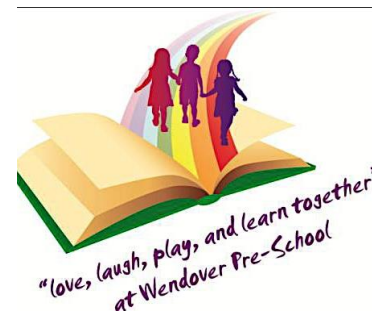


Contact Information:

On site mobile: 07775 795900
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**Autumn Term 2015**

As we start the Autumn term we welcome our new starters who are settling in splendidly! We wish a warm welcome to Faye, Henry, Isla, Aoife, Tobias, Lyla, Amber and Joshua. We hope you will have many happy days at Wendover Preschool. We also welcome Tracey Bailey, our new administrator. Tracey is here to help you with any funding/extra day queries (amongst a million other things!) so please have a chat with her.

Reminders – please read carefully

- ❖ 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.
- ❖ At the end of every session please collect your child's creations from their 'going home boxes' where you will also find any notes from Preschool.
- ❖ It is a safeguarding requirement that mobile phones and cameras are not used within the preschool (except those belonging to the preschool). I must insist PLEASE that you do not use your mobile phone when in the Preschool. 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.

INFECTION CONTROL

When children start school they inevitably pick up coughs/colds and other childhood illnesses. In order to help prevent the spread of infection please read the following guidelines:

If your child has a temperature, is sick or has diarrhoea, you do not send them in until a clear 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.

If in doubt keep them home. If a child is poorly enough to have paracetamol then usually the best place for them is snuggled up at home.

Some medical conditions make children vulnerable to common infections that would rarely be serious in most children. Below is a message from Isla's mummy:

***Isla was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic leukaemia when she was 22 month old. Although, she is doing really well and has been in remission for almost a year, she still has drugs to repress her immune system - in particular the white cells, which fight bacteria. It is therefore important to try to prevent Isla catching chicken pox, which is bacterial based. If your child comes out in chicken pox then please can you let Sharon know immediately, as Isla can then have an injection & medication to help prevent her getting chicken pox too?
Thank you for your help! Beth Holdcroft***

In addition to the danger of catching Chicken pox it can also be dangerous for Isla to get a high temperature. In most children a temperature or fever is not something to worry about. Children are prone to fever. Even things like running around, excitement or very warm clothing can make children's body temperature rise, although they are not ill. But fever is usually caused by an infection. So, in order to reduce the risk of spreading infection children should be kept at home until their temperature is back to normal – without the aid of paracetamol.

For more information about infection and guidance on infection control please see the link below:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/353953/Guidance_on_infection_control_in_schools_11_Sept.pdf

I thank you in advance for your help & support.

Observations

Observations are now recorded on 'I Can...' sheets. These will highlight areas of development that have been achieved with a brief note about the event. They will then suggest what can be done next in order to further development. They are linked to the Development Matters in the EYFS curriculum (further details of which can be found later in the newsletter). This will make it easier for you to follow progression.

We also add children's work to their Learning Journeys alongside photos. A longer Learning Story will be written every few weeks. There are many details that are incorporated into a learning story which describes: the experience that un-folds or an event, how the child interacts during the experience or with others, conversations, interests, skills etc. Basically it's a narrative of the learning that is taking place through play. We share them with the children and they love being the star in their very own story!

Snacks/Allergies

Since 13th December 2014, childcare providers in England and Wales are now required to comply with The Food Information Regulations. This regulation introduces the requirement for providers to give information about the allergenic ingredients used in any food they provide, including pre-packed foods.

We now have a list of allergens found in the snack foods that we provide for you to see on request – please ask.

School campus barrier

Car-parking permits will be introduced this term (see attached letter). This is because the school campus is planning to install a barrier to control the flow of traffic during peak times. The Memorial Hall Committee predicts that this will cause a problem with parking in our car park. They plan to monitor this closely and put up new signs stating PERMIT HOLDERS ONLY. If you are not displaying a permit you will receive a warning. I know that it may be inconvenient to have to remember to display your permit but it is in our best interests. We will issue all families with one and I will keep some spare at Preschool in case you forget/or send someone else to collect. These Preschool permits may only be used during drop off & pick up times and will be issued termly.

