



Newsletter November 2011



Great News

Playgroup had our Ofsted inspection on 17th October and we got GOOD for everything. The inspector liked the setting and says in her report:

"Children are cared for by staff who know them well as individuals, consequently, they are happy and engaged and staff involve them in planning activities. Positive working relationships with parents and others involved in their care ensure children's needs are met consistently which makes them feel secure." " Staff are enthusiastic and committed to making the setting effective and a wide range of training has enabled them to meet individual children's needs well." "Staff have a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage which means they can plan a wide range of activities so children learn through play."

A copy of the full report will be given to each child to take home. Well done to all the staff and committee and keep up the good work!

Scary Party

We all had a lovely time at Playgroup's party. Lots of spiders and ghosts were made, the pin the tail on the cat was great and the children loved the Halloween tattoos. The disco was great—fabulous dancing from all the kids.

Amanda



Committee Members Needed Urgently

In January we will be having the Annual General Meeting and some existing committee members will be stepping down. We really need a new **Chairperson**. Without a Chair, Playgroup will close. Could you or someone in your family take on this role? You do not have to have previous experience. A guide to the role is being created and the existing Chair will be on hand to support you.

As the Chairperson you are the Captain of the ship, organising meetings and delegating tasks for the committee. You will get to steer your child's Pre-school into the future.

If you are interested in this position, or you want to find out about the other committee positions required for January (e.g. Secretary) please ring Amanda Coffey on 01332 875035, or email breastonplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Jumble Sale</u></p> <p>The Women's Fellowship's sale is taking place on Saturday 12th November, 11am until 2pm at Playgroup.</p> <p>It is only 20p to get in and should be a great event. Refreshments will be on sale and if they have their usual cake stall then you have to try them.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>The Book Club</u></p> <p>Playgroup has copies of the new Book Club magazine to give out. There are some great Christmas Gift ideas in the magazine.</p> <p>If you order from The Book Club and quote our ref: 20775691 Playgroup will receive a donation and all donations help to pay to keep Playgroup running. You can order online at www.scholastic.co.uk by 2nd December, or you can order through Playgroup.</p>
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A Message From Gale, Playgroup Manager



Welcome to our new starters joining us this term who are: Alfie, Abigail, Charlie, Indiana, Jamie and Jack,

Our area of interest this term is: PEOPLE WHO HELP US

W/C 31/10/11: Teachers
W/C 07/11/11: Fire-fighters
W/C 14/11/11: Police Officers
W/C 21/11/11: Bus & Train Drivers
W/C 28/11/11: Doctors, Nurses and Paramedics
W/C 05/12/11: Road Workers & Builders
W/C 12/12/11: Postal Workers

This is a knowledge and understanding of the world area of interest and you could support your children's learning at home by discussing and investigating the people who may help us in different ways, in the wider world beyond their home. You could take a trip to the library with your child and borrow books about the different occupations. You could discuss with your children what they'd like to do when they grow up, and see if you get any other answer than 'a fairy' or 'a hero'!! Take your children on a short bus or train journey, or get them to help you send your ebay parcels at the post office!

If you want to see the type of activities and learning experiences we plan for your children, please feel free to take a look at the short term plans which are always on display, or alternatively talk to your child's key person and you could also input into the plans yourself.

Time to spare?

As parents and carers it is important that we have a strong partnership for the learning and development outcomes of all the children. With this in mind, I would like to invite any of you who would like to share an interest, a hobby or talk about your occupation to the children. You would not need to stay long, just a ten minute slot during registration or later on in the day. Please let me know if you would like to do this and we can discuss any arrangements to be made. Don't be scared, it's just for fun and it will enhance the children's experiences.

The phonic sounds/letters for the term are: h, i, j, k, l, m, and n. Please encourage your children to find items at home beginning with the letter of the week to bring in for show and tell.

Haven Fun & Fitness

I have registered our pre-school with the Haven sports equipment giveaway. Please log on to www.havenfunfitness.com and find our pre-school's page to leave a supporting message. As soon as we hit 70% support from you we will get our FREE sports equipment pack for the children to enjoy.

Many thanks



Christmas Fayre



Playgroup's Christmas Fayre is on Saturday 26th November 10am to 1.30pm, with the Auction taking place in the middle.

Please come along and bring all your family and friends— spread the word! This is our biggest fundraising event of the year and pays for paint/paper/glue etc for our children.

This year there will be Santa in his Grotto, reindeer food on sale and make and do for the children, as well as lucky dips, sweetie tombolas and find the Santa game. For the grown ups there is a bottle game, a cake stall, a tombola, a great Auction and a raffle.

