

Little Explorers Playgroup Burbage Newsletter Spring Term (2) 2020

Term dates and other important dates:

- Monday 24th February - Playgroup re-opens
- Tuesday 25th February - stay and play (rescheduled from 04/02/2020)
- Wednesday 4th March - grandparents stay and play
- Friday 6th March - visit from the author, Hazel Stuart
- Monday 9th March - Friday 13th March - Sports Relief Week
- Wednesday 18th March - stay and play
- Friday 3rd April - Easter Bonnet Parade (see below for more details)
- Friday 3rd April - Playgroup Closes for Easter Holidays
- Thursday 16th April - Primary school places announced for September 2020
- Monday 20th April - Playgroup re-opens

Welcome back to Little Explorers Burbage after the February half term. We hope you all had a lovely break and look forward to seeing photos of your week with your children on Tapestry. This newsletter is put onto Tapestry at the beginning of each half term and will contain valuable information concerning events that are happening during the term. If you have any questions concerning the newsletter, please come and see Kerry or Emma.

Stay and Plays: We have 3 Stay and Plays happening this half term and we welcome any parent, grandparent or carer that wishes to attend. We try to vary the days when we hold our stay and plays to enable all our parents/carers the opportunity to come along to a session.

Following the success of our last grandparents' session in January we are holding another one on Wednesday 4th March, there will be crafts, singing and plenty of other things to keep a grandparent busy for an hour!

Sports Relief: Sports Relief 2020 is Monday 9th - Friday 13th March. During this week we will be doing lots of sports activities and if children want to wear red on Friday 13th March they can. Children will need to have trainers on for this week so they can participate with sports activities on the field. Any donations for Sports Relief will be collected during the week.

Easter Bonnet Parade: We will be holding an Easter Bonnet parade for all children on Friday 3rd April towards the end of the session at 1.15pm. All children will be able to come to this if they wish with parents bringing them into the session in the afternoon if they do not normally attend on a Friday. Further details will be confirmed in the next few weeks but it's time to start thinking of your ideas for a bonnet!

Primary School Places: Confirmation of Primary school places are released on Thursday 16th April which is in the Easter holidays. As soon as we return can you please confirm the school your child has been allocated so we can contact the school to start transition meetings. If you have not been given the school that you wanted and want to appeal, please come and speak to us for any help that you need with the appeal process.

Parents meetings:

Over the next few weeks we will be asking all parents to make an appointment to see their key person to discuss their child's current development. We will have a sheet for each keyperson with the time slots available so you can sign up to one which suits your schedule.

Tapestry: We will once again be reviewing your child's Next Steps on tapestry so please watch out for an observation with Next Steps information. It is so great to see parents putting on observations from home that help with their child's Next Steps. Thank you so much, we love to see how your child is progressing in the home environment

Wet weather clothing: Can we please ask that all children bring wellies and a coat to playgroup. We go outside and use the field most days and it is now very cold and wet.

Safeguarding: Please ensure we have your up to date information, including changes of address, telephone number and emergency contacts. We also have a safeguarding board in playgroup which is always available for you to access if you require any further information.

Talking PANTS teaches children important messages, like their body belongs to them and they should tell an adult if they're upset or worried. The NSPCC has updated their website, encouraging you to get together and sing along with Pantosaurus to get the conversation started. The link to their website <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/underwear-rule/>

If you have safeguarding concerns about a child you know, please follow the link to the Leicestershire and Rutland Children's Safeguarding Board for guidance <http://lrsb.org.uk/children>

We have updated some policies; the following are available to view and comment on in our policies file on the parents table, and on our website littleexplorersplaygroup.co.uk

- County Lines Policy
- Healthy Eating Policy

Mobile Phones: Mobile phones must not be accessed whilst you are in the setting dropping off and picking up your children. If your phone rings you must wait until you are outside of the setting to answer it.

30 Hours Funding: 30 hours funding is now available for eligible families. You must check your eligibility each term to claim for the upcoming term. If you think you may be eligible and wish to claim access the website on www.childcarechoices.gov.uk. If you are given a code it is then eligible for the following term.

Playgroup Spaces for September: We will soon be opening the registers for September, for children who are staying with us next year we will assume the same sessions as you currently have, if you'd like to change your sessions from September please speak to Kerry.

If anyone knows of parents that wish their child to begin playgroup in September, please ask them to ring the playgroup to book a visit for a show round the playgroup. Our telephone number is **07896 749340**.

As always, if you have any questions, please come and talk to us either in person or on the phone.

Best wishes,

Alison, Kerry, Emma, Hayley, Rowan, Leoni, Allison, Soledad and Andrea.