

## WEEK BEGINNING MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2019

This week we are continuing our music theme. We will be making our own instruments and hopefully, weather being kind we will be able to play them in the woods.

Max & Charlie's dad will be bringing in his music equipment and instruments to show the children and we will be singing lots of rhymes and songs with him. Huge thanks in advance for giving up your time to support the pre-school.

This week our colour is light & dark and the number is 10.

**Water Bottles:** Please be reminded to send your child with their named water bottle to each session. Your help with this is very much appreciated.

**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 is taking place **NOW** in the Hawkhurst store (TN18 4HG). If you can support the pre-school by going to the store and using your blue chips to vote and ask friends and relatives to also help that would be very much appreciated.

**Sponsored Bunny Bounce:** On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April we will be finishing before the Easter holidays by hosting our annual sponsored Easter Bunny Bounce, Easter Tee-shirt Competition and Easter Egg Hunt to raise funds for our vegetable and flower garden and also for the pre-schools new storage building to replace the current metal shed which is now beginning to leak and is not large enough for the growing needs of the pre-school. We will be giving out sponsor sheets over the next week and once we know how many children will be attending we can give each one a t-shirt to decorate. **Could parents please let the staff know if their child/children will be present at the sponsored Bunny Bounce. All children can come regardless of whether it's their session day or not.**

**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.

**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 ☺

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:**

**Voluntary Contributions:** The pre-school is very grateful to those parents who have paid their voluntary contributions over the last two terms. In the autumn term we received £120.60 and in the current term you have so far paid £228.70. The pre-school will be spending these contributions on lacing cards to encourage fine motor skills, painting resources and on equipment and resources for our outdoor areas, we will let you know the specifics once they have been ordered. Voluntary Contribution payments received each term are 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.

**Scarlett Fever:** We have had a reported case of Scarlett Fever. Please keep an eye out for symptoms. It is easily treated with antibiotics. An email was sent out last week.

**Head Lice:** There have been a few cases of head lice reported. Can you please check your children's hair and treat where necessary. If anyone is unsure of what they are looking for, they can ask a member of staff, who will be happy to help.

**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.

**Clothing:** Could all children 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.

**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?:** We openly encourage people willing to come in to share their skills, help out, read, play instruments or do planting with the children. Please get in contact with Jo Galloway if you could spare an hour or two in your week.

**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.

**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.

**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,  
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