



# KINETON PLAYGROUP NEWSLETTER

16 November 2023

## THIS WEEK AT PLAYGROUP

The children have been practicing their Christmas songs and lines for the upcoming performance. You may well have heard some of the renditions at home. We have also been celebrating Divali, with the children making their own Diva lamps to bring home. We enjoy celebrating different cultural festivals and understanding the world around us. Children in Need is in full swing with yellow playdough, Pudsey bear painting and lots of spots! Today we even had our very own Pudsey bear in the form of Emily! We have loved seeing your face paints and spotty outfits. Watch out for our donation total tomorrow!



## TIPS FOR TALKING

Children develop language skills at different rates: [www.talkingpoint.org.uk](http://www.talkingpoint.org.uk) has useful tips on communication and language development. It identifies what children will typically be able to do at different ages. However it does not necessarily mean something is wrong if a child is not doing something that is considered typical! They may be concentrating on some other area of development, such as pedaling a bike or coming out of nappies. The website includes useful ideas to encourage children's language development. If you ever do have any concerns, please speak to us.

## CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS!

We are starting lots of lovely seasonal Christmas activities this week. If you have any family or home traditions you would like to share, do let us know, we would love to share them at playgroup.

## PLAYGROUP'S ADVENT RAFFLE

Playgroup will be running an Advent Raffle, with a prize a day throughout Advent! Tickets on sale at playgroup from 27 November.



## WARWICKSHIRE CHRISTMAS TREE FARM OX15 6NP

Reminder: choose your tree from the farm (between Tysoe and Shenington), mention our name at the checkout and the grower will donate 10% of the value of any tree to Playgroup.

For more details visit

<https://www.warwickshirechristmastrees.co.uk/school-charities/>

## BOOK ADVENT CALENDAR

A great idea from a playgroup mum! Wrap up 24 books, numbered 1 to 24, open one book each day in December, adding a special Christmas story book for Christmas Day.

Important tip - neither the books nor the paper need to be new, use ones you already have - the excitement is in the unwrapping!

### KEEPING SAFE AND HEALTHY ROAD SAFETY & ROAD AWARENESS

**Road safety:** We frequently speak to the children about 'stop, look and listen' when crossing the road. We also 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 park to playgroup, and by discussing the safe things to do with your children (eg 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 and can dash off to see anything that interests them, as well as running away as part of a 'chase' or hiding game. Children 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 for them to stand on, 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!

Follow the link for more information: <http://www.roadsafetyweek.org.uk/>

**Engine pollution.** Please remember to turn off your engine when parked and waiting for the children - idling engines produce a lot of pollution and can severely affect the air quality near schools, which then has an impact on children's respiratory systems

### FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE (FIS)

FIS provides information to support families on topics such as finance, special educational needs, parenting and bullying. The website contains lots of useful information:

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

### BRITISH VALUES

We demonstrate 'British Values' - human values - all the time at playgroup - [click here](#) and look at the 'Educational aims and objectives' section of our website for more details on what this means in practice at pre-school age.

### FOOD SUPPORT

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

Autumn term 2023:	Monday 11 September to Friday 22 December 2023
Spring term 2024:	Tuesday 09 January to Friday 22 March 2024
	Half term: Monday 12 to Friday 16 February 2024
Summer term 2024:	Monday 08 April to Friday 19 July 2024
	Half term: Monday 27 to Friday 31 May 2024
Autumn term 2024:	First day of term: Wednesday 04 September 2024 (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.

