

St Peters/Little Explorers Playgroup Newsletter Spring Term (2) 2020

Term dates and other important dates:

- Monday 24th February - Playgroup re-opens
- Tuesday 25th February - Dentist check for 3 year olds (forms already sent out)
- Wednesday 26th February - Stay and Play for all Wednesday children
- Wednesday 25th March - Stay and Play for all Wednesday children
- 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 St Peters/Little Explorers 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 Jane, Kim or Nathalie.

Stay and Plays: Stay and Plays this half term will again be on a Wednesday for any parent, grandparent or carer that wishes to attend. They will be changed again to another day in the summer term. The Valentines Craft morning was very well attended and we may look at doing something similar for Easter so please look on the board nearer the time for more details.

Easter Bonnet Parade: We will be holding an Easter Bonnet parade for all children on Friday 3rd April towards the end of the session. 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 who have had a recent report to make an appointment to see their key person to discuss their report and their child's current development. The meetings will be in the morning when you drop off your child but if this is not convenient we can arrange another time to fit in with parent's schedules.

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

Outside Shoes: Please ensure that your child has shoes/wellies with them so that they can go out onto the field whilst they play outside. The children love to run around on the grass but sometimes it can get quite long and wet so wellies are probably the best option for outdoor play until the grass becomes a bit dryer and shorter.

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: 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 **07896496403**

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

Best wishes Alison, Jane, Nathalie, Kim, Sam, Jessie, Karolina and Jolanta