

KINETON PLAYGROUP NEWSLETTER

01 May 2025

SEPTEMBER RECEPTION CHILDREN

Future primary schools will be contacting you directly very soon with lots of information. For those going to Kineton Primary School, there is a Parents' Information and Induction Evening on Monday 19 May - invitations will be sent out today or early next week.

We will contact all future schools to invite teachers to visit the children here and to supply transition information.

ONE WAY SYSTEM AT PLAYGROUP

Please remember to follow the one-way system at the beginning and end of playgroup sessions - come in through the gate nearest the main school gates and out through the gate nearest Market Square. This makes it much easier for the children to put their lunch boxes and water bottles away and for us to welcome each of them in turn.

A further plea - please use the footpaths around the car park rather than walking through the parking area, to encourage the children in habits that will keep them safe in the future.

VISITORS & MYSTERY READERS

Do you or any family members have any special interests or skills, or well-behaved pets, or anything that you think would interest the children, that you can share? It would also be lovely to welcome you as a 'mystery reader' at story time, or just to come and have a play. This usually works best if you come at the end of your child's session so they can go home with you, or if you come in with them on a day when they are not usually in session

BOARD MEMBERS

Would you be interested in joining the Playgroup Board (a similar role to a school governor)? Please contact us for more information.

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

NB Playgroup sessions are open as usual for children not at their special events.

School starters 2025, summer trip to Compton Verney

Thursday 05 June 2024 9.00am to 2.30pm

Everyone in the 2025 school year group is invited on this 'school trip'. Details have been sent by email, so please check your messages.

We rely on parent helpers to be able to run the trip; if you are able to help, please let us know.

Playgroup Sports Days

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

Everyone in the 2025 school year group is invited to come to their sports day, with their parents, friends and family. Refreshments will be available to purchase during the races.

Please bring a family picnic to enjoy with your children at the end of the morning.

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

A separate event for the younger children and their families and friends - slightly shorter in time but just as much fun!

CHILDREN'S BELONGINGS

A few top tips to help children go home with everything they came with, and to help them develop their confidence and independence:

Name everything! Name or label everything your child brings to playgroup and show them the label so they being to recognise it.

Encourage children to carry and collect their own things. If they know what they have brought, it helps them remember them later.

SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION

Safeguarding policy summary: A copy of the Safeguarding Summary is attached.

Bike helmets: Please ensure your children wear bike helmets whenever they are riding their bikes, trikes or scooters.

Holidays and absences: Please let us know as soon as you can if your child will be absent from any session. We are required to keep records of attendance and reasons for absence for all children for safeguarding reasons as well as for Ofsted and for Warwickshire County Council for funded sessions. Continued or frequent absences without explanation may result in your funding being withdrawn by WCC, and a demand for re-payment of the equivalent fees.

Home alone: There is no legal age at which children may be left home alone, but if doing so puts them at risk of injury or suffering then parents can be prosecuted for neglect. The NSPCC 'Home alone' leaflet gives useful tips to help parents decide in what situations they may leave their children home alone, and what they need to do to ensure their safety and wellbeing. It advises how to make sure children can use the internet and mobile phones safely at these times.

We have used these tips to draft an 'Emergency Plan', which you could use as a basis for discussion with your children, and to fill in and keep at home. Email copies are attached, and paper copies are available from the office. Even if they are too young or you never leave your children alone, it is still useful to talk about these things in terms they understand, just in case of an emergency.

Mobile phones: No-one should use personal mobile phones at Playgroup in any areas where the children are - this includes the front path, the gardens and the forest school site. Please finish any calls before you arrive and keep your phone in your bag or pocket when dropping off or collecting children. If you have an important call, we are happy for you to take it outside the gate and for the children to wait with us while you finish it. This is to keep your children safe.

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: [HYPERLINK "https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fis" https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fis](https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fis)

WILD FLOWERS & POLLINATORS

The cowslips and buttercups between the fence and car park are looking beautiful and other wild flowers are beginning to emerge. This whole area will be left uncut until the cowslips set seed, and then cut on a mowing regime to encourage other flowers, so please bear with us if some areas look a little scruffy from time to time. There will also be an 'explorer's path' cut for the children to follow. In a survey carried out a few years ago, botanists found over 100 species of wild plants on the school site! Insects, especially bumblebees and similar pollinators, are in decline and need these mini wildlife reserves to survive, so these little areas are really important.

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.

