



Newsletter

Summer Term 2 (June/July 2014)

www.sprowston-nursery-playgroup.org.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a very busy half-term!! We hope that you have enjoyed the half-term break and the weather didn't dampen your time with your children. As I just mentioned, we have a very busy half term ahead, so please grab a cup of tea, a pen and your calendar and take a few minutes to jot down the up and coming dates. There will also be posters outside the 'Busy Room' with more details about the up and coming school visits. If at any time you are unsure, please feel free to ask a member of staff who will be happy to check for you. Our 'topic' this half term is: **Colours and Shapes**, where we will be having lots of craft, painting and water and sand play (hopefully all in the garden, if the weather perks up!!!). I haven't put in a plan of activities this term, as we have kept it very loose due to the number of events planned, we will follow the children's interests and what they enjoy doing.

Half-term Homework - If you could bring in the lovely masks and flower-heads you and your children have made over the half-term holidays during the first 2 weeks back please. We are all really looking forward to seeing them.

Parents Information Mornings - Thank you to all of you who made an appointment with your child's keyworker before half term to have a chat, we hope that you enjoyed the morning. The cake sales over the two days raised a total of £28.00 for Winston's Wish. A big thank you to you all.

Sponsored Treasure Hunt - We are very pleased to announce that the Sponsored Treasure Hunt your children completed over the Easter Holidays raised a massive £778.35!! Thank you all so much for your support. The money raised has paid for the



Castle Museum visits your children had the opportunity to go on, and the remainder will be paying for some new black pop-up sensory tents, which all of the children will enjoy using, so, once again, THANK YOU all.

Garage Sale- One of our newest fundraisers, but it is proving to be very popular. If you took part or know someone who did, we hope you enjoyed the day. Through the garage sales, we raised £221.00.

Annual Summer BBQ

Friday 20th June is the night of our Annual Summer BBQ, and our biggest fundraiser of the year! Held at the Cricket Club, Barkers Lane, Sprowston **starting at 6.00pm and ending at 9.00pm**. Entrance is free and everyone is welcome. There will be an entertainer for the children and a bar for the adults, plus plenty of stalls and games for you to enjoy and have a fun, family evening.



We do need a little help in advance, though. If you, or a family member, happen to have a generous employer, we would be grateful of any donations of prizes for our Raffle and Tombola stalls. They can be brought into Playgroup anytime up to the event. Thank you in advance for your support.

Also: Further Raffle Tickets are available, if you are able to sell more, please see a member of staff.

Local school visits, for children moving on to school in September

Below are a list of dates we have arranged with the following schools, where we are able to introduce your child(ren) to their new class. More information can be found on the posters outside of the 'Busy Room'. Please ensure that you read these and make a note of the information on them.

Sparhawk: Visit to the school on the afternoon of Wednesday 25th June 2014; If your child does not normally attend for this session please bring them along to playgroup for 1.00pm. We will walk the children around to Sparhawk School, and you should collect your child from the school reception area at 2.30pm.

Cecil Gowing Infant School: At time of going to press, still awaiting Cecil Gowing to confirm a date. We will send a letter home to children who are going on to this school when we know more.

Sprowston Infant School: Visit to the school on the afternoon of Thursday 19th June; If your child does not normally attend playgroup on this afternoon, please bring them to playgroup for 1:00pm. You should collect your child from Sprowston Infant School Reception at 2:30pm. The school will also be visiting playgroup on the afternoon of Tuesday 24th June to see the children in their playgroup environment and read them a story.

We will need volunteers to hold children's hands as we walk to the schools. Unfortunately we will not be able to take younger brothers and sisters along. Please speak to either Carol, Penny or Rachel if you are able to help.

Sports Days

Our annual Sports Days will this year be held on the mornings of:

Tuesday 24th June (Tue/Thu am children)
and

Wednesday 25th June (Wed/Fri am children)

Once again, we hope to have an outside group coming in to help us run some fun, sporty activities for the children to enjoy. Parents are welcome to come back at **11:30am** to see the presentation of certificates and a 'sporty' memento.

Afternoon sessions on these days will run as normal.

Fun Days - Disney Theme

Our Fun Days this year will be on:

Thursday 10th July (Tue/Thu am children)
and

Friday 11th July (Wed/Fri am children)

Please drop your child off at playgroup on their relevant day at **10:00am** and collect them at **2.00pm**. All children will need a **named packed lunch**. Children are welcome to dress as their favourite Disney character, if they wish - the staff will be!!!

Please Note: There will be no separate afternoon sessions on these days.

Enchanted Garden Concerts

Our final event of the academic year will be our concerts, these will be held on:

Tuesday 22nd July (Tue/Thur am children) & **Wednesday 23rd July** (Wed/Fri am children).

