



### **Contact Information:**

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### **Autumn Term 2019**

Welcome back everyone – we hope you had a fabulous summer! We wish an especially warm welcome to Eddie, Eva, Nettie, Bertie, Isla, Noah, Lois & Tristan who have joined our WPS family this term. We hope you will have many happy days here with us.

### **Signing in/out**

Our Local Authority requires all children to be signed in at the start of a session and out again when they leave. The signing in/out sheet will be available in the foyer in the morning and then in the setting once the session begins. If you are unsure just ask. We can sign in/out for you, if you forgot or are in a hurry, however, we will circle the time so that we know it was filled out by a staff member.

### **Collecting children at end of session / Passwords**

We understand that there may be times when a delay in collecting your child is unavoidable. In these instances please telephone to let us know. Please be prepared to give us your password to confirm your identity when calling.

If somebody else will be collecting your child please write in the diary or call us to let us know. If we are ever unsure or do not recognise the person collecting we will ask for your PASSWORD. We ask for your understanding if we have to ask a family member – if we do not see people regularly we may not recognise them. As a rule anyone that collects your child from Pre-school must be able to tell us your individual password.

### **Lunch boxes**

Children who attend lunch club should bring a healthy packed lunch from home. You can find out information & guidelines on healthy lunches at [Children's Food Trust](http://www.childrensfoodtrust.org.uk) under the section 'Your Child's Food At Nursery'. There is lots of other useful information about healthy eating for children on this site.

### **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 our families (and staff) to ensure that we do all we can to control illness and infection. If your child is sick or has diarrhoea they MUST NOT come into preschool until they are clear of all 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 to this staff members have family 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!

### **Celebrating Birthday's in Pre-school**

Please let us know if you would like us to celebrate your child's birthday in Pre-school. We do not do this as a matter of routine. We have found that not all parents like us to and some children may feel uncomfortable with being the centre of attention. If you do give us permission we will celebrate by bringing out the golden birthday chair for your child at group time/snack time and they will get a special crown.

In the past it has been a tradition for the birthday child to bring in sweets/goodies to share with their friends at home time. This tradition is no longer practical now that children leave at various times throughout the day, we have children with allergies & we are a healthy eating setting. As an alternative your child may like to bring in a fruit platter to share at snack time. This could be fruit kebabs, or a fruit salad. Another idea is to bring in a special book or story to share at group time.



## Diary dates

### Term Dates 2019 / 2020

AUTUMN 2019	5TH SEPTEMBER 2019 – 17TH DECEMBER 2019 (FINISH @ NOON)
HALF TERM (closed)	28TH OCTOBER 2019 – 1ST NOVEMBER 2019
SPRING 2020	7TH JANUARY 2020 – 3RD APRIL 2020 (FINISH @ NOON)
HALF TERM (closed)	17TH FEBRUARY 2020 – 21ST FEBRUARY 2020
SUMMER 2020	20TH APRIL 2020 – 17TH JULY 2020 (FINISH @ NOON)
HALF TERM (closed)	25TH MAY 2020 – 29TH MAY 2020
INSET DAYS	6TH DECEMBER 2019 1ST JUNE 2020

### Antiques Fair:

Thursday 19th September, 2019

Thursday 17th October, 2019

Thursday 21st November, 2019

Thursday 19th December, 2019

#### Antiques Fair

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

### Routines

Routines are important because they give children a sense of security and control over their environment. Children learn what to expect at various times in the day and as they begin to participate in these routines, they will experience a sense of control and satisfaction at being able to perform part of or all of the tasks associated with the routine. Some of the important skills children learn through routines include: self-control, positive behaviour and social skills. Routines can even help to reduce power struggles between you & your child.

Our routines at Pre-school are just as important. On arrival children should be encouraged to: Independently find their name on the tree (enabling children to recognise their name helps in later schooling). Walk to the cloakroom to hang up their belongings (aiding the transition process). Enter the playroom and move their photo across on the self register board.

During a session the children are given audio 'clues' as to what is coming next. For example:

- Sharon counts down from 5 to signify 'hello song' and 'wake & shake' time
- Sharon calls 'macaroni cheese' which prompts the response 'freeze' when the children need to stand still
- Children are told 'it's time to put everything back where it lives' at tidy up time
- Our Tom Ted song means that 'Tom' has something to share with us
- The goodbye songs denotes the end of the session

Following consistent routines day after day gives children the sense of security they need to make choices and take risks, which opens the door to exciting learning opportunities.

