

Great Wood Farm Early Years Centre

www.greatwoodfarmeyc.co.uk

Newsletter

November 2018 no. 96



It's that time of year where we are thinking about festive celebrations, and we have an action packed term ahead of us, with lot of exciting events planned! So, with that in mind, we will be the first to wish you a 'Happy Christmas'.

Forthcoming Events

November

Monday 5th – Bonfire Night

Tuesday 6th – Parents Consultation Evening – Older Kindergarten – 4.30pm – 6pm

Wednesday 7th – Divali

Thursday 8th – Parents Consultation Evening – Younger Kindergarten – 4.30pm – 6pm

Sunday 11th – Remembrance Sunday

Monday 12th – Friday 16th – Children in Need week

Thursday 15th November – Good Sleeping Workshop – 5pm-6pm

Monday 19th – Friday 23rd – Road Safety Week will see us focus on activities to promote safety and awareness on and around the roads.

December

Saturday 1st – Christmas Open Day – 9.30am-3pm

Wednesday 12th – Nativity Play – more information to follow

Thursday 13th – Christmas parties

Friday 14th – Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas dinner.

End of Term 2 for children on term time funding.

Friday 21st – End of Term 2 for children on stretched funding

Monday 24th December – open as normal

Tuesday 25th December – closed for Christmas period

January

Monday 2nd – GWFEYC re-opens

Monday 7th – term time and stretched funding begins

Good Sleeping Workshop

On 15th November, Karen Scotchmer and Becky Hurt will be delivering a Good Sleeping workshop, aiming to assist parents with any sleep related issues they may be experiencing with their children. After delivering the session, Karen and Becky will be

available to answer questions and have one to one discussions with parents/carers.

Room Celebrations

November is a busy month for events, and each room will be celebrating and learning about Bonfire Night, Divali and Remembrance Sunday.

Library Books

Please can you ensure that any books taken from our library are signed in and out correctly. The children are welcome to enjoy the books for as long as they wish, but it would really help us if the correct logs were kept of the location of the books to avoid any going missing. We think it is a fantastic resource and hope that parents and children continue to enjoy its use. Thank you for your cooperation.

Children in Need

In aid of Children In Need we have a fun filled week planned. On Monday 12th there will be a 'Hey Duggee' day; Tuesday 13th will be a dress up day; Wednesday 14th will see the children take a ramble into the woods; Thursday 15th will see us hold a cake sale; and Friday 16th will be a spotty day, where children are welcome to come in spotty clothing and accessories. The cake stall will be located in our entrance on Thursday, opening at 8.00am to catch all those early drop offs! We would really appreciate it if anyone can bring any cakes in to sell for this worthy cause. There will be donation boxes in all rooms and would appreciate any donations throughout the week.

Open Day

Our Christmas Open Day will be held on Saturday 1st December from 9.30am-3.00pm. Refreshments will be provided and there will be various Christmas crafts, activities for the children and a tombola. Any tombola donations to support this day would be greatly received, proceeds will go towards buying new books

for our bedtime library. There will, of course, also be a special visitor in the grotto, who will have a small gift for your child! To reduce queuing time please book a slot to visit the grotto. A booking sheet will be in the main entrance located on the table next to the office.

Room Registers

Can we please request that parents and carers ensure that they use the room registers to sign their child in and out each day. Please can you ensure that you sign with your signature, rather than 'Mum', 'Dad' etc.

Christmas

The Christmas parties for each room will be held on Thursday 13th December. If your child does not attend on a Thursday they are welcome to come to the Christmas parties. There will be an additional 2 hour charge. This is to be fair to the children who already attend on Thursdays and have already paid, we also have to employ extra staff. Further details of the parties will be emailed shortly.

We will be having booking forms in the rooms shortly for attendance of the nativity and Christmas parties.

As usual we are holding a Christmas Jumper day on Friday 14th December for all children to come to Great Wood Farm in their favourite Christmas jumper! If you would like to make a donation, it will go to Save the Children charity.

Staff news

Totty Schofield has recently moved from Younger Kindergarten to Older Kindergarten, where she is continuing to build close bonds with the children.

Sammy Hawkins, who works in our Older Babies room has now been with us for 10 years. Sammy started here as an apprentice, and has a fantastic relationship with all of the children she works with. She will also be commencing her Forest School Leader training next year. Sammy is a valued member of the team here and we thank her for her continued hard work.

Key Persons

Each child here at GWFYEC is allocated a key person who will track their development and plan their next steps. Where possible, your child's key person will be your main point of contact within the nursery. However, in the absence of your child's key worker, other staff within the room will continue to track

development and plan next steps, and will be building bonds with each child.

Early Arrivals

There have been a number of children arriving early for their sessions recently on a regular basis. Please can this be a gentle reminder that morning sessions begin at 8am, and afternoon sessions at 1pm. Earlier starts can be booked in with the office, for which there is a charge. As we work to strict child to staff ratios within each room, it would really help if children were dropped off on or after the start times. Thank you in advance for your cooperation regarding this.

Winter Clothing Reminder

With the weather now getting a lot colder can you please make sure children have suitable outdoor clothing - warm coats, hats, gloves and scarves. Can you also please check that waterproofs and wellies still fit your child and that your child has spare clothing in case a change is needed after being outside. It is also easier for all staff if they are named, so all items can be returned to the correct peg. Donations of any unwanted items of clothing including pants/socks are always greatly received, particularly for our Kindergarten rooms and Rangers.

Baby's Basket Collection

Baby's Basket is a charity based in Lincoln who provide support to families across Lincolnshire. They offer a Moses basket packed with baby and hospital essentials to any parent struggling to provide for the practical needs of their new baby. They take referrals from healthcare professionals and welfare agencies throughout Lincolnshire and baskets are delivered by them in good time for baby's arrival.

Further information is available on their website at <https://babysbasket.org.uk/>

This year we have decided to support this worthwhile cause, and it would be fantastic if parents could make donations. We have attached a list of items in demand, and would be so grateful if you could bring any items into us in the office before Friday 21st December.

We would like to thank everybody for your continued support and look forward to sharing the festive season with you all.