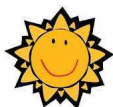
Please bring your child to playgroup as normal at **9:00am** on their normal morning, and return to see the concert, to be seated by **11:15am**. All family welcome. We will be displaying the lovely masks and flowers your children have made over the half term holidays on the stage for the concerts.

Please Note: Afternoon sessions on these days will start at the later time of 12:15pm.



Norfolk Show Inset Day (Thursday 26th June 2014) - Please note that Playgroup will be CLOSED on this day.

Dressing for the weather - Unfortunately the weather has been very changeable as of late, whilst we can always live in hope that summer may finally arrive, we would like to remind you that the children are able to access outside play as much as possible, whatever the weather, so please ensure that they are dressed appropriately for the day. On sunny days, remember sunhats and to apply sun cream before they come to playgroup. In wet weather remember coats and wellies in a bag. Please also ensure that your children's footwear are suitable for a playgroup environment where children will be running, climbing and around a lot of other children - unsuitable shoes can cause injuries! All items must be clearly named. Thank you.



Please Remember to tell us immediately of any changes that affect your child, including:

- 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

Sharing of Learning Stories - The Keyperson responsible for your child 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/childminder if you so wish, just please remember to return it so that your child's Keyperson can keep it up to date. Thank you



Diary of Events for 2nd half Summer Term 2014



June 2014		
<i>Monday 2nd</i>	<i>Playgroup re-opens for Summer Term (2)</i>	<i>12:00pm</i>
Thursday 19 th	Arranged visit to Sprowston Infant School	Afternoon, see poster for details
Friday 20 th	Summer BBQ - Cricket Ground Barkers Lane - All Welcome	6:00pm - 9:00pm
Tuesday 24 th	Sports Day (TUE/THUR am children)	9:00am - 12:00pm
Tuesday 24 th	Sprowston Infant School teachers visit to playgroup	Afternoon
Wednesday 25 th	Sports Day (WED/FRI am children)	9:00am - 12:00pm
Thursday 26th	Norfolk Show Inset Day - CLOSED	CLOSED
July 2014		
Thursday 10 th	Fun Day (TUE/THUR am Children)	10:00am - 2:00pm - No PM Session
Friday 11 th	Fun Day (WED/FRI am Children)	10:00am - 2:00pm - No PM Session
Tuesday 22 nd	Concert (TUE/THUR am Children)	Children arrive 9:00am Parents seated by 11:20am PM Session starts at 12:15pm
Wednesday 23 rd	Concert (WED FRI am Children)	Children arrive 9:00am Parents seated by 11:20am PM Session starts 12:15pm
<i>Wednesday 23rd</i>	<i>Playgroup closes for Summer Holidays</i>	<i>3:00pm</i>
Sept 2014		
Thursday 4 th	Playgroup re-opens for Spring Term	9:00am



Policy and Procedure Spotlight



Parental Involvement Policy

Policy

It is our policy to adopt the Pre School Learning Alliance approved Constitution. The three officers (Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary) shall be Trustees of the Playgroup. The Trustees responsibilities under the 1993 Charities Act are listed in the Charities Commission booklet CC3. The Chair of the Committee holds a copy of this booklet.

At Sprowston nursery Playgroup we aim to include all our parents to play an active part in the management and running of the group. We recognise the importance of our children's parents as their first educators. We aim to share the parent's expertise of how their child's development is progressing and how best to continue this throughout their time at Playgroup.

Procedures

- At their first visit all our parents are issued with a 'Welcome Pack'.
- Policies, OFSTED reports, Newsletters, terms topics and other important information is displayed on our group notice board at all times.
- Playgroup is run by a committee of parents who are elected at the group's Annual General Meeting.
- Our policies are decided and agreed by parents and Playgroup Committee members.
- Our Playgroup committee is made up of at least twelve members. They are invited to take responsibility for one of the following areas;
 - Chair
 - Finance
 - Fees
 - Catering
 - Clothing
 - Books
 - Health and Safety
 - Events
 - Minutes
- Each Playgroup Committee member is a representative for parents on certain days to put forward ideas and queries at half termly meetings.
- Photographs of the current Playgroup Committee are displayed in the foyer
- We encourage parents to bring their expertise into the group's activities whenever possible.
- To identify any significant skills or difficulties so that staff, parents and other professionals can plan appropriate experiences together to meet the needs of those who require further challenges or support.
- Parents are encouraged to help their child form healthy eating habits by providing one piece of fruit or vegetable per week to share at snack time.
- Children attending afternoon sessions are required to bring with them a packed lunch. Parents are encouraged to provide a healthy lunchbox and drink, please see information in the groups Welcome pack
- Parents are requested to exclude all products containing nuts; this restriction on products containing nuts is to avoid any risk to allergy sufferers.