

Goudhurst Village Pre-school



NEWSLETTER

7th NOVEMBER 2022

We hope you all had a wet but lovely bonfire weekend. The weather looks set to improve by Wednesday so we can hopefully begin to get outside a little more.

Last week: Due to the weather we were forced to stay indoors but we managed lots of fabulous activities. There was whizz bang crafting for bonfire night and colourful light creations for Diwali. The emergency services were very busy as the fire brigade and medical teams came to the rescue. Our junior doctors displayed some very impressive medical knowledge and bandaging skills. Ms Juliette was very impressed with all the children as they sat beautifully to show her how well they knew the words and actions to the French songs they've been learning. As the rain continued to pour, we used the soft play to climb, jump, crawl and build while others spent time on big page drawing with the water markers.



This coming week: This week we are starting our Christmas crafts and beginning to practice our Nativity Songs. We will be concentrating on Christmas, talking about the birth of Jesus and making our nativity scene from craft materials.

Can we also please remind you to return your child's plastic document pouch next time they attend the setting if you have it at home.

Christmas Hamper Donations and raffle: It has been a while since we have done any fundraising so we will be running our annual hamper raffle again this year. We are starting to collect for the Christmas hampers, so please ask to see the list to donate something, however big or small. Money from this fundraiser will go towards buying new wooden kitchen tea sets and accessories for the role play area.

Amazon Wish List: We would like to announce that we have started a 'Wish List' on Amazon.

If you would like to contribute to the pre-school, we have set up a wish list of resources and items that would be really useful in setting and could be enjoyed by all the children. Please have a look at the link below and purchase what you feel you can:

http://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1DUYMW2J15A17?ref=_wl_share

Nativity: Our Christmas Nativity will take place on Wednesday 14th December in St Mary's Church. Refreshments are being served from 10:30 with the performance starting at 11:00. 🌟 We look forward to seeing you all there.



Village Late Night Shopping on Saturday 20th November – Grotto will be open in our wood for visitors to Santa between 3.00–6.00pm: We are going to be holding our Christmas Wonderland in the woodland area at pre-school as part of this event which is truly magical for the children. In order to make this a beautiful event we would really appreciate any volunteers to help set this up from 12.00. Can you spare any time to help? Please let Jo or Kat know. Details on booking a slot for your child will follow.

Craft and Christmas activity HELP: We would like to invite parents to come in to setting to help with crafts and Christmas activities. This will commence on Monday 7th November until Friday 9th December from 9.30 – 10.15am. If you would like to join us, please book a slot with Jo or Kat.

Thank you to parents and grandparents who have already said they will come into the setting to help with crafting. We welcome all parents, grandparents and carers who would like to join us on occasion to read, craft, cook or just play. Speak to Jo at drop off or pick up if you are interested.

Play visits to your home: We will be offering you play visits for your child's Key Worker to come and chat to you about your child one to one and have a play with them in the comfort of their own home. This gives you an opportunity to get to know your child's key worker and for our staff to get to know your child in their own environment.

If at any time you would like a longer chat with your child's key worker, please book an appointment at pick up time.

Coats and warm clothing at pre-school: As the weather has turned with the changing of the clocks. A reminder that named coats should come to setting everyday as we get outside come rain or shine. Please could you make sure that hats, scarves, and gloves are also named.

Children's end of term Christmas Party – Friday 16th December: more details to follow.

This term is a very short and busy seven weeks, and your help is very gratefully received whether it be help in setting or with fundraisers. Please speak to the team if you can help in any way.

TRUSTEES: IMPORTANT NOTICE!! WE NEED YOU!! WE ARE LOOKING FOR A NEW CHAIR OF TRUSTEES! Would you, your parents, friends, or family be interested in joining the committee?? Are you interested in guiding our village pre-school forward on its path of success? I will be stepping down as Chair in the next term after five years and it would be lovely to see it in good hands with a strong committee. Please get in touch if you feel you can offer the time to join the team.

Are you interested in becoming a Trustee at Goudhurst Village Pre-School? Do you have experience in HR, finance, fundraising, websites, policies, secretarial, organising, or do you simply have a passion for our village and our growing pre-schooler population?

