

CASTLETON PLAYGROUP JANUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND BEST WISHES FOR 2016

A big thank you for our gift of 'Afternoon Tea at the Waterloo Gardens' (in Roath) and for the presents, cards and good wishes the staff received this Christmas. Christmas week is always so chaotic it is very difficult to thank people properly for their kindness.

FUNDING FOR 3 YEAR OLDS AND 4 YEAR OLDS

Funding starts this term for those children who were 3 years old between 1st September and 31st December 2015.

If you have not already returned the 'Information and Criteria on Early Years Funding' agreement, and a photocopy of your child's birth certificate, please do so **as soon as possible**.

Parents of **all** funded children (including those parents already receiving funding) are required to sign a form stating your child's name, address, date of birth, and number of sessions. Please come in to playgroup and sign these forms before **Wednesday 13th January** as this is when the forms need to be returned.

Just a reminder that all funded children are charged a 'top-up fee' per session.

What is the 'Top-up fee' for funded children? - Unfortunately the local authority funding does not cover all of the playgroup's running costs. A nominal session fee is therefore also charged for funded children:-

Mornings	£2.15 per session
Afternoons	70p per session.

SCHOOL NURSERY CONSULTATION PERIOD

The school nursery consultation closed on 31st October 2015 and we are still waiting for the results of this consultation. I have been informed by Katie Diamond (Early Years Business Manager) that we should hear at the start of the New Year. As soon as we hear anything it will be forwarded via email.

COUGHS, SNEEZES AND OTHER DISEASES

Just a reminder - Please remember, children should not attend playgroup if they are unwell no matter how much they wish to come.

If a child needs medicine, for example to bring down a temperature, they should not come to playgroup.

Sickness/diarrhoea - Children should not return until 48 hours after their last symptoms (information from CSSIW).

CHILDCARE VOUCHERS

We now accept Childcare Vouchers as payment towards fees. If you would like to pay your fees via your Company Voucher Scheme please speak to Carol.

FEE PAYMENTS

We will be attaching our bank details with your child's invoice if you wish to pay your fees directly into our bank account. If you do pay fees by bank transfer we would be grateful if you can send an email of confirmation when you have done this.

FUND RAISING

We raised £102 from the sales of the Andrew Jacob photographs – Thank you

INCLEMENT WEATHER PLAN

Winter is upon us and this might mean some very rough weather ahead!!.

If playgroup is closed due to unforeseen weather there will be a message on our web site - www.castletonplaygroup.co.uk and an email will be sent.

(If the school closes, we have to follow suit – see www.marshfieldprimary.co.uk).

OUTSIDE PLAY

Please ensure your child brings a suitable coat and foot wear to every playgroup session. Unless there are howling gales or blizzards the children will take part in activities outside!

LABEL CLOTHING AND BAGS

Please, please ensure that all **coats, bags, lunch boxes, hats, scarves** etc. have your child's name on them as it can be very confusing and upsetting for a child with the same item and we are unable to tell.

FRUIT AND SNACK TIME

Can we please ask that **all** children bring in 2 to 3 pieces of fresh fruit each week (please do not bring in over ripe fruit).

The collection of fruit is cut up and will be shared amongst all of the children, encouraging them to eat healthily and to experience various different types of fruit.

As the cereal at snack time was very popular we will be having this again from 18th January for the week so no fruit will be needed for this period.

WEEKLY EMAIL – HOMELINK

Every week you should receive our weekly email 'Homelink' regarding our interest table, Welsh words and reminders about what's going on at playgroup. If you don't receive this e-mail, please let us know. These emails are also reinforcing / reminding you about dates from the newsletter.

TOPICS FOR THE TERM

Our topics for the term will be Winter and Transport.

Our Interest table will recommence on Tuesday 5th January and we will be looking at the letter 'c' so please encourage your child to bring in an object/toy which begins with this letter. Please ensure that the object has your child's name clearly marked on it and it will then be returned at the end of the week.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MONDAY 4th JANUARY 2016 - NEW INTAKE COFFEE MORNING

9.30am to 10.30 am

For all parents and children starting playgroup in January 2015.

MONDAY 4th JANUARY 2016 - 'OPEN' COFFEE MORNING

10.30 – 11.30 am

This is open for parents and new children to come and look around the setting, and for parents to have a chat and to enjoy a coffee while their children play.

TUESDAY 5th JANUARY 2016 - SPRING TERM STARTS

HALF TERM

Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February 2016

UPDATE OF CHILDRENS RECORDS

Have any changes occurred that require an up-date of your child's records? If you have not already advised us of a change, please fill in the attached form and return it to playgroup as soon as possible.

CHILDS NAME.....

Address.....

Home Tel No.....

Work Tel No.....

Mobile Phone No.....

E. Mail.....

Emergency Contact Tel. No.....

Any other information, which may have changed within the last term e.g. child's medical or dietary requirement.....

Signature.....Date.....

MARSHFIELD MONKEYS PLAYGROUP – PICK UP

If your child is going to be picked up by Marshfield Monkeys on a set lunch time we will require the permission form below to be completed and returned before we will be able to allow your child to be walked over

CHILDS NAME

Marshfield Monkeys playgroup pick up at 12pm

DAY/S

Your child will only be sent with Marshfield Monkeys on the days stated above.

If any days change I will notify Castleton Playgroup by writing immediately.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE