



marchmont playgroup

Welcome

Hopefully everyone had a lovely summer and is looking forward to the new term. We have recently welcomed Eve, Leo, Jay, Shreya and Pratik so far, and are looking forward to welcoming lots of new children in the coming weeks.

Lots of children are leaving playgroup to head off to nursery. Good luck to Charlie, Eve, James, Jamie, Nina and Rory.

At Playgroup This Term

Our themes for the coming term will include shapes and colours, the weather, Autumn/harvest and people who help us. We practiced our fire drill last week and everyone did brilliantly.

Annual General Meeting

Thanks to Fiona R for organising the AGM which was held on Monday 6th September. The meeting was a great success, with lots of committee roles assigned.

It is so important to the running of the playgroup that all parents get involved, and so it was nice to see so many parents coming along and volunteering to take on roles. It was also a nice opportunity to enjoy a glass or two of wine and meet some mums and dads.

Thank you to Fiona and Lauren for providing the drinks and nibbles!

Playgroup Committee

Thank you to all the new parents who volunteered at the AGM to take on committee roles.

The contact details for all committee members is on the noticeboard at playgroup. The new roles are as follows:

Co-chair	Mailin (Ruti's Mum)
Co-chair	Fiona D (Hugh's Mum)
Secretary	Fiona R (Andrew's Mum)
Co-Treasurer	Fiona W (Ellen's Mum)
Co-Treasurer	Emma (Emily's Mum)
Duty Rota	Katy (Ruth's Mum)
Waiting List	Lucy (Clara's Mum)
Fundraising	Wendy (Oli's Mum) and Marie Claire (Leo's Mum)

All parents need to take on a role to keep the playgroup running, so if you have any time to spare please do help out.

Staff Training

We are lucky to have such a great team of staff who are so enthusiastic and eager to improve the areas of the playgroup.

Everyone has recently fulfilled Child Protection Training, Childhood Management and First Aid Training course.

Donna has just completed a food hygiene certificate and May and Carine plan to do them this term too.



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Care Commission

The care commission carry out yearly inspections and last November the playgroup received a 'good' grade for the quality of care and staffing.

Prior to the inspection, all parents should be given a pre-inspection document to rate the playgroup. Please can you fill this out if you receive one, as last year only three parents did, which gives an unfair reflection of the playgroup.

Recruitment

With the numbers at playgroup so low, we need to encourage more people to join to get the numbers back up.

A flyer will be produced soon which could be placed in libraries, toddler groups, etc. Spread the word!

Car Parking

Marchmont St Giles Church have indicated that parents should not be parking their cars on the Church grounds.

This unfortunately includes briefly parking for drop-off and collection of children from the playgroup.

Future Fundraising Events

We are hoping to run a 'Why, Thai and Buy' night in the Autumn, basically : Quiz, Thai meal, and silent auction.

This was done last year and was a huge success. More details to follow when the new fundraising team is in place.

The fundraising team works best with lots of input, so as many people as possible are welcome to join in! Fundraising is a vital role and the playgroup needs as much money as possible from fundraising to keep the playgroup running smoothly.

Dates for your Diary

Term Dates

Term 1

Thurs 19th August - Thurs 14th October
Tues 26th October - Thurs 16th December

Term 2

Tues 11th January - Thurs 10th February
Tues 22nd February - Thurs 7th April

Term 3*

Tues 26th April - Thurs 30th June

*There will be two in service days in May 2011, so there will be no playgroup on Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th May

And Finally ...

A big thank you to Donna, May and Carine once again for providing such a lovely playgroup, and thanks to everyone on the committee who help to keep things running in the background!