



KINETON PLAYGROUP NEWSLETTER

16 March 2023

EASTER CELEBRATIONS

Everyone is invited to join us at these events

Wednesday 29 March, 1.00pm : Easter church visit, leaving Playgroup at 12.45pm. Walk with us or join us at church.

Thursday 30 March, 2.00pm: Easter Bonnet Parade & Easter Egg Hunt at Playgroup - tea and coffee provided, cake donations welcome! Please cross your fingers for good weather so we can use the school field.

PLAYGROUP SESSIONS 2023/24!

Information on booking sessions for 2023/24 is being sent out this week to all parents of children with a school starting date of September 2024 or 2025. If you have a younger child in that age group who is not yet enrolled, or know anyone who has, please ask us for an enrolment form for completion and return as soon as possible. Priority for places is given in accordance with the Admissions Policy to those who return their completed forms by Friday 31 March 2023. After that you risk not having the sessions you want, or having to go on a waiting list. We will confirm sessions back to you by the end of April.

If you are not yet sure of what sessions you might need, please speak to Carol, and we can reserve sessions for you.

GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL - PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

Come and join us at Helen's Place on Monday 20 March, 6.45pm to 8.00pm.

Please let us know if you are able to come, so we can make sure there are enough refreshments!

PARENT MEETINGS & REVIEWS

Please remember to check your emails for dates and times offered for meeting your child's key person during the week beginning 20 March. Everyone has been sent an individual email with an invitation; please let us know if you are able to attend, whether on the phone or in person. Your child's review (like a mini report) is being sent out this week.

THIS WEEK AT PLAYGROUP

The indoor space has been opened up fully and the role play and home corner moved to the Quiet Room end of the building. We have created a cosy new book corner with the reading arch, which the children are enjoying very much (both at playgroup and KASC). Possibly inspired by the new reading arch, and lots of cardboard boxes, the children are spending lots of time in den building and making up some lovely cooperative games. This develops their imagination, spatial awareness, negotiating and planning skills, and - when the dens collapse and need re-building - resilience and persistence. The children have also been involved in lots of craft and painting activities, which will be put to good use in decorating Easter bonnets and crowns ready for the Easter bonnet parade on 30 March.

BIRDS, FEATHERS & AVIAN FLU

We have been asked to remind everyone not to touch any dead wild birds or to pick up any feathers. If the children do touch feathers, please wash their hands thoroughly. Clean and disinfect any bird feeding areas regularly. Any dead birds of prey or water fowl, or more than five of any other breed, should be reported following the guidance at

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/report-dead-wild-birds>

SPRING/SUMMER HOT DINNERS MENU

For the new menu please go to

<https://educaterers.co.uk/downloads/menus/nursery-menu.pdf?0903231058>

We usually opt for the 'red' choice, unless we already know of a specific food allergy, intolerance or preference (the exception being gammon on Wednesdays in week 2, when we have chicken). We will test out the new menu options for the rest of term, and if we find the children don't like any particular dish even after trying it, we will liaise with the school kitchen staff to find an alternative.

SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION

First aid at playgroup: All members of Playgroup staff have appropriate first aid training. If your child has a minor accident they will be looked after and you will be asked to read and sign the accident form when you collect your child. If your child falls ill or has a head bump or more serious injury we will contact you at home to let you know what has happened; depending on the situation you may be asked to come and collect them.

If your child has a major accident or appears seriously ill and it becomes necessary to seek help, we will contact the emergency services. In that situation we will always call an ambulance first, and then contact you immediately afterwards. If your child has an accident at home, please let us know so that we can fill in a 'bump note', and watch out for any reactions during the playgroup day.

No-nuts policy: Please remember we have a strict 'no nuts' policy at Playgroup, which includes no peanuts or peanut butter. This is to protect children with nut allergies, who can react to nuts in the air. Do check the ingredients in anything you put in packed lunches.

Hot weather, buggies and cars: In sunny weather (even in spring) children can get very hot very quickly in car seats and buggies, especially if they are a little unwell or dehydrated, which may even lead to infantile convulsions. Watch that they are still in the shade, especially in forward-facing buggies, and check on them regularly to ensure they do not overheat.

ROAD SAFETY & KEEPING SAFE

Arriving and leaving Playgroup are great opportunities for road safety practice: 'Stop, Look and Listen', walk along the paths and cross over at the zebra crossings. We practise this every day when going to the school with the children for hot dinners.

Please do not walk across the middle of the car park unless you are going to your car at breakfast club or kasc, and then watch out for cars moving out of their parking spot or using the car park as a roundabout. Although we try to keep the main gates shut between 8.30am and 3.30pm, as parents are not allowed to drive on site between these hours save in exceptional circumstances, they are sometimes left open by delivery drivers, which allows other cars to drive on to and then out of the site very quickly. There have been a number of near misses lately, which have been quite scary, so please be careful.

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.

You can also drop off donations at the church on Thursdays between 12.30pm and 2.00pm. Easter eggs, and cross buns would be gratefully received for the Easter holidays.

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