**You can learn more about our routines at the end of this newsletter in "A typical day in the life of a Pre-schooler"**



## 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.**

### EYFS curriculum

There is a link on our website ([www.wendoverpreschool.org.uk](http://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.

### 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.

### Communication, advice & support

Your child's Early Years Teacher (Sharon) or Key person are always happy to have a chat with you about your child's wellbeing, development and their next steps. Just let us know when is a good for you and we will do our very best to arrange a mutually convenient time.

Did you know that you could also make an appointment with Sharon for advice, help & support with any aspect of parenting? Do you have a burning question about toilet training, eating, behaviour or sleep patterns? Sharon has 30 years of experience in early years childcare & education and as an Early Years specialist teacher she has a wealth of knowledge about all aspects of caring for young children. Appointments can be made for any time during the morning (or afternoon session) but must usually be made in advance so as Sharon can organise time out of the session.



### **A note from WPS Fundraising team**

(Well, fundraising team is a bit of a stretch. The team is currently made up of one amazing Mummy!)

*Dear all,*

*We are desperately in need of a few extra pairs of hands on the fundraising team. If you can spare just a little time here or there to help out or you enjoy baking or arts and crafts and would like to get involved please contact Adele (Isla's mum) on 07804542022. Even if you can only help with one activity during the year it would be nice to know that we have people we can call on.*

*Thank you in advance.*

*Adele*

### **Challenge Cards**

Challenge cards can be found on the table in the foyer. The challenge cards provide you with ideas that will encourage learning & development at home. They are fun, short activities that will fit into your daily routine.

- Take a card home once a week (or more if you would like to).
- Choose the card with your child to encourage participation and ownership.
- Follow the instructions together.
- Have fun
- Share photos, observations or children's work with your key person.
- Bring back the card for others to enjoy.

If you take a challenge card you could make a note of how the activity goes or take a photo and to share with us at WPS. The children love to tell us about what they have been doing at home.

We look forward to celebrating your child's achievements with you. Have a wonderful term.

Sharon & team x

Have you ever wondered what your little one gets up to at WPS?

**Please read on to get an insight into "A typical day in the life of a Pre-schooler"**



## **A day in the life of a Pre-schooler**

I arrive at Pre-school and wait in the foyer with my friends until the door opens and it is time to go in and play. Whilst I wait I find my name on the tree. I look carefully at all the nametags and try to find my special picture. As I get bigger I will be able to start recognising my name rather than just looking for the picture.

Then at 9am the door is opened. I rush in and down the corridor to put my nametag, bag and coat on a hook. I choose a red hook today. The one right next door to my friend! Into the playroom we go... "Hello, hello, hello everyone". I find the photo of me and move it across on the board to show that I am here. I can also see which of my friends are here too.

Lets see – what is out today? Yesterday I was playing with the play dough, making different patterns with things that I found in the toy box. Today my teacher has put lots of animals with the play dough so that we can make footprints. 'Goodbye Daddy – you can go now. You can't stay and play. Pre-school is not for you".

After playing with the dough I look at a book with my teacher. It is about looking for footprints. We then look at the patterns on the bottom of our shoes and see that they are all different. Mine have a wiggly pattern. My friend's shoes have a square pattern.

We decide to draw some patterns. I draw straight lines from the top to the bottom and circles anti-clockwise – my teacher tells me that this will help me get ready to write. My friend uses red & blue pens and I use pink and green. Then we share the colours with another friend who has joined us.

It is mat time, The countdown begins...5,4,3,2,1,0.

"Shhh – time to listen, time to look".

We sing and sign our 'hello' song and then we wake up Tom Ted. What will he have for us today? Tom has a story for us – about a Mummy who & Daddy who love to wear patterns. Mummy wears spots and Daddy wears stripes. We giggle at the book and then look at each other's clothes. Do we love spots or stripes?

Time for a wake and shake wiggle. I love wake and shake – it warms me up, helps me to listen and to follow instructions. It also develops my posture, strength and balance. After moving to some groovy music we put our mats in a pile and we are then ready to play.

I go to my peg and get my coat before lining up to go outside. It is hard to put my coat on by myself. My teacher shows me how and I manage to do one arm all by myself, she is so proud of me. If I keep practising I will be able to do it on my own soon.

Outside I jump and climb, dig and paint. I work with my friends to build a huge tower and squeal as it falls down! I look for patterns with my teacher. We see diamond shape patterns in the fence. We make patterns in the sand with wheels. I find a stripe pattern on a zebra!

