Dear parents/carers,

Welcome back to Term 4, we hope you all had a fantastic half term.

**Coronavirus update**

As you will be aware, the situation with the Coronavirus (COVID-19) is changing continually and we are monitoring the situation closely. We receive regular updates from Kent County Council, informed by Public Health England which lets us know any new guidance and advise for us as an educational setting.

The following link will take you to the latest guidance from the department of Health and Social care and Public Health England regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19):

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public>

Please be reassured that we continue to follow all the advice from the relevant government departments, and, as mentioned above, we are also being advised at a local level by Kent County Council.

In the event of a child or member of staff being diagnosed as having the virus, we will, of course, follow advice provided by the local Public Health England Health Protection Team which will be specific to an assessment of our circumstances and setting.

I appreciate that this is a concerning time given the heightened media attention at present around the virus, but please be assured that we will continue to monitor the situation very closely and will respond accordingly. It is obviously imperative for us to be cautious but to maintain a good sense of perspective at all times.

**Upcoming trips**

Just a reminder about our upcoming trips this term:

Thursday 5th March: To coincide with World Book Day we are going to Cranbrook Library to look at their books and listen to a story with the librarian. We will be leaving Woodpeckers at about 9.45am and walking down the footpath to the Library.

Monday 23rd March: Alongside our learning about growth and changes over time and Spring we will be visiting the High Weald Farm to see all of their new baby animals. We will be leaving Woodpeckers at 9.15 am and walking along the Angley Road to the Farm.

A huge thank you to all of the parents/ carers who are accompanying us on these trips, enabling us to offer these opportunities to the children. We are so lucky to have these links with our local community and be able to visit them as a whole setting. If your child does not attend Woodpeckers as normal on these days and you would like to join us we would love to see you, but please be aware that your child needs to be accompanied at all times by an adult.

**Preschool Photos**

We have Hannah Douglas coming in on Wednesday 11th March to take some photos of the children as they play. These photos will be available for you to purchase and we hope that as they are not being done in a posed environment you will end up with some fantastic natural pictures of your children. If your child does not attend Woodpeckers on a Wednesday morning but you would like some photos taken then you are welcome to bring them in between 9am and 10am, but as above an adult will need to accompany them while they are here. If you do not wish for your child to have their picture taken, please let a member of staff know.

**Committee Meeting: Monday 9th March 2020**

Our next Committee Meeting is on Monday 9th March 2020 at 7.30 pm at Woodpeckers. Joining the committee is a great way to get involved in your child’s early years education and make some new friends as well. We are an extremely friendly group, so please come along. If you have any questions or queries, please don’t hesitate to ask myself, a member of the team or contact our Chair Person, Hazel, at Woodpeckerschair@gmail.com

**Fundraising – other ways you can help us!**

As you will be aware, Woodpeckers is a registered Charity and relies on fundraising activities to enable us to fund the extra activities like PE sessions. There are many ways you can help us without spending any money.

Amazon Smile and Easy Fundraising – if you shop online and you register on Amazon Smile or Easy Fundraising, you can make a contribution to Woodpeckers every time you shop! It costs you nothing and makes us money! It’s a really easy way to help!

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/>

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/>

Tunbridge Wells Lotto – do you buy a weekly lottery ticket? Did you know you can play the TW Lotto and help us too? Tickets cost £1.00 each and 50p of that ticket comes back to Woodpeckers!

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/>

Thank you – every penny counts and helps us offer the children more and more exciting experiences!

**Complaints/Concerns/Feedback**

Please remember, it is our intention to work in partnership with parents/carers and we welcome your comments and suggestions on how to improve our pre-school at any time. If you have concern/comments about any aspect about the pre-school provision, please do talk to either me, Sarah or Hazel, our Chair Person. Hazel can be contacted via email at woodpeckerschair@gmail.com.

If you have any questions or queries, please don’t hesitate to contact me or talk to your key person.

Best wishes

Mandy Swift

Supervisor

Woodpeckers Preschool CIO

01580 720195