



Newsletter May 2011

Updates

Bunny Bounce. The recent sponsored Bunny bounce was lots of fun. Even though it wasn't meant to be a competition the children were very keen to see how many bounces they could fit in in a minute, with one child doing 112! We have raised £274.10 so far for playgroup. This will go towards purchasing new items for the kids to play with. Don't forget to bring in your sponsorship money.

Easter Morning. We had a fabulous selection of Easter Bonnets at the parade this year. All the children sang beautifully and enjoyed the Easter Service by St Michael's Rector, Rev'd Chris Smedley and each child got to take home a cross made of palm leaves.



Some pictures have been added to our Facebook Page, to find it just search for "Breaston Pre-school Playgroup" in Facebook and "like" us please.

After the service many parents came back to playgroup for a cup of tea and got to look through their child's files. We raised £34.25 with an Easter Egg raffle and donations for tea and coffee.

Parent Questionnaires. Thank you to everyone who completed a Parent Questionnaire. The results are being analysed and we hope your feedback will help Playgroup to continue to grow and improve, as it has done over the last forty years. The Parent Questionnaire raffle was drawn and was won by Mrs Pepios, who received a £10 voucher for cachepot.

Easter Egg Hunt. The children were so fast at finding eggs! I know who to ask next time I lose my car keys. Thank you for your donations of eggs, it was a wonderful afternoon.

Will & Kate Party. This was a sell out. What a lovely day. The children loved Carlo The Clown and we all got to see the ceremony and that dress.

A big Thank You to The Bull's Head for letting us take over their pub, laying on the entertainment and providing the food. They truly are great local supporters of Playgroup.



What lovely weather we have been having and with this in mind, please can you apply sunblock to your children before they attend playgroup in the mornings/afternoons of sunny days. Outdoor play takes place every day, weather permitting.



This is especially important for those children who stop all day with lunch club and those with really sun-sensitive skin.

We are very happy to re-apply sunblock for your child during the day. Just fill out a permission slip (please ask any member of staff for one) and hand their sunblock in in a clear plastic bag with their name on it to our manager Gale, or supervisor Karen.

It is also good for each child to come with their own sunhat. Remember to write their name in it. We do have a few spare hats at Playgroup but having their own hat ensures a good fit.



A Message From Gale, Playgroup Manager



Topic for term is GROWING

week 1 human growth
week 2 animal growth
week 3 life cycles
week 4 garden growth



letter/sound

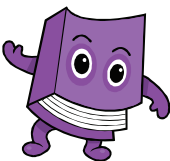
week 1 a
week 2 m
week 3 l
week 4 f



Ideas for home: Talking about and practicing healthy eating. Going for walks/bike rides. Bring in baby photos of the children or their parents/grandparents etc. Some planting at home. Look at baby animals and their parents, talk about sizes, big & small.

'Welcome' to Chloe and Lenny who will be joining us this term.

- please remember to inform us of your child's absence and the reasons for it
- please remember to inform us of a child arriving with an injury



Story Sack Library

Our free Story Sack Library is now up and running. Each sack contains a story book and some props/toys to go with it. You can choose a sack and borrow it for two weeks to read at home with your child.

A list of sacks available is kept in a blue folder on the table at playgroup.

Please have a look through, the sacks are a tremendous resource and the children love them.

Your Child's Learning Journey

All pre-school children follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum set out by the government. Their progress is recorded in a Learning Journey.

Each child's learning log is kept in their folder, along with things they have made, photos of them learning and observations made by their key worker. The folder grows with the child and you will receive it when they leave to go to school.

We have open folder weeks, where you are encouraged to look through your child's file, but you can ask to look through at any time. We are happy to talk through the contents with you or answer any questions you have about your child's learning journey.

The Learning Journey is a list of statements, saying what your child can do. We have to see a child complete a task comfortably before we can tick that off their log. If you see them complete a task at home you can write that on their log or let their key-worker know.

If your child attends more than one Pre-school Setting we recommend the use of a Shared Care Diary. This is a book that goes with your child to each of their Pre-schools and allows us to share their achievements. Ask your child's key-worker if you think your child could benefit from one.



Duty Rota

This is a short term, with less than 4 weeks at Playgroup. If you haven't put yourself down for duties there is still time. A blank rota will be put out in the vestibule at playgroup, where you can put your name for a duty or reserve.

