



# Autumn Term 2020 Newsletter

## Dates for your diary

### Autumn Term 2020

Children return to pre-school: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September

Pre-school ends: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October

### Half Term Break

Staff training day (Preschool closed): Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

Children return to Pre-school: Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

Dressing up for fun: 9<sup>th</sup> November to 13<sup>th</sup> November

Hello and a warm welcome to all our new families who are joining us this year. We hope your little ones settle quickly and enjoy coming to pre-school. Any worries, please talk to your key-person who will be happy to help. Also, a big welcome back to children who are returning for another year of fun and learning.

## Pre-school Information:

### Nappies and pull-ups

Parents with children who are in pull ups or nappies are kindly asked to provide a supply of pull-ups, nappies, wipes etc. During Covid we are asking for a pack of nappies and wipes which will be named and used for your child as needed. You will be advised when the pack of nappies or wipes need replenishing.

### Behaviour

We have many young children attending pre-school in the autumn term and for some, it will be their first experience of sharing toys and following pre-school routines. Some children settle easily while others find it more challenging. This can sometimes result in behaviour such as snatching or hurting others. Staff will inform parents of any incidents and will work together with families to promote positive behaviour. Please help us by talking to your child regularly about sharing and being kind to each other.

### Snacks/ Water

Due to Covid-19 regulations children will be bringing their own snacks to pre-school. Please make sure you bring in named plastic snack pots for your child each day. Also please bring in fresh water each day in a named plastic drinks bottle.

### Lunch boxes

Please only provide healthy foods in your child's lunchbox. Please do not include sweets, chocolate, eggs, nuts, peanut butter or other processed high fat or sugary foods. Importantly, please be aware that we have children attending who are allergic to nuts, eggs, peanut butter, and chocolate. They do not even have to eat them to have a severe allergic reaction, so never include these foods in your child's lunch box. All lunch boxes should be plastic, wipeable and named.

### Website / Facebook / What's App

Please visit our website at [www.wigmoreunderfivespreschool.co.uk](http://www.wigmoreunderfivespreschool.co.uk). It has many interesting sections including pre-school policies, newsletters, staff, and session information. We also have a Wigmore Under Fives and Stepping-stones Facebook page. Have a look to see updates and information regarding children's activities. Also, we have a parent's 'What's App' chat. This is a great way to keep in contact with pre-school and other parents sharing information such as school closure days, children's cake stalls, lost property, and sports day etc. Please do not use this group for personal information regarding children being ill or if you are going to be late. This type of information should be texted privately to the preschool mobile number 07414 741610

### **Tapestry Online Learning Journal and App**

Wigmore Under Fives uses a platform called 'Tapestry' to record children's learning and development. Each family is able to access their child's information from the App that you can download onto your phone, tablet, or computer. You can also log into the online version to access 'Tapestry' to read memo's and activities set by preschool. You will receive an activation email, from this, you can set up your own password and PIN number. Please go onto your child's 'Tapestry' weekly, to see what your little one has been learning. Parent/Carers own observations and comments are also very welcome. Tapestry is very user friendly and helps key-persons and families to keep in touch and share photos and milestones. Have a go, it's fun and when your child leaves, you will be able to download all the photos, videos, and observations in a booklet format to keep forever.

### **Sponsored treasure hunt**

Each year we encourage the children and their families to take part in a sponsored treasure hunt. Children are given a sponsor form and a colourful sheet showing items that they have to find (with a little help from parents/carers). Items found can be stuck onto the sheet. This year due to Covid-19, we will be doing the sponsored treasure hunt as an activity on Tapestry. We will provide the sheets and sponsor forms you need. Please take photos of your child finding the items on the sheet and sticking them onto their treasure hunt sheet, and add them to your child's learning journal. This is a fun activity for you to share with your child. Money raised will go towards revamping our playground area, which has suffered during lockdown.

### **Dressing up for fun week**

Dressing up for fun week will be held week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> November to 13<sup>th</sup> November. This fundraising event costs £1 for the whole week. Children might like to dress up just once; all week or not at all.....we do not mind. Again, money raised will go towards revamping our playground area.

### **Doorbell**

There is now a doorbell for parents/carers to ring on the back gate/car park entrance. Please ring to get staff members attention. We will respond as quickly as possible.

### **Shoes**

We are using the garden area much more this year during Covid-19. As the weather starts to change, children might need some extra shoes or wellington boots if the area gets wet or muddy. Please bring in an extra pair of shoes/wellies to change into if needed. Make sure everything is named so we know what items belong to which child.