Natural resources

With open-ended or natural materials, children can explore, create, imagine, and learn through play without the resource dictating what their play should be.

Natural resources encourage brain development, scientific experimenting, mathematical thought, risk taking, and trial and error learning.

We are working to include more and more bits-and-bobs and open-ended resources in our play spaces, and switching from plastic and commercial toys to more natural materials. Here is a lovely poster with some great ideas. Maybe you could help us collect some...(minus the match sticks please!)

Let's play with...

colored scarves

empty spice containers blocks **rocks** pipe
cleaners cardboard boxes paper rolls tin foil cotton
reels bandages shells **stones** sticks FLOWERS moss crates
dry pasta RICE lentils buttons cups bangles milk caps empty
bottles flower pots fabric paper match sticks beads
empty film canisters bubble wrap wine corks
painter's tape yarn wrapping paper shoes hats pots
PANS hair rollers prisms old gadgets **WOOD**
SCRAPS plastic cups curtain rings funnels
tubing guttering squirty bottles nuts and bolts pipes
and connectors keys cones drinking straws gems
marbles pompoms play dough **WATER** wooden
spoons pegs slate tiles magazines **buckets**
LOLLYPOP STICKS FEATHERS cake cases **cookie**
cutters rolling pins muffin tins fir cones ice cube
trays pizza cutters **FLAGS** cotton wool **POTATO**
MASHERS SPATULAS SEQUINS googly eyes paint rollers **garlic**
press string **ribbon** pencils knives forks
glitter

find more play ideas at NurtureStore.co.uk

Dates for your diary:
To print out and keep on the fridge!



Autumn Term Dates

7th September- 23rd October
2nd November - 16th December

Inset days to be advised



Antiques Fairs (Thursdays):
17th September, 15th October,
19th November
(Please use garden entrance and be
especially careful in the car park)

Challenge Cards

The box of 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 can fit into your day.

- Take a look at a card once a week (or more if you would like to).
- Choose the activity 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.

If you take a challenge card home PLEASE return it for others to enjoy.



The Early Years 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.

Thinking Book

We LOVE our thinking book! It is great to see what we have been doing each week at preschool. Please take some time to have a look at it (and write in your own comments). The children love to share the book with us and I am sure they would love to share it with you too!



Voluntary contribution - resources

As most of our children on register are Government Funded we rely on buying resources based on the money that Local Authority allocate us. Often it is not enough to pay wages, rent, insurance etc. let alone buy everyday resources such as tissues, anti-bacterial wipes & protective gloves for nappy changing/toileting.

Which is why we suggest a voluntary contribution to our families. If you feel that you can support Preschool by making a voluntary contribution towards such resources please leave your donation in an envelope in the ADMIN box on the side above the going home boxes.

In the past we have made a suggestion as to the amount that families could contribute based on the number of days attended. However, I have decided not to do this anymore as we are receiving fewer and fewer donations each term. Please just make any contribution that you can.

We are extremely grateful for the donations we receive and I thank you in advance.



Clothes & Shoes

Please ensure your child is dressed for a morning of messy play in old clothes that are comfortable and easily removed.

- Please remember to name ALL of your children's belongings
- We go outside everyday – whatever the weather. Please ensure that clothing and footwear are appropriate for all weather conditions.
- Also ensure footwear is non-slip and safe for climbing in...No flip flops PLEASE!
- Clothes should be chosen carefully to encourage independent toileting. Easy to pull down trousers and strictly NO belts please!

Parent feedback

We are working hard to negotiate with the Memorial Hall to rent the playroom in the afternoons. It would be really helpful to know how many of you would be interested in afternoon sessions in the future. Could I ask you to send an email to Tracey at admin@wendoverpreschool.org.uk to let us know your thoughts about afternoon sessions?

We always welcome your general feedback/suggestions – please come and talk to us. If you would rather leave feedback anonymously there is a box in the foyer.

And finally...



Let's enjoy our time....
Have a wonderful term,
Sharon
Early Years Teacher & Lecturer in Early Years Practice