

Oakmere Newsletter
Spring 2018

Playgroup News

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We welcome all the new families that have joined us this term and welcome back families that have returned after our short break. We look forward to meeting and welcoming all the new children this term. All new parents will be advised of their child's key workers on Friday 12th January. Please do not hesitate to speak to Alyson Gnessen or Keely Brand if you have any concerns or queries after this date.

This term's topic

As we have experienced an increase in 2 year olds attending our setting this year. We have decided to modify our roleplay area to focus on a Doctors or people that help us, which we have found in previous years all age groups have loved to explore. This area is filled with various resources such as dressing up clothes and hospital equipment. This will provide the children with the opportunity to explore role play scenarios, whilst also developing on all 7 areas of learning when supported by their peers and surrounding adults.

Lunchboxes

Some Parents have asked what sort of things can they put in their child's lunch boxes? As a setting we like to promote healthy eating and we ask that you do NOT include chocolate bars, sweets, fizzy drinks or anything that may contain NUTS. Can we also ask that parents name their child's lunch box and any boxes or bottles that may be inside them, that they would like to be returned.

Mobile Phones

Please be aware that as part of new statutory requirements, no staff or parents/visitors should use their mobile phones or cameras whilst on the playgroup premises

THE PLAYGROUP PREMISES INCLUDES BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE AREAS.

The play group uses a mobile phone to communicate with parents and outside agencies only. We also use a digital camera to take photos of the children to evidence their individual learning for their learning journals. These photos are monitored and managed by the leadership team. Please note you will be asked to refrain from using your phone whilst on the premises. If you have any concerns regarding this ruling please speak with Mrs Alyson.

CHANGE OF CLOTHES - Trousers, Tops, Pants/knickers, and SOCKS

As the weather is becoming Colder can we ask you to ensure your child arrives at play-group wearing appropriate clothing I.e. winter coat, scarves, hats and appropriate footwear. We do love our messy play at play group and the children enjoy participating and involving themselves within our sensory and mark making experiences. So please can we ask you to bring a change of clothes for your child in a small bag (gym bags are ideal for hanging 'low' on the peg allowing room for the coat above). Please ensure that your child's clothing is clearly labelled with their name. Almost all of the children wear our lovely uniforms now, so by ensuring all of their clothing is labelled, we are able to reduce the confusion of what item belongs to which child at the end of each session.

We welcome any donations of old clothing, as we currently have a short supply.

Woodland Walks

This is a great experience for the children to explore a different environment. We are pleased to welcome parents to join us on the walks and without their support we are unable to provide this experience. If you are able to spare some time once a week, please speak to Mrs Keely

. Please ensure your child is wearing appropriate clothing to enable them to participate within our walks safely. The dates for this term are as follows:

Thursday 25th January 1:30pm
Wednesday 31st January 9:30pm
Friday 9th February 9:30PM
Tuesday 20th February 1:30pm
Monday 26th February 1:30 PM
Wednesday 7th March PM
Thursday 15th March AM
Tuesday 20th March 9:30am



Library Books

The library book borrowing scheme is well under way and we hope your children are keen to borrow a book that you can spend some valuable quiet time reading together with them. Could we ask you to ensure your child's book is returned every week, to enable us to provide them with a new book each week. Your child's key worker will have a specific day each week when they will change their books, if you are not sure of this day please speak with your child's key person or Mrs Alyson who will be able to assist you.



Song Sharing Scheme

We have also started a song sharing scheme, providing you with words of songs and nursery rhymes we sing with your child. Everyone will be given a folder and song sheets will be given out throughout the term. We have found with support from their familiar adult at home, children become more confident to participate within circle and music time which helps towards their development.

Notices and requests

Payment Of Fees

Cheques should be made payable to ST JOHN'S METHODIST CHURCH, POTTERS BAR, please write your child's name on the reverse

We can also accept payment via cash or BACS, the bank details are as follows:

CAF bank St John's Methodist Church Potters Bar
Sort Code: 40 52 40
Account No: 00021445



Please be aware all invoices are to be paid promptly and on time.

Nappies

If your child is wearing nappies, can you please make sure you provide enough nappies and wipes for the sessions they are attending.

Buggies and Prams

If you need to leave your prams at playgroup, there is a green plastic shed that is situated outside the main wooden gate where you can leave them at your own risk.

Fruit for snack time

Please can we ask all parents to provide a piece of fruit or vegetable, each week which will be shared with their friends at snack time.

Additionally, we provide carbohydrates such as bread, pita bread, crackers, cheese and a drink of milk or water is also provided.



Illness

Parents are asked to keep their children at home if they have an infection. Please also

keep them at home for 48 hours following a bout of diarrhoea and/or vomiting, you must inform the play group as to the nature of the infection/illness.

Dates for Your Diary

Half term 12th February return 19th February

Easter half term Tuesday 28th March return 16th April