

## webster honey

Webster Honey 23 Sunnypark Kinross KY13 8BX Tel: 01577 330452 VAT NO. = GB 1632 79 384

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Hello!

I'd like to begin by introducing you to Webster Honey and what we do....

Our idea is to promote and help the Bees in any way we can, and so far, we have been doing this by using profits from the honey we sell to buy as many new bee hives as we can, with our main goal being to be the biggest bee employer in Scotland!

I'm sure you will have heard and read a lot about the importance of bees, but I'd like to give you a small amount of information about why the bees need our help.

Every day they are under threat from several factors, one being pesticides which are believed to kill them altogether, then there is the varroa mite causing bees wings to be deformed, therefore impairing their ability to fly and if this wasn't enough for those wee bees they also suffer our forever unpredictable harsh weather changes.

So where do we come in? Well, it may shock you to know that most wild honey bee colonies are dead, so most honey bees remain cared for in hives managed by keepers just like Meik! Our very own beekeeper.

What we are now trying to do is liaise with as many Nurseries as we can and reach out to children, educating them and letting them experience the joy of caring for bees! Meik would use a combination of theory and practice to teach them all about the life cycle of bees and how important they are to the environment. We would bring along an full observation hive, where the bees are fully enclosed, but the children can observe through a large window. We would also provide some bee keeping suits which the children can try on and then we would take the children to the hive to see in practice the theory Meik had already explained, e.g: Identifying the queen; the difference between the bees; checking for eggs/larvae and try to get some honeycomb.

If this is something that your nursery would be interested in, we do a half day workshop for £235 or a full day for £375. The full day would include a morning and afternoon session so different groups of children could be involved. Ideally we would have no more than 30 children around the hive at any one time.

I have also enclosed a copy of Meik's 10 lesson plan, where we lend you a working hive for the course of the 10 lessons. The children can paint the hive with any design they wish. These lessons include more hands on bee-keeping and have been very popular in primary schools. The cost for the full package is £1,250 which covers the hive and bees; paint and brushes; initial presentation; 10 x 1-hour lessons and supply of equipment including suits.

Please let me know your thoughts and if you have any questions just let me know. Thank you for your time,

Michelle English

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