



November 2019

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

Dear Parents,

This term seems to be flying by, I can't believe we have 4 weeks left until we finish for Christmas. We have lots of exciting things planned. Please see below for more detail.

As you may have noticed, we are having a move around to encourage a more independent approach to learning. It is a bit of trial and error at the moment but the children seem to be taking it in their stride!

TERM DATES

End of Term Friday 20th December

Spring Term

Start of term 8th January

Half Term 17th—21st February

End of Term Friday 3rd April

Summer Term - TBC

Childs Absence

Please can you notify the Pre-school on the first day of any absence phoning the Greenwood land line **only** (0118 9797580), please leave a message if there is no answer. If you have any planned holidays, please let a member of staff know so we can put it in our diary.

Personalised Christmas Ornaments.

Look out for the traditional Greenwood Ornaments that will be on sale from **Monday 16th December** for £2.

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

On **Thursday 19th December** we are encouraging all children to come to Pre-school dressed in their favourite Christmas knitwear. Be as imaginative as you like by dressing your child up in festive colours. We are asking for a £1 donation, or whatever you can afford, with all proceeds going towards our fundraising.

Christmas Party

You should have received a letter regarding this years Christmas Party on **Friday 13th December**. All children attending Greenwood are invited to the party whether they normally attend Greenwood on a Friday afternoon or not. Children should be dropped off at Greenwood at 1.15pm (via the gates on Poplar Lane) and should be collected at 3.00pm (all gates should be open at that time). Please return slips and payment by Friday 6th December. There will be a normal morning session on the morning of the party. Children should be picked up as usual at 11.45am

Greenwood Mini Christmas Fair

This year we will be holding our own Mini Christmas Fair on **Wednesday 18th December** from 3:15pm—4:30pm. We will be holding a Teddy Tombola, Cake Stall, Make your own Christmas decoration, Lucky Dip, Tombola plus lots more.

Any donations towards the Teddy Tombola (clean and in excellent condition), Tombola and Cake Stall would be gratefully received.

All donations of cuddly toys and tombola prizes need to be dropped off by **Wednesday 11th December**.

Donations for the cake stall on **Tuesday 17th December** or

the morning of **Thursday 18th December**.

Thank you for your continued support



Topic

We are continuing to learn about **people who help us**, we have some exciting visitors next week which I'm sure the children will enjoy. We will be starting our Christmas activities on the 2nd December.

W/C 25/11/19 People Who help us

W/C 02/12/19 Christmas

W/C 09/12/19 Christmas

W/C 16/12/19 Christmas



Snacks

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

Apples, Bananas, Oranges/satsumas/ clementine's, Carrots, Peas, Cucumber, Tomatoes, Strawberries, Grapes, Raisins, Dried mixed fruit (tropical), Bread sticks, Cream crackers, Bread, Croissants, Crumpets, Pitta breads, Rice cakes

Parking—A polite reminder!

If you come to pre-school by car, parking or turning in the school grounds or the zig-zag area on Greenwood Grove is not permitted under any circumstances, either when dropping off or collecting your child.

Please also keep footpaths clear ensuring those with wheelchairs and pushchairs are able to get by.

We have had a number of complaints from local residents regarding the parking on Poplar Lane, again parking on the zig-zag area is not permitted under any circumstances.

Parent Helpers

The Parent Rota is now up on the **NEW** notice board. 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.

Reward Stars

We have in place a practice to encourage children to sit quietly and listen during the story time and other specific times when we wish them to sit quietly. We have had positive feedback and results over the terms, and will be continuing with this practice for forthcoming terms. If a child manages to sit quietly during the short period of the activity (and this means for the entire time not just for part of the time!), they will be given a 'special star' that they can take home to keep. We will be doing this about one or two times a week (not daily) so the children will not know what days we are doing this or when during the session! Please can you also encourage your child in this, as your extra support can only help them achieve this sooner. However, please don't feel discouraged if your child isn't able to achieve this yet as over time they will see other children being rewarded for their good behaviour and gain the self-control to do so for themselves.

If anyone wishes to discuss this at all, please speak to myself or another member of staff.



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.

Emails

Thank you to all those parents who have signed up to receive correspondence through email. If you have received a paper copy of this and would like to receive email in the future, please let me know.

Internet Safety

For support and practical advice on how to keep your children safe online, please visit www.internetmatters.org

Charity commission number 291077

From age-specific online safety checklists to guides on how to set parental controls on a

Afternoon sessions

Please note that the afternoon sessions are not a rolling start and the session begins at 12:30pm. Please can all children arrive promptly to enable us to start straight away.

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	£8.75
Polo shirts	£8.75
T-shirts	£6.50
Baseball Hats	£3.50
Legionnaires Hats	£4.00
Painting Bag	



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!

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, just in case it rains.

Naming your children's clothes

Please ensure that all removable clothing is

clearly marked with your child's name.

Communications

Greenwood Website

Please visit the Greenwood Pre-school Website: 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 Parents".

This is a parent run closed group for information and question/answer purposes. Please do not post pictures of yours or other Greenwood children. We have been adding updates weekly so you can see what we have been up to.

Dates for Diary:

Monday 25th November	Visit from our local Police Community Support Officers (Both sessions)
Wednesday 27th November	uSports 9am
Thursday 28th November	Louis Taylor Road Rangers Show (Both sessions)
Friday 29th November	Keith the Paramedic (Both sessions)
Wednesday 11th December	uSports 1pm Deadline for Teddy and Tombola Donations
Friday 13th December	Christmas Party 1:15pm-3pm
Wednesday 18th December	Greenwood Mini Christmas Fair 3:15pm-4:30pm
Thursday 19th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 20th December	Last day of term
Wednesday 8th January 2020	Term commences