

Noah's Ark Playgroup

Autumn 2 Newsletter 2021

Manager: Helen

Deputy: Lisa

Practitioners: Libby

Administrator: Naomi

Website: www.noahsark-kimberley.org.uk

THAT FESTIVE FEELING!

And just like that we are hurtling full speed towards Christmas again!

Over the next four weeks we will be focussing a lot on the festive period. We will be exploring lots of christmas stories, creating lots of arts and crafts and finishing off the term with a Christmas Party!

As we started back for the second half of the Autumn term the weather has definitely taken a cold turn.

As part of our on going Covid Procedures, we need to ensure the building is well ventilated at all times, this means that periodically we will keep the door to the hall open to ventilate the building. Please can you ensure your child attends their sessions in suitable clothing.

We will also go outside in all weather. Please ensure your child arrives with appropriate outdoor clothing and footwear for the colder weather.

FEEDBACK

Can I also remind you we have a **feedback form** on our website within the Parent Hub. Your feedback helps us to ensure our service is what parents hope for and expect from a playgroup, it is relevant to parents needs and above all it is a positive, happy, educational and safe experience for your child. This then helps us to improve and develop within the setting. If you could spare a few minutes, we would really appreciate some current parent feedback.

Within the ParentHub section of the website you can also fill in a holiday form, read through our current policies

and procedures, check our latest covid procedures and find other useful links and advice online. You can also use the contact form for any queries or questions you may have.

You can visit our website at

www.noahsark-kimberley.org.uk

If you have any suggestions of information you would like to see available online, please send us a quick text or email or speak to a staff member in playgroup.

AUTUMN REVIEWS

Our Autumn reviews will take place w/c 6th December. You will soon receive a text with a timeslot on a day your child already attends to have a chat with their key worker to go through your child's development folder and discuss your child's learning in more detail. If you have any questions regarding reviews, please get in touch.

STAFF CHANGES

At the beginning of November we said goodbye to Emily who has taken an opportunity to develop her childcare career into a school environment as a teaching assistant. We have now welcomed Libby to the team, Libby is a Level 2 qualified practitioner who is currently studying to complete her level 3. Libby has settled in very well and all the children are very fond of her.

In January we will say goodbye to Amy, who has been an assistant with us since June. Amy is going to University to study Nursing.

Our newest member of staff, Charlie, will be joining us in January. Charlie is a level 3 qualified Childcare Practitioner and we are looking forward to him joining the team.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING - THANK YOU

Thank you to every one who donated cakes, time and cash donations to our Macmillan Coffee Morning. It was a great success and lovely to finally invite parents and their families into the setting.

We collected £50.00 for Macmillan which is fantastic.

AVAILABLE SPACES

We do have a few places available in January. If you or if you have any friends with 2, 3 or 4 year olds that may be interested, please feel free to share our information. Also if your child currently attends and you would like more sessions please speak to Helen.

REMINDER - TAX FREE CHILDCARE

If you pay for your child's playgroup sessions you may be able to use the Tax Free Childcare.

If you are eligible, you just need to set up an account and for every £8 you pay into this account, the government will pay in £2 to use to pay your childcare provider.

Go to <https://www.gov.uk/get-tax-free-childcare> For further details.

30 HOUR GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Please remember that if your child is 3 or turning three before the **31st December 2021**, they may be entitled to the 30 hour government funding for the Spring term. This must be applied for by you before **31st December** at <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>
If you have any queries please see Helen.

INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS

JSP Photography will be at Playgroup on **Thursday 2nd December** to take individual photographs of the children.

Photos will be ready for Christmas.

If you would like your child to have an individual photograph but your child does not attend on a Thursday, you will be able to bring your child along and we will endeavour to make sure all children with waiting parents are photographed first.

If you have any siblings that you would like to include in your child's photograph, you are welcome to bring them along on the day.

ABSENCES & ILLNESS

If your child is not able to attend a session they should be booked in for for **ANY** reason (illness, holiday, pj day etc) then you **must** let us know at your very earliest convenience by phone or text. Though it is not compulsory for your child to attend every session they are booked in for, if we do not get confirmation of why your child is absent it could become a safeguarding concern and we have a duty of care to act on it.

You can let us know if you are planning a trip away by filling in our holiday form online at

[Holiday Form | Noah's Ark Playgroup](#)

Or you can text the playgroup phone at anytime.

AMAZON SMILE :)

I just wanted to remind you that as a registered charity, Noahs Ark Playgroup is eligible to receive donations from the **AmazonSmile Programme**. Anyone shopping online at **Amazon** is able to donate 0.5% of their purchase to our charity without it costing you a penny!

Any donations we receive will be directly invested back into playgroup and our children on resources like new equipment or adventures out and about.

Signing up and nominating our charity is quick and easy, all you need to do is go to <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1024151-0> on a **web browser** and select Noahs Ark Playgroup as your chosen charity to donate to. From then on every time you make a purchase on Amazon, providing that you use the link **smile.amazon.co.uk** Playgroup will receive a donation.

To shop using the **Amazon App** on a mobile or device simply activate **AmazonSmile** on your amazon shopping app on your iOS or Android device (found under 'settings' on your app once you have selected a charity for the first time via a web browser).

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Noah's Ark Christmas Party will take place on the last day of term, Friday the 17th December, in the morning session.

We will be having a christmas disco, party games and a visit from a special visitor (Ho Ho Ho).

If your child does not attend on a Friday they can either pay to attend the party as an additional session (£10:50) or you can swap your session, if you would like to swap your child's session that week then please see Helen.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Thurs 2nd Dec 2021	Individual Photographs
Fri 17th Dec 2021	Christmas Party
Mon 20th Dec - 31st Dec 21 - Xmas hol - CLOSED	
Mon 3rd Jan 2022	BANK HOLIDAY - CLOSED
Tue 4th Jan 2022	1st Day of Spring term
Mon 14th Feb - Fri 18th Feb 22 Half term - CLOSED	
Mon 21st Feb 2022	INSET DAY - CLOSED
Tues 22nd Feb 2022	1st Day of Spring term 2
Mon 4th Apr - Thur 14th Apr 22 - Easter - CLOSED	
Fri 15th Apr 2022	Good Friday - CLOSED
Mon 18th Apr 2022	Easter Monday - CLOSED
Tue 19th Apr 2022	INSET DAY - CLOSED
Wed 20th Apr 2022	1st Day of Summer term
Mon 2nd May 2022	BANK HOLIDAY - CLOSED
Mon 30th May - Fri 3rd Jun 22 - Half term - CLOSED	
Mon 6th June 2022	INSET DAY - CLOSED
Tues 7th June 2022	1st day of summer term 2
Thurs 28th July 2022	Last day of 2021/22

<https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/2319936/school-holidays-2021-2022.pdf>

CHANGE BAGS & NAPPIES & WIPES

*****IMPORTANT*****

- Every child who is still in nappies or pull ups **MUST** have an adequate supply of nappies, wipes and if required, necessary creams.
- Parents **MUST** ensure that their child arrives in a clean nappy.
- If your child has soiled when arriving to their session, it is the parents/carers responsibility to change them.
- We are **NOT** able to supply nappies and **DO NOT** have any spares at Playgroup.
- You **MUST** ensure your child has at least 1 full set of season appropriate spare clothing (including **PANTS** and **SOCKS**).
- There is a chance your child may spill a drink, get exceptionally muddy or even have a toilet accident where they will need to be changed.
- If you do not send any spare clothing we will have to telephone parents/carer's to bring some in should the need arise.

Please, please, please, can you put your child's name in their clothing