



Welcome Back!

We would like to say welcome back to all our children and parents and hello and welcome to our new starters. We are now back open and officially running at a "New Normal". We are maintaining and constantly teaching our high levels of general hygiene and following social distancing guidelines where possible. We now have a well-established routine for toy rotation and a rigorous cleaning regime to keep playgroup as clean and safe as possible to all children and staff.

All the children have settled in really well and we are so proud of how they have adjusted to the new routine and how nicely they enter playgroup in the mornings.

New Staff members

At the beginning of last term we welcomed Rebecca and Amy to our team.

Rebecca is a Level 3 Child Care Practitioner and fully paediatric first aid trained. Amy is a first year apprentice studying towards a Level 3 NVQ in childcare practice.

Places Available

We do have places available, if you or you have any friends with 2, 3 or 4 year olds that may be interested, please feel free to share. Please contact Helen for further details. Also if your child currently attends and you would like more sessions please speak to Helen.

The 30 hour Government Funding

Please remember that if your child is 3 or turning three before the 31st December, they may be entitled to the 30 hour government funding from next term, this must be applied for by you before the 31st December at CHILDCHOICES.GOV.UK. If you have any problems or queries please see Helen.

Labelling items

Please can we remind all parents that your child's snack, all day water bottle, lunch box, lunchtime drink bottle and changing bag needs to be **CLEARLY LABELLED WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME** on the outside.

Tapestry

This term we have started using Tapestry Journal as a way of recording your child's development journey while they are at playgroup. With the current guidelines in place this is a great way for you to follow your child's progress and view special moments and milestones that happen here. We would love it if you could log on and have a look; you are also able to like and comment on observations and even add your own observations and special moments that happen outside of playgroup.

You should have received an activation code to access your child's account online, if you would like assistance with this please get in touch.

Inset Day

Playgroup will be having an inset day on **Monday 2nd November** this is the first Monday after the October half term holidays.

Playgroup will be **CLOSED**

We will open on Tuesday 3rd November.

Individual Photographs

Jane Stapleton Photography will be coming into Playgroup on **Thursday 19th November** for individual photographs.

Because of the current situation, the photos will be taken outside, adhering to social distancing guidelines. The photographs will be taken with a "Winter theme" to allow children to wrap up in hats and scarves if the weather is cold. 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 (prior confirmation will be needed) however we will have to ask you

to wait outside. We will endeavour to make sure all children with waiting parents are photographed first.

Change Bags

*****IMPORTANT*****

- 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 parent/carer's to bring some in should the need arise.
- **Please, please, please**, can you put your child's name in their clothing.

Nappies & Wipes

*****IMPORTANT*****

- Every child who is still in nappies or pull ups **MUST** have an adequate supply of nappies, wipes and 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.
- If you do not send enough nappies we will have to telephone parent/carer's to bring some in should the need arise.

Very Important DIARY DATES:

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| LAST DAY OF THE AUTUMN HALF TERM | Friday 16 TH October |
| (CLOSED) OCTOBER HALF TERM | Monday 19 th - Friday 30 th October |
| (CLOSED) INSET DAY | Monday 2 nd November |
| FIRST DAY OF 2 nd AUTUMN HALF TERM | Tuesday 3 rd November |
| INDIVIDUAL PHOTOGRAPHS | Thursday 19 th November |
| LAST DAY OF 2 ND AUTUMN HALF TERM | Friday 18 th December |
| (CLOSED) CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS | Monday 21 st December - Friday 1 st January |
| FIRST DAY OF SPRING TERM | Monday 4 th January 2021 |