

## WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019 ©

We hope you all enjoyed a little snow magic with your children over the weekend and that you all stayed safe. Please continue to be careful on Back Lane and on the approach to Pre-School as it remains very slippery.

This week we are celebrating the Chinese New Year. We will be making a large Dragon Head as a group activity and individual Dragons to use in a puppet show. We will also try Chinese noodles using chopsticks and experience different flavours from the Far East. We will look at Chinese celebrations on the internet and dance to Chinese music.

**Future Sessions for your Child(ren):** Sessions now and in the future are filling up very fast to the point there may have to be a waiting list for some sessions/days, so if you are thinking of increasing your child's sessions in the next few months or for September and have not already spoken to Jo about which days you would like then please do so as sessions are now very limited and some sessions are now completely full.

**TESCO'S – BAGS OF HELP:** Ref No: 39801: We have successfully made it through the first round of Tesco's 'Bags of Help' with our application for a grant towards our new storage shed and playground seating. Voting will take place in the Hawkhurst store (TN18 4HG) during March and April 2019. If you can support by going to the store and using your blue chips to vote for the pre-school and ask friends and relatives to also help that would be very much appreciated.

**Clothing:** Now that it is very cold please make sure your child is appropriately dressed for the weather. Please make sure your child brings a named coat for all sessions please. Your child will not be able to go outside if they do not have a coat. Named wellies (to be left at the setting), hats, and gloves would be appreciated to keep the children warm when we use our outdoor facilities. Could all children also come to setting with a spare change of clothes in a named bag. Wet wipes and nappies should also be provided in your child's bag if your child requires them.

If you have any queries/issues please make sure you speak to Jo Galloway in setting or on 01580 212777 / 07483 262753 or your child's key worker who will be able to help. As well as Jo Galloway, our Manager, your child's key worker and Zoe Bedford-Cooper, our Business Manager [zoeggvp@gmail.com](mailto:zoeggvp@gmail.com) I am always available should you wish to discuss any aspect of your pre-school experience 07766 553728 / [jaynegvp@gmail.com](mailto:jaynegvp@gmail.com) .

### **GENERAL NOTICES:**

**Water Bottles:** Please continue to send your child with their named water bottles. Your help with this is very much appreciated.

**Book Lending Scheme:** We are introducing a new book lending scheme, so that the children can choose a book to take home and look at and share with their family. This will be co-ordinated by Mary.

**Payment of Invoices:** We are experiencing non-payment of some fees. We appreciate that payment of fees can be tough at times and we appreciate those families that have set up payment contracts in order to spread the cost of their invoices and continue to pay in increments. However, if you have an outstanding invoice from last term could you either make full payment before the next invoices are sent out or if you are not already on an agreed payment contract please contact Zoe, our Business Manager to arrange one or to discuss your invoice. Any invoices unpaid from last term may result in us having to look at decreasing your child's hours to the universal 15 hours or if your child is not funded look at decreasing their hours until the debt is cleared.

**Can you volunteer for an hour or two?:** Any parents who would like to come in to do reading or other activities please talk to Jo who will be very happy to hear from you.

**Lunch Boxes – A reminder:** Lunch boxes should contain a balance of savoury and sweet and should ideally contain at least one piece of fruit. Because of allergies, children should not bring in food items containing nuts for their packed lunch. We hope you understand the severity if a child with allergies were to come into contact. Even the smallest amount could have huge consequences. Thank you for your understanding in this regard.

**Parking / Vicarage:** The lane adjacent to the playground is the entrance to the vicarage and they are a family of four children who also have to be dropped to school etc. Please do not park in this lane as you are essentially blocking the way to a residence. We know parking can be tricky at times but do bear this in mind.

**Polite Notice:** We are experiencing quite a few late drop offs and it is proving disruptive to the start of the sessions, as we can't go outside to the Forest Area or garden until everyone is in. We very much understand that this is unavoidable at times and as a one off or with prior notice this is fine but please make every effort to get your child in on time so we can start our day. We are happy to let children in ten minutes early if it is arranged in advance but as we have to set up in the morning we will not have time to discuss any important issues you may have. We hope you are understanding of this polite request.

**Donations of pre-school clothing:** If you are having a clear out and would like to donate any unwanted 0-5yrs clothing to the pre-school we would be very grateful. Money raised from the clothing sale rail is invested in the children's pre-school experience, for the garden/forest area, for crafting, for baking etc. Many thanks for your support ☺

**Voluntary Contributions:** You will notice that you have received an invoice for a 'voluntary contribution'. The pre-school is very, very grateful for those parents who have paid this. Money received from these invoices is set aside and used directly to buy pre-school equipment and resources that we would otherwise not be able to afford. These contributions are directly to benefit your child's pre-school experience with us and each term we will tell you how much has been received and what we have invested it in for your children. Many thanks for continuing to support the pre-school.

**30 Hours Funding:** For anybody wanting 30 hours funding please look on the childcare choices website (<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>). We have limited places so please let Jo or Zoe know if you are considering this option. If you have any queries please contact Zoe on [zoeggvp@gmail.com](mailto:zoeggvp@gmail.com).

**Sick Days:** If your child is ill and has to take a sick day then please ring the setting asap to let us know: 01580 212777 / 07483 262753.

Photos of pre-school activities can be found on our Facebook page.

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

<https://www.facebook.com/GoudhurstVillagePreSchool>

Many thanks,

Jayne Russell & Jo Galloway

Goudhurst Village Pre-school

Registered Charity No. 1152404

Jayne Russell: Chair/Trustee: [jaynegvp@gmail.com](mailto:jaynegvp@gmail.com) Tel: 07766 553728

Jo Galloway: Manager [joannegvp@gmail.com](mailto:joannegvp@gmail.com) Tel: 01580 212777 or 07483 262753

Zoe Bedford-Cooper: Business Manager [zoeggvp@gmail.com](mailto:zoeggvp@gmail.com)

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

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