If you have not done a duty before and want to find out more about helping out at Playgroup please either email me on trickivicki116@hotmail.co.uk, or speak to a member of staff.

All parent volunteers have to complete a CRB check, but this is easy and free to do, just ask at playgroup for a form.

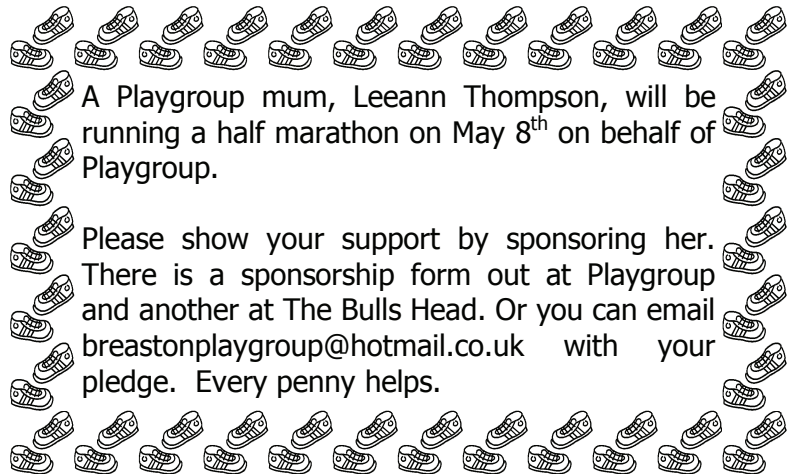
vicki



Website

We are currently updating our website. Is there something you would like to see on there?

Please email your ideas for our website to breastonplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk



A Playgroup mum, Leeann Thompson, will be running a half marathon on May 8th on behalf of Playgroup.

Please show your support by sponsoring her. There is a sponsorship form out at Playgroup and another at The Bulls Head. Or you can email breastonplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk with your pledge. Every penny helps.



Have your children grown out of some of their toys? Do you want to sell them to families who can enjoy them?

Well, email breastonplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk and we can include it in this newsletter.

Let us know as much information as possible e.g. name and make of item, cost new, cost you want to sell it for, it's condition etc

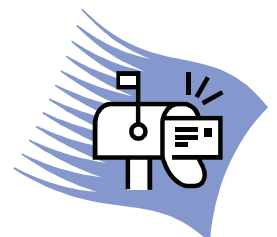
Adverts will cost £1 per item. Any money raised will help to cover the costs of printing the newsletter.

Parent Mail

Would you prefer to get your newsletters and information emailed straight to you? You will be helping the environment and helping Playgroup too.

Just ask a member of staff about Playgroup's Parentmail.

Your email address will not appear on the emails and will not be shared with other companies etc.





Charitable Donations.

Did you know that a great number of businesses make donations to charity on a regular basis - many have a set budget for donations each year and so are often on the lookout for charitable good causes which they could help? Did you also know that our Preschool Playgroup is a registered charity and that we have to raise the money ourselves for the purchase of new resources for play and learning purposes. We do this through applying for grants, our own fund-raising activities and asking for charitable donations.

Do you know of any businesses or do you have any contacts who you think may be able to help us with a donation towards the purchase of equipment for the children to use in their learning and play? At present, we are trying to raise money to replace some of our well-used and worn out outdoor play items. If you do know of someone who might be able to help, please let the committee know so that we can get in touch with them.

Thank you in anticipation.

Important Dates

Tuesday 3rd May: Playgroup re-opens.

Thursday 5th May: Inset Day—Playgroup will be closed

Friday 27th May: Playgroup closes at end of day for half term.

Monday 6th June: Playgroup re-opens.

Monday 13th June: Inset Day—Playgroup will be closed.

Saturday 25th June: Long Eaton Carnival @ West Park

Playgroup will be having a stall here, with activities for children.

Thursday 21st July: Playgroup closes at the end of day for Summer Holidays

Friday 22nd July: Inset Day—Playgroup is closed.

Monday 5th September: Inset Day—Playgroup is closed

Tuesday 6th September: Playgroup re-opens

Friday 21st October: Playgroup closes at end of day for half term.

Sunday 30th October: Playgroup's Halloween Party

Monday 12th September, Playgroup's Harvest Festival @ St Michael's Church

Saturday 26th November: Playgroup's Christmas Fayre

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

Tuesday 20th December: Playgroup's Christmas Party during session time.

Tuesday 20th December: Playgroup closes at end of day for Xmas holidays.