Raffle prizes this year include a Spa day, tickets for Derby FC, a ticket for two to Wheelgate Pleasure Park, a family ticket to Trentham Monkey Forest, a money off voucher for Midland Railway Centre, a fish supper from Breaston Fisheries, a planter from The Farm Shop in Breaston, Chocolates and Wine from The Co-Op in Breaston etc

We will be Auctioning off a family ticket to Diggerland, a family ticket to Making It! Discovery Centre, tickets to Highfield Happy Hens, tickets to Crich Tramway Village, a boiler service by SP Parkin Plumbing & Heating, a signed Red Arrows Picture, tickets to a Panto and so much more! Auction booklets will be available from Playgroup before the event if you want to see the full list of lots or want to place any advance bids.



Painted Christmas Presents

Every Playgroup child will complete a beautiful painting this term. This painting can be printed on a canvas, a tea-towel, an apron and/or a shopping Bag.

You do not have to purchase anything from this list, but they do make great Christmas Presents for all the family. You can choose as many or as few of these items as you like.

If you would like to include a sibling just bring in one of their paintings and we can attach it to a template.

Breaston Baby and Toddler Group

The group Meet at 1:30 every Tuesday in the same hall as Playgroup.

Our very own Treasurer (Jo Parkin) and Vice-Chair (Amanda Bell) are now running the group. When Jo heard Toddlers was shutting down she was keen to help Toddlers continue as her mum started the group off all those years ago.

Amanda and Jo invite you to come down and meet other mums in a friendly and welcoming atmosphere.

Attendance costs £1.50 and then 50p for siblings. Tea and coffee is included.

Christmas Party

We will be having a party for all Playgroup children on Wednesday 14th December 9:15-11:45. There will not be a normal session on that day. Instead we will be selling tickets for the party at £5.

We have the fabulous Carlo the Clown again to entertain the children, as the children loved him at the Will & Kate party. There will also be pass the parcel, party food and a Santa's grotto.

Parents will drop children off at the normal session time, but come back at 11:35 so they can see them visit Santa in the grotto.

Tickets will be on sale during the first week of December and posters will be put up with all the details.



Mini-Movers



Many thanks to **IBC School of Dancing** for offering to come and run a free Mini-Movers session for our children. This is being organised as we speak and will take place during session time. It is wonderful to get our children active and having fun.

IBC Dance School have lessons Ballet, Tap, Modern/Jazz, Freestyle, Theatre Craft, Gymnastic Dance, and Street Dance for adults, boys and girls of 3 and above, in their studio on Acton Road, Long Eaton. For further information please call Barbara Christmas on 07990 944351.

Important Information

If your child arrives at playgroup with an injury (bumps, cuts, grazes etc), could you please let a member of staff know.



If your child is going to be absent from playgroup please call us on 01332 874832. If we do not hear from you we will have to log the absence as unexplained. We have also been told that any absence for a holiday will need to be in writing (either a note or you can email the details through to breastonplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk). Derbyshire County Council has advised all pre-school settings that they will remove or reduce funding for any child that has too many unexplained absences. If you have any questions about this procedure, please speak to Gale or Karen.

Parent Mail

Please sign-up for Parentmail. It saves so much money for Playgroup and is great for the environment.

To sign up please just email your name and your child's name to breastonplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk.

Suggestion box

Just a reminder that we have a suggestion box on the table in the vestibule, for any ideas or feedback.

Alternatively you can also email your thoughts to breastonplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk

Important Dates

These can also be found on the homepage of www.breastonpreschoolplaygroup.org.uk

Monday 31st October: Playgroup re-opens.

Saturday 26th November: Playgroup's Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 13th December: Playgroup's Christmas Carols @ St Michael's Church

Wednesday 14th December: Christmas Party ****NO NORMAL SESSION THIS DAY****

Friday 16th December: Playgroup closes at end of day for Xmas holidays

19th & 20th December are inset days.

Wednesday 4th January : Playgroup re-opens

Friday 10th February: Playgroup closes at end of day for half term

Monday 20th February: Playgroup re-opens

Friday 30th March: Playgroup closes at end of day for Easter Holidays

30th March may be an inset day, not confirmed yet

Monday 16th April: Playgroup re-opens

Friday 1st June: Playgroup closes at end of day for half term

Monday 11th June: Inset Day.

Tuesday 12th June: Playgroup re-opens

Friday 20th July: Playgroup closes at end of day for Summer holidays.