the Pyjama dress up day to TYMES TRUST (The Young M.E. Sufferers Trust). This trust has been a lifeline for my family. They have offered support and information that has been invaluable to us. Thank you in advance for your support.

2018 WPS Feedback form:



Please tell us about your positive experiences at WPS. What do you & your children like?

Please tell us about your ideas for improvement. What could we add? What could we change?

Are there any other comments that you would like to make?



Fundraising News

Pyjama Dress up

Wednesday 9th May we are inviting all the children to come in dressed up in their pyjamas. Suggested donation of £1. In this instance the money will be donated to TYMES Trust (The Young ME Sufferers Trust). The trust supports families with children suffering from ME (Myalgic Encephalomyelitis).

Sponsored Nature Walk & Picnic

Friday 25th we will be inviting the parents/carers to join the children for this sponsored walk, which will end with a picnic in Castle Park. Last year the weather was wonderful so fingers crossed it will be this year. Sponsorship forms will be going out next week.

Fathers Day Craft

More details to follow but week commencing 11th June we will be giving the children the opportunity to make a gift for Father's Day. A letter will go out before the half term with more details.

Thank you all for your continued support with all the fundraising.

Alice, Louise, Adele & Lynn