



Winnersh Primary School, Greenwood Grove, Winnersh, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG41 5LH
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What a busy half term we have had so far!

I can't believe we are already approaching our first half-term of the academic year! We have loved learning all about Autumn. The children have had a variety of amazing experiences from leaf printing to an imaginary autumnal walk. Please log on to Greenwood Pre-school Parents Facebook page to see photos of what we have been up to.

A huge thank you to all the staff for their creativity and hard work.

TERM DATES

Autumn Term

Half Term 28th Oct – 1st November

End of Term Friday 20th December

Spring Term

Start of term 8th January

Half Term 17th—21st February

End of Term Friday 3rd April

Staffing

Unfortunately we will be saying good-bye to Mrs King on Thursday 24th October. Mrs King has been a member of the Greenwood team for over 6 years and we will all truly miss her. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all her hard work and dedication and wish her all the best for the future.

I am pleased to announce that Nicola Wiseman will be joining the team on Monday 4th November. Some of you may know Nicola as her daughter attended Greenwood and is now at Winnersh Primary School along with her older brother. We are all looking forward to her starting with us and I am sure the children will make her feel very welcome.

Work Experience

We are very fortunate to have been approached by a number colleges to ask if we could provide work experience for their students. We have Cameron who has completed a block week and will be with us every Tuesday. Alisha who will be attending every Thursday and Friday and Abigail who will be in every Friday.

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.

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

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.



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	£4.50

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.

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.

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.

Topic

After half term, we will be looking at all the different **people who help us** from postmen to doctors and Christmas. Each week we will have a different theme that will link with our topic. We would love it if you could support our themes at home and share it with us at Greenwood. We would also be grateful of any resources that you think we may find helpful e.g. pictures, books, dressing up clothes etc

W/C 04/11/19 Fireworks Night

W/C 11/11/19 Being Brave

W/C 18/11/19 People Who help us

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



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.

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.



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.

Internet Safety

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

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday 5th November - Closing date for Bonfire Art Competition

Wednesday 13th November - uSports 1pm

Wednesday 27th November - uSports 9am

Wednesday 11th December - uSports 1pm

Friday 13th December - Christmas Party

Thursday 19th December - Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 20th December - Last day of term

Wednesday 8th January 2020 - Term commences

Communications

Greenwood Website

Please visit the Greenwood Pre-school Web-site: 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.