My group is called for snack and I go to the kitchen to wash my hands. I make bubble gloves with the soap. I giggle with my friend as I wash off my bubble gloves. I then dry my hands and collect a plate and cup. I choose a seat, a red one the same as my peg, and sit at the table. We have watermelon and breadsticks today. My friend calls it a lemon and we talk with our teacher about the difference between a melon and a lemon. We look at some pictures of fruit and talk about what is inside when we cut them up. The watermelon has lots of pips. I don't like eating the pips so I leave them on my plate. Then my teacher says maybe we could count the pips. I had 7 pips and my friend had 8 pips!

After snack time my teacher reminds me that I might need to go to the loo soon. So before I go back to play I go to the bathroom. I need some help with my clothes, as it is difficult to get my trousers down. But I can climb up on the toilet by myself. When I have finished and my teacher has helped me dress again I rush out of the bathroom to go and play. "Hold on a minute," says my teacher "have you forgotten something"?

"Oh no, I forgot to wash my hands" What a noodle.



As I walk back through the playroom I see some friends playing with the farm on the carpet. I sit down with them and join in. We sort all the animals out as they are all jumbled up. We put the pigs in one house, the cows in another and the horses in another. One of my friends had a horse but she got upset when somebody else wanted it and a teacher came to see if she was ok. We talked about taking turns. Then we practised as we played a game of galloping the horse before passing it to the next person. We all had a turn and it was really fun. My teacher sang a song about a horse going "clippety-clop" so we clippety-clopped around the room. The song said 'tail go's swish' but we don't have tails! Our teacher suggested that we make some tails.

We thought about what our tails would look like and our teacher found some pictures of animals so we could see different sorts of tails. I wanted a long brown tail like the horse in the book and my friend wanted a pink curly tail like the piggy. We found some paper in the art cupboard and then talked about how we could make our tails. I used the scissors to cut the brown paper and then used sticky tape to put all the bits together. Our teacher helped us with the tricky bits. Then we put our tails on, we needed lots of sticky tape and lots of help. Off we go to play wiggling our tails behind us.

Time to sit on the carpet for a story before we get ready for lunch. After saying goodbye to some of our friends we go to the kitchen and wash our hands. We then collect our lunchboxes and are given a sign with a colour on it. I get the blue one. I then go to the table and find the other blue sign – yay they match – this is where I will sit to eat my lunch with my friends and my teachers. Sandwiches first, then fruit and yogurt. My teachers are there to help me to open zips, packets or pots until I am big enough to do it myself. I love it when I have the same as someone else. Today I had an apple, the same as my friend and the same as my teacher! I put all my wrappers and any food that I don't eat back into my lunchbox so as when I get home you can see what I have eaten.

After lunch we play on the carpet until everyone has finished. Then we can go outside again. I play with the cars and the ramps. We put the ramps onto the wall and whizzed the cars down. My teacher shows us how to make a line on the playground with the chalk to see how far our cars had travelled. My car went the furthest.

I feel a bit tired so after another visit to the loo I snuggle up with my teacher to read a story. Then we play a quiet game together. It was a game of matching socks. We had to find the patterns that were the same. My friend came to join in and I shared some of my sock pictures with him. Our teacher helped us to remember whose turn it was next. Someone else then came to join us and my teacher asked me to explain the game. I used my words to tell my friend what to do and my teacher said I did a great job.

We then play in the home corner. We pretend to wash socks in the washing machine. We used pegs to hang the socks on a washing line. They are tricky to open but our teacher shows us how. After a while I can open the peg with one hand instead of using two hands. My teacher tells me that my hands are getting nice and strong which will help me with my drawing and writing.

Then it's time for a little afternoon snack. I have some milk and cucumber. After snack we go to the mat for relaxation time. We rest our heads on our mats and our teacher puts on a special Relax Kids story. The story is about blowing bubbles. We listen carefully and breathe in and out as we pretend to blow bubbles. I think my friend might go to sleep. Our teachers rest with us and help us to concentrate.

After saying goodbye to some more of our friends we play a game all together. It is a jumping squirrel game and it makes us laugh so much when the squirrel pops out of the tree. After the game we all work together to do a big floor puzzle. It is a farm puzzle and we look carefully at all the different tails on the animals.

Then we can choose to watch a DVD in the quiet room with one of our teachers or play with the marble run on the carpet. I snuggle on the sofa with my teacher and my friends as we watch Tractor Tom on the farm. There were lots of tails and patterns to spot on the farm. When the DVD is over it is time to go home.

What a busy day. I am ready for a rest now. "Bye bye teachers I will be back to play again tomorrow"