



Contact Information:

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Autumn Term 2020

Welcome back to a little bit of normality! We wish an especially warm welcome to Rosie, Laura, Thomas, George, Fayaz, Elise, Tilly, Charlie & Sam who will join 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. Usually the signing in/out sheet will be available to parents/carers in the foyer in the morning and then in the setting once the session begins. However, as we are using the garden entrance and minimising contact your child will be signed in and out of WPS by staff.

Collecting children / Passwords

Children must be collected promptly at the end of their session or within 15 minutes if we need to send them home during a session for any reason. During the current circumstances we need to know that we can shut the preschool promptly should we have a staffing issue or any other emergency.

If you need to inform us of a change of person collecting your child - please ring the setting and be prepared to give us your password to confirm your identity during the phone call. **At any time anyone collecting a child from WPS may be asked for a child's password** – particularly if we do not recognise them or if we have not been informed of a change in person collecting.

Lunch boxes

Children who attend lunch club should bring a healthy packed lunch from home. If children have chocolate or sweet treats in their lunch box we will encourage them to save it for home time. You can find out information & guidelines on healthy lunches at [Children's Food Trust](#) under the section 'Your Child's Food At Nursery'. There is lots of other useful information about healthy eating for children on this site.

We will support children to develop their independence when eating their lunch. This will help them when they go on to 'big' school. Please keep this in mind when packing a lunch – avoid fiddly wrappers or difficult lids.

Infection Control

It is inevitable that children will catch coughs/colds and other childhood illnesses at some point and I would usually advise that if you keep your child at home for every cough, cold or runny nose we might never see them! However, in the current circumstances we ask that you err on the side of caution. If anyone in your household has covid-19 symptoms, no matter how mild, you must isolate & get tested to keep others safe. Whilst we encourage everyone to get tested if they display symptoms, if you choose not to take your child for a test you must isolate for the full 14 days. At WPS we have a duty to our families and staff to ensure that we do all we can to control illness and infection.

A reminder of the rules for vomiting & diarrhoea – your child must stay at home for 48 hours after the last bout of vomiting &/or diarrhoea to reduce the risk of spreading infection.





Term Dates 2020/2021

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| AUTUMN 2020 | 3RD SEPTEMBER 2020 – 16TH DECEMBER 2020 |
| HALF TERM (closed) | 26TH OCTOBER 2020 – 30TH OCTOBER 2020 |
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| SPRING 2021 | 5TH JANUARY 2021 – 1ST APRIL 2021 |
| HALF TERM (closed) | 15TH FEBRUARY 2021 – 19TH FEBRUARY 2021 |
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| SUMMER 2021 | 19TH APRIL 2021 – 16TH JULY 2021 |
| HALF TERM (closed) | 31ST MAY 2021 – 4TH JUNE 2021 |
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| INSET DAYS | 4TH DECEMBER 2020 1ST APRIL 2021 7TH JUNE 2021 |
| | |
| NOTES | 16TH DECEMBER 2020 – CLOSE @ 12 NOON 31ST MARCH 2021 – CLOSE @ 12 NOON 15TH JULY 2021 – LAST DAY OF TERM 16TH JULY 2021 – OPEN FOR GRADUATION CEREMONY (Reception class LEAVERS ONLY) |

Antiques Fair

Every 3rd Thursday in the month the main hall is used for an antiques fair. The car park and surrounding area will be very busy. Please take extra care and allow extra time for parking.

Dates for Antiques Fair : 17th September, 15th October, 19th November

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.***

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.





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 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.

At the moment all meetings/appointments will be via zoom or telephone.

A note from WPS Parent Fundraising team

Dear all,

We are in need of a few extra pairs of hands on the fundraising team as well as desperately in need of funds! If you enjoy baking or arts and crafts and would like to get involved please let us know. We would also love to hear from you if you have any brilliant ideas to fund/access resources for our children. You don't need to commit to regular meetings – just an hour or so of your time here and there or a clever idea could make such a difference.

Thank you in advance.

Keep calm & carry on...

Although we are facing some challenging times during the coming term (and beyond) we are confident that this will have little impact on the children. Their day will look much the same as it ever did – with a little more hand washing thrown in! Even though we can not invite you in to the playroom we wanted to give you a sense of how a day at pre-school will look – so read on for a insight...

My day at WPS

I arrive at Pre-school and wait outside, keeping my distance from other people, until it is time to go in. I say goodbye and go straight through to the bathroom to wash my hands. As we wash we sing...

Tops & bottoms, tops & bottoms

In-between, in-between

All around our hands, all around our hands,

Now they're clean, now they're clean

I look carefully at all the nametags on the tree 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. I hang my nametag, bag and coat on a hook in the cloakroom and off I go..."Hello, hello, hello everyone".

In the playroom 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.

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 and blue pens and I use pink and green.

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 show 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! After a quick trip to wash my hands I look for patterns in the garden 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 as I sing our hand washing song. I giggle with my friend as I wash off my bubble gloves. I then dry my hands and sit at the round 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 toilet 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 step 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 "I think you have 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 has a horse but she gets upset when somebody else wants it and a teacher comes to see if she is ok. We talk about taking turns. Then we practice as we play a game of galloping the horse before passing it to the next person. We all have a turn and it is really fun. My teacher sings a song about a horse going "clippety-clop" so we clippety-clop around the room. The song says 'tail go's swish' but we don't have tails! Our teacher suggests that we make some tails.

We think about what our tails could look like and our teacher finds some pictures of animals so we can see different sorts of tails. I want a long brown tail like the horse in the book and my friend wants a pink curly tail like the piggy. We go to wash our hands before finding some paper in the art cupboard and then we talk about how we could make our tails. I use the scissors to cut the brown paper and then use sticky tape to put all the bits together. Our teacher helps us with the tricky bits. Then we put our tails on, we need 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 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. I try very hard to open any zips, packets or pots during lunch but my teachers help me. 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 wash hands again and play on the carpet until everyone has finished. Then we go outside and I play with the cars and the ramps. We put the ramps onto the wall and whizz 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 toilet and another hand wash - 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 find the patterns that are the same. My friend comes to join in and I share some of my sock pictures with him. Our teacher helped us to remember whose turn it is next. Someone else then comes to join us and my teacher asks me to explain the game. I use my words to tell my friend what to do and my teacher says "great job".

We then play in the home corner. We pretend to wash socks in the washing machine. We use pegs to hang the socks on a washing line. The pegs 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 – more hand washing! 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 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. We wash our hands and collect our coats. Our teacher reminds us to check in our going home box to see if there is anything to take home with us.

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

We look forward to celebrating your child's achievements with you. Please remember that even though we can't invite you in to the setting we are still here for you and can chat over the phone or via zoom call – just let us know.

Have a wonderful term.

Sharon & team x

