



KINETON PLAYGROUP NEWSLETTER

09 March 2023

CHATTER MATTERS WEEK: W/C 06 MARCH

We will be building on our communication, language and speech skills, with a focus on talking about the weather, the seasons and what we can expect using 'Time to Talk' strategies, such as making eye contact with children, matching and adding words to children's sentences and pausing so that children can process what they have heard. For more ideas, activities and information have a look at <https://speechandlanguage.org.uk/>

TRAVEL TO PLAYGROUP & PARKING

Please avoid parking on or driving along the spur bit of King John's Road leading up to the school gates. If at all possible, try to avoid driving along or parking on King John's Road altogether if you are not a resident.

50 THINGS TO DO BEFORE YOU ARE 5

50 Things is based on the simple notion that access to life-changing, fun, low-cost or no-cost experiences with your family is a great way to support and develop young children's skills and confidence. As well as being fun, and helping with ideas of things to do, this helps them become much more ready to learn. Find out more by visiting: <https://warwickshire.50thingstodo.org/app/os#!/welcome>. You can download the app to your phone.

SIMPLE TIPS FOR GETTING YOUR CHILD TO SLEEP

All children have problems getting to (and staying asleep) at times, perhaps following illness or events out of their usual routine, or when the clocks change and the mornings get lighter. Visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qUjtIyVcKg> to watch a short video for a few ideas.

INDOOR READING DEN

Thank you to everyone who helped to raise money at our Valentine's Day Cake Sales. We put the money raised towards buying an indoor reading den. Of course it was delivered one day late for book week ...



THIS WEEK AT PLAYGROUP

Our first batch of butterfly eggs - now caterpillars - has arrived, so we are watching them grow and change.

The weather this week although cold, has given us a lot to talk about. The snow has brought about lots of discussions on freezing and melting.

Our role-play area has been transitioning this week from being the doctors for us, to the vets to look after our poorly or injured pets.

Different coloured playdough, with added textures such as lentils, has been a popular activity. Along with our developing water play area!

LEARNING TO BE INDEPENDENT

School is not far away for our older children - time goes so fast! Throughout their time at playgroup, and especially in their last term with us, we encourage our children to develop their skills and abilities to become as confident and independent as possible.

Here are some points to think about which, if encouraged at home and playgroup, will help make your child's transition to school a little bit easier - and save a lot of tears and frustrations in the long term! Helping a child to look after themselves is also giving them the very important message that they are a competent individual who can do things for themselves, rather than someone who is unable to do anything and always needs someone else to do things for them. At the same time, keep your expectations realistic, according to the child's age and how much they have been able to practise the skills involved.

- Help children to take responsibility for their belongings by asking them to carry all their own things to and from playgroup sessions, and to find them at the end of sessions, eg by allowing them to find their lunch box from the trolley on the way out (this also means you have both hands free when the children are handed over to you in the cloakroom). This may also mean accepting that they sometimes leave things behind, but helps them to recognise they are able to do things for themselves.
- If children do not carry their own things into playgroup (and later to school), it makes it harder for them to remember what they have to take home
- Select clothes that your child can manage to get on and off on their own (elastic waists, zips rather than buttons, velcro rather than laces), and practice at home as part of a game - this will be particularly important for school uniform > PE kit > back to school uniform transitions, and includes showing your child how to get their clothes ready to put back on by turning them the right way round.
- Encourage your child to manage their own clothes whenever they get dressed or undressed - they really can do a lot and a little bit of praise goes a long way! Coach them to turn their sleeves the right way round when they take clothes off, and to pile their things up in one place so they can find them again. This will be hugely useful for them in PE lessons - but will take a lot of practice.
- Help your child recognise their own belongings. Customise belongings with a badge or patterned ribbon etc on the outside for instant recognition and for you to be able to spot quickly if they are wearing someone else's things.
- Teach safe consequences and decision making. Children soon realise that they are cold if they go outside without a cardigan or jumper in cooler spring weather (although perhaps wait to try this until after the cold snap).

Spring term 2023:

Wednesday 04 January to Friday 31 March 2023

Holiday Club available during Easter holidays

Summer term 2023:

Monday 17 April to Tuesday 25 July 2023

Closed Bank Holiday Mondays 01 & 08 May 2023

Half term: Monday 29 May to Friday 02 June 2023

Holiday Club available Tuesday 30 to Friday 02 June and from

Wednesday 26 July to Friday 18 August

