



Greatworth Pre-School

Registered Charity: 1160606

greatworthpreschool.co.uk

email: enquiries@greatworthpreschool.co.uk

making learning fun

Helmdon Road, Greatworth. Oxon. OX17 2DR Tel: 01295 713514

Newsletter

Term 1 2016

Welcome to the start of term 1 - I hope you had a lovely summer break and that your child is enjoying preschool so far. We have been busy meeting and welcoming in a few new families. All children have settled back in to preschool and the new children have all settled well, we've not had any tears from our new children which is fantastic!

New starters:

We would like to welcome Aaliyah, Isla, Kyle and Layla in to Pre-School. We hope they have enjoyed their first couple of weeks at Pre-School.

Sessions:

I would like to make you all aware that many of our sessions are now full based on the current staffing that we have in place. Therefore, if you wish for an adhoc session, we require a minimum 24 hours' notice and will try and accommodate your request if possible.

Can I also remind you that if you are dropping or changing sessions we require a months' notice on sessions. If we do not receive a months' notice on changes, sessions will be charged.

Unfortunately I have to mention this again, (sorry for a grumble) but please can I remind you that staff need parents to pick up their child on time. We ask that children are picked up on time after every session each day. This is because many sessions run straight after one another and it is only fair that we provide the same settling in procedure for children attending all sessions throughout the day. Staff find it difficult to settle children in if they are busy handing children over to their families if families have not picked up on time.

Please see below the session times and the times that charges will apply. Unfortunately if parents continue to be late then we will be forced to review our policy which may result in late charges applying after five minutes to encourage parents to be on time. We are aware that in some circumstances it cannot be prevented. Therefore, if you have any questions, please speak to Katy Emms who will be happy to help.

Session times:	Late charge of £10:
Morning session 8:45am-11:45am	11:55am
Lunch club 11:45-12:30pm	12:40pm
Afternoon session 12:30pm-3:30pm	3:40pm

Winter clothing

Now we are going in to the colder seasons, please could I ask that all children bring in gloves, wellies, hats and a warm winter coat. Staff would also be very grateful if you could label all items of clothing. As you can imagine, it can get difficult when we have 20 pairs of gloves that can be very similar or even the same!

Water bottles

We are finding that our water bottles are not lasting due to bottles being recyclable. Please can we ask that all children now bring in their own water bottles which we are happy to fill up at Pre-School.

Preparing your child's lunchbox

At Pre-School staff have a responsibility to ensure that children's lunch boxes are healthy and provide them with a balanced diet. We ask that a balanced packed lunch contains:

- starchy foods - these are bread, rice, potatoes, pasta and others
- protein foods - including meat, fish, eggs, beans and others
- a dairy item - this could be cheese or a yoghurt
- vegetables or salad and a portion of fruit

Starchy foods are a good source of energy and should make up a third of the lunchbox. To ensure your child stays interested in eating a healthy lunch box then instead of sandwiches, give your child bagels, pitta bread, wraps and baguettes. Use brown, wholemeal or seeded bread rather than white bread. I am afraid that at Pre-School we do not allow sweets or fizzy drinks.

It may take a while for your child to get used to a healthier lunchbox but it will be worth it for their health, so please keep trying. At Pre-School we are committed to encouraging children to make healthier choices and think about what foods help them to grow and develop. If you feel your child struggles with healthier options we will ensure we support them at lunch time and snack time. We are also able to heat food up if you wish to bring in a cooked meal. However, please inform us so we can put food in the fridge if needed.

Staffing September 2016

Now we have lost Helen due to her relocating, we have changed staffing. I thought it would be useful for you to all know which staff are in when. You should have all had a letter to inform you of who your child's Key Person is. If you have not and you are unsure then please speak to Katy.

Monday - Katy and Clarissa

Tuesday - Katy and Clarissa

Wednesday - Clarissa and Julie

Thursday - Katy and Julie

Friday - Katy and Julie

Dates for the diary

Jeans for Genes Day

We encourage children and staff to support 'Jeans for Genes Day' on Friday 23rd September. As we are a small setting, all donations collected on the day will contribute to Schools funds.

Harvest lunch

This year we will be providing our annual Harvest Lunch for Grandparents on Tuesday 11th of October 12-1:30pm. There are limited spaces so we will soon be sending out letters to secure you space. If children do not have Grandparents locally, other relatives and friends may attend. It is a lovely time for other relatives to come in to the setting and see where the children play and learn.

Harvest assembly

For children that attend Pre-School on Friday afternoons, we will be walking to the church with school to take food donations and to take part in their Harvest Assembly. We would really appreciate donations given to us the week commencing 26th of September which Pre-School can take with us. Thank you in advance.

McMillan Coffee Afternoon

Pre-School staff will be taking children over to school to take part in the McMillan Coffee event. We ask that you pick your child up from the school hall on at 3:30pm on Friday 30th. We would love it if as many families could come and take part so we can raise as much as possible for such an important charity.

Curry night:

November the 11th 6:30pm-7:30pm. More details to follow closer to the time.

Parents' evening

Parents' evening will be going ahead on Wednesday 25th of January from 4pm-6:30pm. Further details will be confirmed closer to the time. If you wish to catch up with your child's key person in the meantime please do not hesitate to arrange a time to catch up. We will continue to provide a tracking document in term 1-2 as well as in term 3-4 and 5-6. You will also be able to view regular observations through logging in to your child's Tapestry account.

Term dates:

Term	Open to pupils on the morning of	Closed at the end of the afternoon on
Term 1	Monday 5 September 2016	Friday 21 October 2016
Term 2	Monday 31 October 2016	Tuesday 20 December 2016
Term 3	Wednesday 4 January 2017	Friday 10 February 2017
Term 4	Monday 20 February 2017	Friday 31 March 2017
Term 5	Tuesday 18 April 2017	Friday 26 May 2017
Term 6	Monday 5 June 2017	Friday 21 July 2017

Thank you for your continued support

Pre-School staff.