

# Great Wood Farm Early Years Centre

[www.greatwoodfarmeyc.co.uk](http://www.greatwoodfarmeyc.co.uk)



## Newsletter

April 2018 no. 93

We hope you all had a lovely Easter holiday, we would like to thank everyone who came to our Easter hunt and songs. We were really lucky with the weather and the children enjoyed sharing the songs they had been learning. Term 5 is now underway and we are looking forward to lots of outdoor activities in the warmer weather!

### Forthcoming Events

#### **April**

Monday 23rd – St George's Day

#### **May**

Tuesday 1st – School Readiness workshop – Parents of children starting school Sept 2018

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> – Bank Holiday GWF CLOSED

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> – Photographer in

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> – End of term 5 for term time funding

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> – Bank Holiday GWF CLOSED

### Outdoor Sleeping

We have recently started developing further outdoor sleeping in the baby room. We have always gone on walks with babies where they have often fallen asleep and we have decided to go one step further and have developed an outdoor sleep hut. Babies can either sleep on rest beds in here or in pushchairs. There is a lot of studies proving the benefits of outdoor sleeping as well as it suits our ethos well, it is a growing trend in outdoor nurseries to develop this trend and has been in newspapers recently.

In house training on this subject has been taking place this week to baby staff as well as a meeting for parents. Parents will be given an option to choose their preference for indoor or outdoor sleeping or a mixture of both on an adhoc basis. Toddler and Kindergarten sleeping will remain unchanged in the Toddler room.

### Baby Group

Our parent and baby group begins again this week, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April, we look forward to welcoming some familiar and some new faces to the nursery. The group is aimed at babies aged newborn to 16 months and activities this term range from a tractor trailer ride through the woods to sensory

experiences including hand and feet painting and baby massage. Booking is required for each session on an adhoc basis or for all sessions. If you would like further information please contact the office.

### Invoicing

As many of you will have noticed invoicing was slightly later than usual this month. A changeover of our nursery management system resulted in a delay in invoices being sent. We are now, fingers crossed, up and running with our new nursery management system. The system that we are now using, Eyman, runs alongside Eylog which means you can now view your invoices on the Eylog parent app. Feedback on whether this is helpful would be appreciated.

### Track update

We were given advice to wait until the weather was warmer and drier to start work on the track, with such a wet start to spring this has obviously caused delays in plans. However, we have had a quote this week to plan to tarmac the driveway and we are in the process of sorting this out. In the mean time we will keep you updated on any progress and continue to fill the holes. Please can we ask that you drive slowly along the track.

### School readiness workshop

We will be holding a school readiness workshop on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May at 5.00pm. This is for parents of children starting school in September 2018 and gives you the opportunity to;

- Explore what being 'ready for school' looks like.
- Understand the expectations of Reception class teachers (with focus on our partner schools)
- Understand the things we are doing at Great Wood Farm to prepare your children

for school and what we will do up until the end of term.

- Gain ideas of ways in which you can support your child to become ready to make the transition to school in September.

If you would like to attend please sign the sheet in Older Kindergarten.

### **Photographer**

Our photographer, Jerram Brown photography, will be coming into nursery on the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> May. These will be natural style photographs taken whilst the children play and partake in activities. If your child is not typically in on a these days and you would like a photograph, please contact the office to arrange a convenient time.

### **Facebook and Social Media**

We have recently updated our Facebook and social media policy and introduced a baby sitting policy, all of which are common practise in nurseries across the country. Please see the attachments to this email for further information on the policies.

### **Suitable outdoor clothing**

As the weather is starting to improve, hopefully for longer than a couple of days, please can you ensure your child has suitable clothing, including a sunhat, to be out in the sun and that they are labelled with your child's name. Waterproofs and wellies will also still be needed even in drier weather conditions, the woods can still be muddy! We do provide sun cream for the children when it is needed. We currently use sunprotect cream extra water resistant by Sainsbury's. This is 50 spf high protection. If you would prefer to provide your own please let a member of staff in your child's room know and ensure the sun cream is labelled.

Can we also politely request that you ensure your child comes to nursery with spare clothing and if needs be, ensure their nappies and wipes are stocked at all times. Even with the weather improving spare clothes are often needed. If your child does come home in spare nursery clothes can you please ensure they are returned as we are running extremely low.

### **Summer Open Day**

Our summer open day will be on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June. The nursery will open its doors inside and out, including our base camp and gives visitors the

opportunity to explore what we offer and more! The day is suitable for all ages offering a variety of indoor and outdoor activities. Further information will be given closer to the day but it is definitely a date to keep free in your diary.

### **Staff News**

We are pleased to be welcoming back a member of our team, Lisa Boryszczuk. Lisa previously worked with us for almost 10 years, she has a wealth of experience and knowledge.

We are also welcoming a new member to our team, Kristie Marchant. Kristie will be temporarily covering in our kitchen whilst our chef, Rob, recovers from an operation. Kristie has many years' experience in the catering industry and we look forward to having her work with us.

### **Odds and Ends**

A reminder that we do stock second hand uniform. We mainly have 3-4 year old polo tops at the moment but if you do have any old uniform that is no longer needed donations would be greatly appreciated. Proceeds from sales will go towards our bedtime library.

We do also still have our clothes bank located in the nursery carpark next to the bins. Proceeds from this go towards resources for the children.

A reminder that we cannot swap days. As we have to consider staffing we are unable to swap days for everyone and therefore we find that the only way to do this fairly is to not offer it at all. We hope you can appreciate this.

Some of you may have noticed we have introduced an 'upcoming events' board next to where the menu is displayed outside the kitchen. We will use this to notify parents of any upcoming dates for your diaries, as well as continuing with emails.

We thank you for your continued support.