

Wendover Pre-school Newsletter

Contact Information:

On site mobile: 07775 795 900

(Admin Mobile): 07923 090 696

Email: admin@wendoverpreschool.org.uk

Facebook: Wendover Pre-School

Website: www.wendoverpreschool.org.uk



Autumn Term 2023

After a long summer break we had just begun the Autumn Term and were welcoming the new starters to our WPS family when we were rudely interrupted by an Ofsted Inspection! We received 'the' call at midday on Monday 11th September and by 8.30am the next morning our inspection was underway.

It was a busy and intense day and the team worked so hard to make sure our inspector had the opportunity to really experience what it is like for a child to attend WPS. We all felt that one day just wasn't long enough for us to showcase everything! However, by 3pm the inspector had seen enough to make her decision of Outstanding in all areas.

Here are some comments that may not make the shorter report now published by Ofsted; the inspector told me that she had been made to feel very welcome and had really enjoyed her day with us. She went on to say that she had heard and observed everything that she needed in order to make her decision, without the need to extensively ask for evidence or question the team (we didn't really let her get a word in and blinded her with our fabulousness!). She praised the cohesiveness of the team and their deep understanding of child development and the individual needs of our children. The inspector highlighted our sensitive, calm, positive environment and exemplary curriculum. The children were all superstars too and she was amazed at their recall of knowledge and impeccable behaviour. She finished by saying that it was one of the easiest inspections (and decisions) that she has had to make. I was so proud!

We would like to thank those that showed their support on the day. The many emails that we received were very moving and they gave the team a real boost of confidence and the conviction to showcase our wonderful Pre-school to the inspector. Well done to everyone!



TERM DATES/INSET DAYS/NOTES FOR DIARY

AUTUMN 2023

6th September - 15th December (close at 12 noon)

HALF TERM (closed) - 23rd October - 27th October

Inset day - 1st December

SPRING 2024

4th January - 27th March

HALF TERM (closed) - 12th February - 16th February

SUMMER 2024

15th April - 18th/19th July

18th July 2024 - last day of term - close at 3pm

19th July 2024 - open for graduation ceremony/party (leavers only) - close 12 noon.

HALF TERM (closed) - 27th May - 31st May

Inset day - 3rd June

Diary Dates

Halloween Dress Up days (*donations to WPS fundraising*) Monday 30th and Tuesday 31st October (either/or, depending on your sessions).

Children's Christmas Party afternoon (for **all** WPS children) - Thursday December 14th 1.30-3pm.

Christmas Show - Friday December 15th. The show will start at approx 9.15 and last for around 20 mins. After the show **all WPS children** are invited to stay for a Christmas disco (& visit from Santa). More information and ticket sales to follow.

We need your help....

We will be collecting donations for our Christmas raffle from 27th November. If you know of a local business that can donate a prize or service or you can bring in some Christmas goodies, a gift or toy we would be very grateful.

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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. Take extra care, allow extra time for parking and use the garden entrance at both drop off and pick up. These are the dates that will impact WPS;

- 19 October, 2023 9:00 am
- 16 November, 2023 9:00 am
- 18 January, 2024 9:00 am
- 21 March, 2024 9:00 am
- 18 April, 2024 9:00 am
- 16 May, 2024 9:00 am
- 20 June, 2024 9:00 am
- 18 July, 2024 9:00 am

Lunch boxes

Children attending lunchclub should bring in a healthy packed lunch in a named lunchbox. If children have chocolate/sweet treats in their lunchbox we will encourage them to save it for home time - so please avoid packing them. You can find information & guidelines on healthy lunches at [healthier-lunchboxes - lunchbox-recipes](#).

We support children to develop independence when eating their lunch. This will help when they go on to 'big' school. Please keep this in mind when packing – avoid fiddly wrappers or difficult lids. We will put all uneaten food & wrappers back into a lunchbox – so you can see what has been eaten.

Infection Control

In order to keep infection levels in our setting under control and to protect children, who for medical reasons, are more susceptible to infection, please refer to our traffic light system 'Keeping Everybody Well at WPS'.

We politely remind you that, as a very small setting, if our staff team becomes infected with any illness at the same time (ie tummy bugs or Covid) we will have to close temporarily.

A reminder of the rules for any episodes of vomiting and/or diarrhoea; your child **must** stay at home for **48**

hours after the last bout of either vomiting or diarrhoea. No exceptions.

As a rule - if your child needs paracetamol (calpol etc) for any reason in the night or in the morning before coming to WPS then they are best off at home.

Children's Creations

When children create & make at WPS they put the end results into their going home box. At the end of the session they proudly collect their masterpieces to take home. At times you may look at them and wonder why this 'creation' is coming home - but please be assured that there has been a valuable process to this end result (even if it may look underwhelming) and the children are proud of everything they make.

Child Development - advice & support

Either your child's Early Years Teacher (Miss Sharon) or Key person are always happy to have a chat with you about your child's wellbeing, development and areas of focus. Just let us know and we can arrange a time at drop off or pick up. Alternatively we can organise a phone call or zoom meeting.

Your child will bring their learning journey home to share with you in the spring term. In the meantime, if you would like to see it please let us know.

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.

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WPS core curriculum & Wellbeing

Our Core Curriculum is an important document that sets out our intent; to provide a safe, responsive and inspiring environment that offers the time and space to "Love, Laugh, Play and Learn Together". It describes how we implement this through our curriculum strands – Settling, Flourishing & Sunshine group. It goes on to explain how we observe the impact of our curriculum in order to support children in a way that empowers them to develop into a confident, curious and independent learner.

One of the most important aspects of the effectiveness of our curriculum is wellbeing. It is vital that we work in partnership with parents & carers in order to optimise wellbeing and enable children to thrive.

We need you to know that we are doing our very best to ensure that your child is happy, settled and making progress. In return we need you to tell us if there is anything happening in a child's life that may impact their wellbeing.

We want to know when your child needs a little extra support during a session. Maybe they are recovering from illness or are not sleeping well. Maybe they are worried about something or they have suffered a bereavement. If your child is coming into WPS after a difficult night, morning or weekend please let us know to handle with extra care.

This goes for you too! Let us know if you are struggling or need signposting or support. We are always here to lend an ear.

If you need to contact us during a session the number in the setting is 07775 795 900. Please save this number in your contacts as this is also the number that we use if we need to contact you during the day.

If, for any reason, you are uncontactable whilst your child is with us, or you are unable to come back and collect your child promptly, should the need arise, please ensure that you have someone local on standby.

The number for all other non urgent communication/enquiries is the Admin Mobile: 07923 090 696 (Tracey Admin). You can also contact the setting or Admin phone via WhatsApp.

Passwords

Please ensure that any person collecting your child knows your personal password. Passwords are part of our safeguarding process – in place to validate that the person collecting is authorised to do so. If the person collecting does not know the password we will not let the child go until we have permission from a parent.

If you need to inform us of a change to the **usual** person collecting your child please ring the setting phone and be prepared to share your **password** to confirm your identity during the phone call.

If you ever feel that your password is compromised please change it immediately.

Collecting promptly

Please aim to collect your child promptly at the end of their session. Children begin to get ready to come home a few minutes before we open the door. They then line up and wait to be called. It can be worrying for them if they are left waiting when everyone else goes home. We understand there may be times when it is unavoidable but on those occasions give us a call and we can explain to your child. If you will be more than 5 minutes late your child's name will be added to the register for (either) lunch club or after school club and you will be invoiced.

It is also important that your child arrives on time for the start of their session too. Please allow plenty of time to get to Pre-school.

We look forward to sharing your child's learning journey with you this term.

Miss Sharon and team xx