

THIS WEEK AT PLAYGROUP

We had our visit to St Francis Catholic church this week on Wednesday. The older children that attended had a wonderful time learning about how things grow. They listened to a poem and then split into two groups to do some activities. They made collage sunflower pictures in one group while the other group planted some sunflower seeds to grow at playgroup. We are very grateful to the ladies that ran the session for us. The sunflowers we had planted last week have started to grow and we have been very good at looking after them. Remembering to water them has been especially important in the drier, warmer weather!



In small group time the children have had a go at sorting and categorising different picture cards, such as putting all the animals together or clothes etc. They all did a fantastic job, and we were very impressed!

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Playgroup Sports Days

Monday 30 June 2025, 10.00am to 12.30pm, school starters 2025

Wednesday 02 July 2025, 9.30am to 11.00am, younger children

50 THINGS TO DO IN WARWICKSHIRE BEFORE YOU'RE 5

A menu of exciting activities for families in Warwickshire with young children:

<https://warwickshire.50thingstodo.org/>

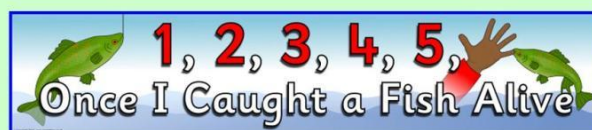
MATHEMATICS

Lots of things we do every day relate to maths, including counting actions (e.g. claps, jumps or steps) as well as counting things that can be seen or touched. We all use maths vocabulary in lots of conversations: adding one more, taking one away, smallest, tallest. Think about using positional language such as next to, behind, in front or ordinal words such as first, last.

Children can spot shapes that are in 2D or 3D. Look for shapes dotted around your home: circles, squares, triangles and rectangles. What shape is your table?

Write down numbers 1-10 on a piece of paper then write the same numbers on the end of a peg. Children match the number on the peg to the written number on the piece of paper. They may like to copy the shapes in sand, water or on paper. Fill containers with water and predict which is the largest, the lightest, the tallest and shortest. Pour the water to "add more" - this helps the children understand the quantity is increasing and keeps them cool in warm weather.

Sing our favourite song: '1, 2, 3, 4, 5 once I caught a fish alive'. Count 0 to 10 then back down from 10 to 0, children may even add a "Blast off" at the end! Encourage your child to find the correct number of fingers and thumbs whilst doing so.



One, two, three, four, five,
Once I caught a fish alive,
Six, seven, eight, nine, ten,
Then I let it go again.

Why did you let it go?
Because it bit my finger so.
Which finger did it bite?
This little finger on the right.



HEALTH, CHILD PROTECTION & SAFEGUARDING SUN SAFETY

Without wishing to jinx anything, it appears the sun has arrived for the summer (or pre-summer?)! Let's hope it stays around. Please help us keep the children safe in the sun

Sunhats: please send your child to playgroup with a named sunhat. Hats with brims or legionnaire's caps are better than plain caps as they shade the ears and back of the neck.

Clothing: layers and a T shirt or other top that covers the top of the shoulders

Sun cream: apply first thing in the morning at home when getting the children dressed, even if not sunny, as that gives the active ingredients time to 'soak in' - and who knows?

Sun cream at playgroup: unless your child has an allergy and needs to use specific sun cream, we will use the playgroup sun cream for re-application during the day. Please check with us. If your child does have sensitive skin, please bring in a named bottle of sun protection cream for re-application during the day.

ROAD SAFETY & ROAD AWARENESS

Road safety: We talk to the children about 'stop, look and listen' when crossing the road. We reinforce basic road safety rules during sessions through small world play (road safety games and figures), using road signs and the zebra crossings on the cycle track, only allowing a child to use the bikes if they wear a helmet, and using the paths and crossing points when visiting the wider school site. You can help by making sure you use the paths as well and do not walk across the car and by discussing the safe things to do with your children (e.g. wearing a seat belt, watching and listening before crossing the road, crossing in a safe place). Be prepared for the children to be very bossy and to tell you all about it themselves!

Be road aware. All children move really quickly dashing off to see things that interests them, as well as running away as part of a 'chase' or hiding game. They are not really able to judge speed until they are about seven or eight years old. Do make sure you can hang on to your children if they make a sudden movement - double buggies, boogie boards, reins, wrist straps and backpack/reins combos are all useful if they won't reliably hold your hand or buggy, or you don't have a hand free. Better to be safe than sorry!

FAMILY WELFARE SUPPORT

Kineton & Fosse Way Food Bank. We are able to refer families to the Food Bank in Kineton. Please let Tor, Xianna or Carol know if that would be helpful. Any discussions will of course be treated in complete confidence.

Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme. The Local Welfare Scheme is set up to provide financial support and advice for people in crisis who need support to access food and utilities. It also signposts to further support available from other public, community and voluntary services around the county.

Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme - 01926 359182 or 0800 4081448

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/localwelfarescheme

For information about wider support from the council and other services, go to:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/costofliving>

Summer term 2025: Monday 28 April to Friday 18 July 2025
Half term: Monday 26 to Friday 30 May 2025
Autumn term 2025: First day of term - Wednesday 03 September 2025 (tbc)

Holiday Club will run over the half terms, Easter holidays and first four weeks of the summer holidays (except bank holidays). Please ask for details.

