



Newsletter

Spring Term 1 (January 2016)

www.sprowston-nursery-playgroup.org.uk



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back and may we wish you all a very happy and healthy New Year! We hope that you all had an enjoyable Christmas and that Father Christmas brought you all some lovely things.

A big thank you to all of you for supporting our Christmas Parties and Concert last term. They were all captivated by the magic show in the morning (a few budding stars among us, I think!!) and enjoyed the visit from Father Christmas in the afternoon. It was also lovely to see so many of you at the concerts too, without you all we wouldn't have an audience, so thank you for coming along, we hope you enjoyed it.

We would like to welcome some new and some returning families to Playgroup this term. We hope you and your child(ren) will have an enjoyable time with us. If there is anything you are unsure of, please ask a member of the team, we like to think we are all a friendly and approachable lot!!

Bad Weather Closure

Playgroup will be closed if either of the local Infant Schools are closed due to **bad weather**. Listen to BBC Radio Norfolk for this information, or check the Norfolk County Council Website: <http://www.schoolclosures.norfolk.gov.uk/>

Our name will **not** be listed amongst the school closures, so listen for either :

'Sprowston Infant School'

or

'Cecil Gowing Infant School'.

If either of these is mentioned or listed then Playgroup will be **closed**.

Important things we need to know about your child:

Please remember to tell us immediately about any of the following changes relating to your child:

- Permission for who can collect your child
- Emergency contact persons & their up-to-date details
- Allergies/Health conditions (or suspected, undergoing medical investigation)
- Medication
- Change of address, home, work and mobile telephone numbers



Don't forget that if you lose or throw away your newsletter, there is always a copy for you to view on our website at: www.sprowston-nursery-playgroup.org.uk.

What we will be looking at with the children this Half Term:

Weeks 1 & 2: (5th Jan - 15th Jan) - Welcome to 2016- Over these two weeks the children will be making a cut and stick picture of things they received for Christmas; playing with water/sand; and Hospital role-play - *If you have any, please bring in old Xmas catalogues for cut and stick.*

Weeks 3 & 4: (18th Jan - 29th Jan) - During these 2 weeks we will be making concertina friends/families and paint-a-friend, our roleplay area will be 'Percy's Park Hut.

Weeks 5 & 6: (1st Feb - 12th Feb) - This fortnight we will be making valentine hearts, sandwiches and we will have the sensory tent available. The 8th February is Chinese New Year and we hope to have some Chinese New Year activities in our afternoons.

*Please note that activities may change if they do not interest the children or resources run out, these are a guide only and we continually evaluate and develop our planning around the current needs and interests of the children *

Playgroup Clothing - We try our best to change your children into their own clothing whenever we can, when they need it. At times it is not possible to do this and we need to change your child into clothes which are owned by Playgroup. If your child comes home in clothes which you have not provided for them, **please wash and return the items to playgroup as soon as possible.** We only have a small amount of clothing and underwear as we only have a small area to store them in, therefore we would be grateful for the prompt return of cleaned items borrowed. Many Thanks.

Nativity Collections - Thank you to all of you who were able to come and see the children's Christmas performance. We hope that you enjoyed it! Thank you for all of your donations made at the two nativity performances. Your generosity has raised a total of **£138.52** across the two days. This donation will go to 'Emily's Winter Wish'. Thank You!



New Playgroup Sign - A big thank you goes to one of our parents, **John Cornwell**, for providing playgroup with a lovely new sign displaying our Outstanding Ofsted Logo! Make sure you have a look next time you arrive at playgroup.



Lunchboxes - It would help us greatly if you could clearly name your child's' lunchbox and any separate drinks containers/cartons **clearly** on the **OUTSIDE**. Also a reminder that in accordance with our Policies, foods containing nuts, including peanut butter and hazelnut chocolate spread, are not permitted. Many Thanks.

Playgroup Security and Safety

Please note that during children's arrival for the morning sessions there will 2 members of staff at the **Main Playgroup Entrance**. Staff are placed at the entrance to ensure the security of the building and to keep the children safe during the arrival time and to ensure that no child leaves unaccompanied. The priority of the staff at the **Main Playgroup Entrance** during this time will always be to keep the children safe. With this in mind, we respectfully ask that you direct any verbal communications and information about your child (for example, who is collecting your child) to a staff member or key person in the hall, busy room or garden.

Sharing of Learning Stories- Your child's Key person is able to share their learning story with you at any time. You are able to take it home and add photo's or information or to share it with your child's other playgroup/nursery/child-minder if you so wish, just please remember to sign and date the front sheet and return it so that your child's Key person can keep it up to date.



Talk About...

We, as a Playgroup, have been involved with a local authority funded project called Talk About 2 since September 2014.

We thought it may be useful to share some of the information from the Talk About project here in our newsletter to help you at home when encouraging your child's language skills.

Becoming a confident and chatty communicator is one of the most important skills your child will ever learn, but it doesn't happen by accident. Our top tips give you ideas about how to support your child as they learn about language. As parents, you know your child best, it's important that children learn that language is useful, so giving your child a reason to communicate can help them learn.

What is it all about? You don't need to put aside special 'talking times' during the day, everything you do with your child is a chance to chat.

Everything from getting dressed, to preparing and eating meals, bath time and walking to nursery is a chance to talk about what you are doing together and showing your child the language that goes with that activity.

If your child is not using words yet...

Use lots of single words to talk about what you are doing and what you can see. Use fun words as well, like "whoosh!", "pop!", "moo", "uh oh".

If your child is just starting to use words...

Use lots of short 2 or 3 word phrases. Copy what your child says by saying it back to them, they might not say it very clearly yet, so by saying it back they get to hear how it should sound.

If your child is talking in sentences...

You can model the smaller words, like 'is', 'the', and word endings, like 'pushing'. Try and use action, object and describing words.



Bath Time... "splash" "tummy" "boat" "hot" "bubbles"
"ice" "big bubbles" "tap on" "look at the big bubble"



When you go shopping... "apple" "trolley pushes" "beans in trolley" "more grapes" "green apples"
"let's find the tomatoes"

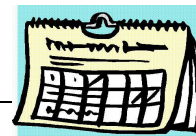
For more information and other useful tips the Talk About website is available at:

www.talkaboutnorfolk.co.uk

If you would like to receive further tips direct by e mail, please e mail direct to talkabout@nchc.nhs.uk



Diary for 1st half Spring Term 2015



January 2016

Tuesday 5th	Playgroup re-opens for Spring Term (1)	9:00am
Wednesday 13th	Committee Meeting - All Welcome - At Playgroup in the Catton Room (Busy Room)	8:00pm

February 2016

Friday 12th	Playgroup closes for Half Term	3:00pm
Monday 22nd	Playgroup re-opens for Spring Term (2)	12:00pm

