



## Autumn 1 September 2019 Newsletter

### What have we planned for 1<sup>st</sup> term?

Dear parents and carers.

Welcome back to Playgroup, we hope that you all had a relaxing summer and enjoyed the sunshine.

We are looking forward to seeing both existing and new children and the initial focus will be supporting separation and learning the new routines during the session along with some small group work so we can get to know our new friends. If you have anything that you are worried about or wish to discuss with us then please feel free to speak to a member of staff or alternatively you can use your child's red book.

We have planned a settling in afternoon for new children and parents to attend on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September from 1.30-2.30pm. It's a great chance to meet the children again, parents can also have a chat with the staff and all the children can become familiar to the toys, the other children and their new surroundings. We are looking forward to seeing everyone again.



There are always a number of things in the first newsletter of the year – reminders for you all as well as information on our topics so please read on –

### Safety First

#### Signing In/Out

Please ensure that you sign your child in and out of Playgroup every session on the sheet in the foyer and if someone other than yourself is collecting please let a member of staff know and ensure the collector has your child's password at collection time.

Once your children are inside the main hall they are then Playgroup's responsibility and likewise when they leave and enter the foyer at collection time they are your responsibility.

If your child has an existing injury please let us know that morning as we will need you to complete an existing injury form. It ensures that staff are extra vigilant if your child becomes unwell during the sessions. Thank you.

### What to pack for your child each day (all named please)

- A change of clothes (nappies or lots of pants and bottoms if toilet training)
- A coat
- Wellingtons
- Appropriate footwear for the day's weather
- Suncream (named)
- Comforter (if needed)
- Book bag (provided by playgroup)
- Sun hat/winter hat
- Lunch box if staying all day or for the afternoon session (Cool pack if weather hot)  
(N.B. UNFORTUNATELY we have to send soiled nappies home as we do not have disposal facilities in the community centre)
- Please note – if your child brings in a toy from home they will be asked to leave it in their bag in the foyer so that it remains safe for the day. Thank you.



## **Snack Rota**

Our snack rota is in the foyer, if you could help by making a contribution then please put your name down for one session over the half term to provide something for all the children to eat. Thank you.

We have found that the children that bring the snack in are very excited about sharing what they have brought in for everyone to eat and like to talk about this during registration time. There will be a maximum of 24 children to cater for. A suggested carbohydrate variety could be a packet of crackers with cheese/box of cereal/breadsticks/loaf of bread/crumpets together with a small pack of butter/cheese/cheese spread/humous/tin of baked beans etc – the children really enjoy beans on toast, it's nice to give the a variety PLUS along with this we like to offer the children a choice of 2 items of fresh fruit, eg 4 apples, a punnet of grapes or 3 bananas would be enough for one snack.



## **Learning journeys**

The children's learning journeys are sent out to you throughout the year. It is a great way to see what your child has enjoyed doing, their learning and next steps. We like to share this information with you and also any other child carers that your child may attend so that we can all work together sharing interests and ideas to best support your child. We plan to send them out at either your child's first '4-week review (new children) or in December when other children's summative assessments are sent out.

## **Duty parents**

We welcome duty parents to Playgroup, it is a great opportunity to see what your child does during a playgroup session, meet some of their friends and have a chat with your child's key person about their progress/interests, if you would like to come in and help then please ask a member of staff.

## **Open Door Policy**

If you would like to have a chat at any time regarding your child's progress or have something you wish to discuss, please let us know and we will arrange a mutually convenient time.

## **Contact information**

Don't forget to update us with any information changes such as contact phone numbers and new address- changes in family circumstances.

## **Medical Information**

Also let us know if your child has any changes in their medical history, maybe they now need an inhaler which we will need a secondary one to keep at playgroup or they have developed an allergy to something.

## **Nursery Vouchers**

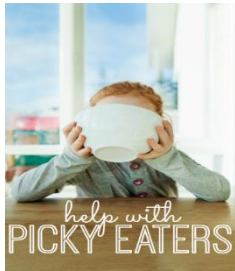
If your child is eligible for 30hr funding then please remember to reconfirm your code every 3 months. If you have any queries regarding nursery voucher funding or other types of funding available then please speak to Michelle who deals with this.



## Lunch boxes

We recommend that children have a sandwich, usually one roll or 2 slices of bread maximum, a yoghurt and fruit/raw vegetables such as carrots/peppers etc/any grapes and tomatoes or similar shapes must be cut in half lengthways to avoid choking and no nuts please.

All food waste from lunch boxes is returned so that you are able to see how much quantity your child has eaten at lunch time. Staff will endeavour to check that half eaten yoghurt pots are rinsed out for you.



If you would like any more support Jen can give advice with children who are struggling to eat a variety of food to have a varied diet. Please ask her for details if you want to find out more.

During the academic year we plan to explore different occupations, if you have a job or skill that you could share with the children, for example you work in a shop, a vets, dentist or with animals you could come in to play and talk about your job. If you feel that you could help us please speak to a member of staff and we can plan this into our timetable over the academic year.



## **Fundraising**

Playgroup is a charity and we often hold fundraising events, please look out for these in our newsletters and on our facebook page and help support us in some fun events.

**2<sup>nd</sup> September** - - **Monday INSET day closed.**

**Tuesday**- Welcome back! 1<sup>st</sup> day of playgroup.

Draw and discuss holiday activities, all about me, go over playgroup rules, look after resources, name writing.

**Wednesday** - New parent afternoon 1.30pm -2.30pm

Continue talking about Summer holiday activities

**9<sup>th</sup> September** - Name practice, all about me, settling in new children, recognising colours, Playgroup rules: 'choose, use, return

**16<sup>th</sup> September** - Visiting the allotment: Encourage children to talk about what they see and comments and asks questions about the environment. Read 'Town house and country mouse'



**23<sup>rd</sup> September** - Personal, Social and emotional development, discuss feelings, emotion dolls, persona doll  
Discussing different scenarios-how would we feel/what would we do? Read 'The Little Red hen'.

**30<sup>th</sup> September** - Positional language, read 'Rabbits Woolly Jumper'. Explore: Size, patterns and numbers.

**7<sup>th</sup> October** - Musical instruments-exploring how we can change the sound of instruments, making our own instruments, dancing and ring games, singing.

**14<sup>th</sup> October** - Continue to discuss feeling and behaviour, discuss families and look at family photos, encourage friendships- turn taking games - Who is your friend?

**21<sup>st</sup> October** - Sandwich making, Halloween, categorise shapes, pumpkin pictures, recognising shapes, making arrangements with shapes.

**Autumn term 2 starts 4<sup>th</sup> November.**

**Our playgroup offers care and education for all children from 2 ½ years to 4 years 11 months in a well-established community based group.**

**We offer your children a safe and stimulating environment in which they can grow and blossom into self confident, self reliant and positive little people.**

**Our ultimate goal is to enable the children to have fun, explore and have the freedom to express their individuality, while forming the basis of their education.**

We are operating a waiting list for children to start in September. We operate 4 days a week offering full and half day sessions. We also accept government nursery vouchers and other types of employer supported childcare vouchers.

If you would like more details please contact the playleader 07977 342 742 – email

[eastingtonplaygroup@hotmail.com](mailto:eastingtonplaygroup@hotmail.com)

or visit our website [www.eastingtonplaygroup.wordpress.com](http://www.eastingtonplaygroup.wordpress.com)