



NOVEMBER 2021

Winnersh Primary School, Greenwood Grove, Winnersh, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG41 5LH  
Tel: 0118 979 7580 email: greenwood@weycp.org.uk

Hello!

I cannot believe how quickly the first half-term has flown by! It has been a busy 7 weeks and we are so impressed with how well the children have settled in and made new friends. There have been a few illnesses doing the rounds as the children build up their immunity and we thank parents for being sensible and testing the children if they have shown any COVID symptoms.

We hope you had a wonderful half term break, we have enjoyed hearing all about "Trick or Treating" and dressing up!

We have a busy, fun half term planned with lots of exciting things planned.

Please remember we are always here if you have any queries or concerns.

### LFT/PCR tests

A message from Wokingham Borough Council:

Please can you remind all your parents and carers as well as all staff members that if they have any Covid related symptoms they should have a PCR test and **not to rely on LFT tests**.

We have had a number of incidents over the past few weeks in both EY settings and schools where parents and staff have had symptoms and assumed they were ok because they have taken a number of LFT tests which have come back negative. They later test positive with a PCR test and this has possibly led to outbreaks in the setting/school.

Please remember that LFT tests should only ever be used for people **without symptoms**. Staff should continue to use LFT tests to monitor themselves while they are asymptomatic, however if they have any symptoms they should take a PCR test.

### 5th November Fun Morning & Sponsored Bounce

We are looking forward to our "Fun Morning" on Friday 5th November.

We have lots of fun activities planned. We will also be holding the Sponsored Bounce and will share pictures on Tapestry. Please can all sponsorship be handed in by Monday



8th November. We are putting all the money raised towards new flooring for the main room.

If you haven't returned the permission slip for the Fun Morning, please do so by **Thursday 4th November**.

### TERM DATES

#### **Autumn Term**

End of Term Friday 17th December

#### **Spring Term**

Start of term Wed 5th January

Half Term 21st —25th February

End of Term Friday 8th April

#### **Summer Term**

Start of Term 19th April

BANK HOLIDAY: Monday 3rd May 2021

Half Term 31st May—4th June

INSET Day 7th June

End of Term 21st July



### HELP!

We will be holding our Christmas Party on Friday 10th December from 1:30-3pm. We usually play fun, festive games and have a visit from Father Christmas.

Unfortunately Father Christmas is unavailable so we are looking for someone who would be willing to step into his shoes! We will provide the costume and gifts. Ideally Father Christmas will hand out the gifts to groups of children in the Greenwood Grotto and have a little chat with them and photo's taken. The children will be supervised at all times by a member of Greenwood Staff.

If you or you know someone who can help, please do get in touch.

### THE SHED DOOR

The shed door will now be our notice board. Here you will find uniform order forms, waiting list forms, copies from articles that we think you might find interesting/helpful, paper copies of permission slips that we have sent out and the information that we legally have to display. You will also find the parent rota sign up and our new Greenwood Library!



### Pre-Christmas clear out!

We are hoping to attend a couple of events to hold stalls for Greenwood during December.

We would be grateful for any tombola prizes and good quality cuddly toys.

Please leave any donations in the shed.

### Parents Meetings

An email was sent out before half term, offering you a formal opportunity to meet with your child's key practitioners to discuss their 'Learning Journey'.

These meetings will take place on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November from 3.30pm to 4.30pm. There is a list of times on the notice board, inside the shed door for parents to fill in a time. We understand that some parents may feel uncomfortable meeting face to face in the current climate, if you would prefer a phone call or video call, please do get in touch and we can arrange a convenient time.

### Dates for the Diary

We have lots of exciting things coming up and information will be sent out separately.

Tuesday 2nd November—uSports (pm)

Friday 5th November - Bonfire Party 8:45-11:45am (All children invited) and Sponsored Bounce

Tuesday 16th December—uSports (am)

Thursday 9th December - Christmas Photo Shoot

Friday 10th December — Christmas Party (pm)

Tuesday 14th December—Greenwood Mini Christmas Fete (TBC)

Thursday 16th December—Christmas Jumper Day

### Communications

#### Greenwood Website

Please visit the Greenwood Pre-school Website: [www.thegreenwoodpreschool.co.uk](http://www.thegreenwoodpreschool.co.uk) which gives up to date information on the pre-school.

