

Goudhurst Village Pre-school



NEWSLETTER

WEEK BEGINNING 23RD JANUARY 2023



Over the last couple of weeks, we have enjoyed talking about the weather. We've been out and about in all weathers and have loved jumping in the mud and sand. We have listened to stories indoors, done baking and had an awful lot of fun doing lots of different activities. We have been very busy.



AGM – 19th January 2023 Thank you to all that attended the AGM last week. A big thank you to Mrs Hoare who attended from Goudhurst & Kilndown Primary School to discuss transition to reception class. We will post the reports on the website under newsletters.

Please return pre-school clothes. If your child has been sent home in clothes belonging to the pre-school for any reason, could they please be washed and returned as we are running low on spares. Many thanks.

Help in setting: We would like to invite parents or a member of the children's families in to read a story, help with arts and crafts or simply to come in to play. These sessions will be from 9.15-10.00am each day. Please ask Jo or Kat to book a date you are available.

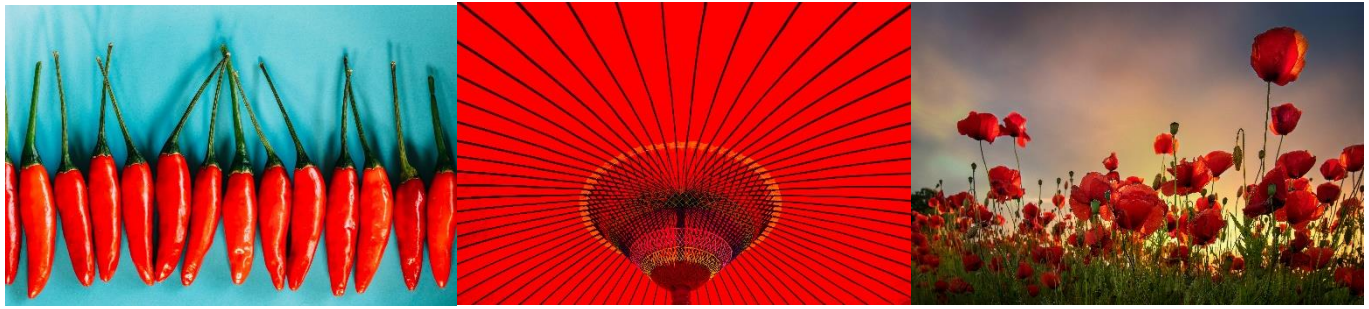
Second hand clothes Sale: Saturday 4th March: If you can offer help at this fundraising event, please see Jo or Kat. Also, if you are having a clear out and can donate any good quality pre-school clothing / toys for this sale we would be very appreciative. Could you bring donations into setting after half term please.

This coming week we are celebrating the Lunar New Year (Chinese New Year). This year, Lunar New Year marks the beginning of the year of the Rabbit, according to the Chinese zodiac.

We will be making Chinese lanterns, painting Chinese masks and decorating dragons and rabbits. We will also try to pick up noodles using chopsticks and will have prawn crackers at snack time.



The colour for the week is red. Please encourage your child to look at home and when out and out and bring something red into setting to share with everyone.



Strep A and other illnesses: Before Christmas we had a confirmed case of a child with strep A that was linked to the preschool. Please read the attached NHS information and if you have any concerns about your child's health please speak to your GP or NHS 111. **Strep A – NHS (www.nhs.uk)**

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.

NEW YEAR – NEW JOB???? Recruitment: We are seeking a friendly **pre-school assistant**, to join our team after Christmas, Monday – Friday 8.30am–3.45pm. We are open to applications from anyone who would like to embark on their level 3 training, is already qualified or would like to work with children. If you or someone you know is interested, please email **jaynegvp@gmail.com** with your CV for an application form or call 07766 553728 simply to find out more. Thank you!

TRUSTEES: IMPORTANT NOTICE! WE NEED YOU!! WE ARE LOOKING FOR MORE NEW TRUSTEES TO JOIN THE TEAM! 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.

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.

Amazon Wish List: 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**

Funding: We currently have no availability for 30hr funding. 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.

Voluntary Contributions: The pre-school is very grateful to those parents who have paid their voluntary contributions over the last two terms. This term we have received £460, out of £1,190 invoiced. 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.

Our pre-school team: Our team, Jo, Kat, Mary, Dee, 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 regarding your child's day in setting.

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 zoeggvp@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.

Many thanks,
Jayne Russell & Jo Galloway
Goudhurst Village Pre-school

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