It is a fun way to be part of the pre-school and guide the setting to further success in the future. You don't have to be a parent, but just someone with enthusiasm in making the setting the best it can be. If you or anyone you know is interested, please get in touch with Jayne Russell on 07766 553728 or email jaynegvp@gmail.com for a chat or more information.

Voluntary Contributions: The pre-school is very grateful to those parents who have paid their voluntary contributions over the last two terms. In the current term you have so far paid £320 collectively. The pre-school will be spending these contributions on resources and equipment and items 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 us in this way.

Allergies and lunch safety: We have many children who attend pre-school that are all different and who can be allergic to many different things so we have very strict rules. Please be reminded of the following:

Sun Cream: Can everyone please check that the sun cream they are applying to their child does not have any almond oil in it. Nivea products do!

Nuts and sesame: Due to the risk of anaphylaxis in setting can we remind all parents that no nuts of any kind or sesame are allowed in your child's lunch in setting as we have children who suffer severe allergies if they are in contact. This is to keep everyone safe. NO NUTELLA, HOUMOUS OR PEANUT BUTTER PLEASE!

Grapes / Olives & Blueberries: Please remember to cut your grapes, olives, and blueberries in four. This is the current Health and Safety guidelines. They can completely block a child's airway, and this is the simplest way to take away this risk. Grapes

should be cut length ways at a very minimum, but in four is recommended. The same applies to any rounded soft fruits / vegetables.

Drop off and pick up times: Drop off time in the morning is between 8.50 – 9.10 / Pick up time is between 3.20 – 3.30. Lunchtime drop off and pick up is 12.00 or 1.00 prompt.

If you would like to drop or pick up at any other time this needs to be arranged in advance with Jo or Kat.

We hope you understand that these are very busy times for our staff and can be unsettling for children hence we do not allow parents into the church rooms during drop off but you are welcome to come in when collecting your child.

Goudhurst Village Pre-School Closed Facebook Page: If you would like to keep up to date with what the children get up to during the day, please join our closed Facebook page where we post updates each week.

Funding: We have limited space for 30hr funding left, (only two spaces). Please look at the childcare choice's website if you think you're entitled to funding other than the universal 15hrs, and it will help you work out what is available to you.

[Childcare Choices | 30 Hours Free Childcare, Tax-Free Childcare and More | Help with Costs | GOV.UK](#)

Please also speak to our Business Manager Zoe if you have any queries and she can try and help.

This term: This term runs from Tuesday 1st November to Friday 16th December. Christmas Holidays are from Monday 19th December to Monday 2nd January.

Our pre-school team: Our team, Jo, Kat, Mary, Dee, Emily, Christina, Emma and of course our business manager Zoe are fabulous, and they make your child's experience in setting the best it can be each day. Please talk to Jo, Kat or your child's key worker if you have anything you would like to discuss.

If you have any queries/issues at all, please make sure you speak to Jo Galloway in setting or on 01580 212777 / 07483 262753.

As well as Jo Galloway, our manager, your child's key worker and Zoe Bedford-Cooper, our business manager zoeggv@gmail.com I am always available should you wish to discuss any aspect of your pre-school experience 07766 553728 / jaynegvp@gmail.com.

GENERAL NOTICES

Parking: Parking at the pre-school is limited so please be mindful of others and walk to setting if you can. Please **do not** park or block the driveway to the vicarage as it is in daily use.

Sick Days: If your child is poorly and you feel it necessary to give them calpol, or any similar medication, or you are unsure if they are well enough to come to setting then as a precaution, we advise that they stay at home to rest, to protect both children and staff at setting and their wider families. There will be a lot of winter colds going round, and if we can protect ourselves against the spread of these that has to be a good thing.

If your child is expected in setting and is ill and has to take a sick day, then please ring the setting asap before they are due to come in to let us know: 01580 212777 / 07483 262753.

Many thanks,

Jayne Russell & Jo Galloway

Goudhurst Village Pre-school

Registered Charity No. 1152404

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www.goudhurstvillagepreschool.co.uk

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