If you do have any queries then please ask a member of staff.

#### Facebook

All parents are invited to join the Greenwood Facebook group "Greenwood Pre-school, Wincoburn (Parents Group)". This is a closed group for information and question/answer purposes. Please do not post pictures of yours or other Greenwood children.

### GREENWOOD CALICO GUSSETTED BAGS – with long handles

Each year we create our own Greenwood bags which are delivered in time for Christmas! This consists of all the children drawing a picture of themselves (or an artistic interpretation!) which will then be printed onto the bag. Please see attached a picture of a previous one.

They make great Christmas gifts for family and friends especially now that we need to re-use bags when visiting supermarkets.

In order to get an idea of the amount of bags we need to order, please place the number you require on the order form located on the shed door by **Monday 15th November**.

The price of the bags will be £5 each. You do not need to pay for these until delivery is made.

As always any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to talk to either myself or another member of staff.



### Parent Stay and Play

The Parent Rota is now up on the Shed Door. It is open to parents (both Mummy & Daddy) or grandparents, whose child has been at Greenwood for a half term. Sometimes, if your child has been unsettled at pre-school, staff might delay asking you to participate in the rota at that particular time. We would ask all parents to sign up to 2 half day sessions per term, if at all possible. Please ensure that this is a session your child attends. Coming in on parent rota is a positive experience both for the child and parent. Children enjoy showing their parents what they do when they are here and it is equally important for parents as they see what happens during the session and get a greater understanding of what the children are doing. We understand that it is often difficult when parents work and have such busy lives but it really is a worthwhile opportunity for both you and your child. Unfortunately, at the present time, no siblings are able to attend the session. We understand that this can cause problems with childcare for siblings, but accidents with younger siblings can and do happen and also parent rota is considered a special time for you and your pre-school child to share if at all possible.

### The Greenwood Library

The Greenwood Library is proving to be a success. There is a small selection of books available on The Shed Door available for children to borrow. Each book will be in a folder with a book mark which show a range of prompts and questions, they are perfect for developing children's reading skills and interest and enjoyment of books.

We ask that you record in the book the following:

- Number on the folder
- Child's name
- Date taken out
- Date returned



If there are any particular books that your child enjoys reading at Greenwood and they would like to share them at home with you, please ask a member of staff and we will see what we can do.

### Internet Safety

For support and practical advice on how to keep your children safe online, please visit [www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org) From age-specific online safety checklists to guides on how to set parental controls on a range of devices, you'll find a host of practical tips to help children get the most out of their digital world.



### Parking

If you come to pre-school by car, please follow the parking restrictions and keep footpaths clear ensuring those with wheelchairs and pushchairs are able to get by.



Please also avoid parking in front of the gate to drop off or pick up.

If your child has borrowed a change of clothes, we would be grateful if you could wash and return them as soon as possible. Our spares are running very low!

### Snacks

We would be grateful for any donations of the following for the children to share at snack time.

Any fresh fruit or vegetable (that can be eaten raw), Bread sticks, Cream crackers, Bread, Croissants, Crumpets, Pitta breads, Rice cakes, yoghurts, fromage frais.

### Clothing

Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. It would be advisable for children to have a coat in Pre-school at all times as well as hats and gloves now that the weather is getting cooler.

Please ensure that all removable clothing is clearly marked with your child's name.



### Safeguarding

Greenwood is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and we expect all staff, volunteers, visitors and external agencies to share this commitment. Should you have any concerns please speak to Mrs K Bull, Designated Safeguarding Lead or myself.

### Sweatshirts and Polo Shirts

Don't forget to protect your children's own clothes by investing in one of Greenwood's sweatshirts or polo shirts. For security and identification purposes all children are required to wear Greenwood sweatshirts on any school trips. Painting Bags are also available and are great for taking children's work and letters home.

Sweatshirts	£9.50
Polo shirts	£9.00
T-shirts	£6.00
Baseball Hats	£4.50
Legionnaires Hats	£5.00
Painting Bag	£5.00

Order forms will be available in the shed door!