



RAVENSHEAD NEWSLETTER, April 2021:

New beginnings!

We hope you had an enjoyable and restful Easter break. We would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new parents and children. We will endeavour to make your child's time with us a happy experience whilst **'learning through play'**. Our team would also like to send best wishes to our children who have moved on to attend their new schools, hoping they settle in well too! Thank you to all those parents who supported playgroup during their time with us. We look forward to engaging children in a variety of activities this term relating to our theme. **'The Colour Monster,'** who focuses on our emotions, creating a new display with this in mind.

We will continue our current routine to welcome parents and children at the door, only allowing parents in if their child is new to the setting or particularly upset. Thank you for understanding and continuing to wear masks on site.

I would like you to join me in extending a huge thank you to our staff team who have worked so hard to provide a fun/normal, but safe environment for your children to experience, as we continue to negotiate our way through to more normal times.

BOOK CLUB: I hope you enjoy reading your child's books from our mini book club, kept in their very own book folder. Your child can take home a book of their choice, returning to swap once they have been read. If you could liaise with your child's key person when you wish to change books. Thank you.

Funding Forms: If your child is entitled to funding we will approach you in the coming week for you to complete and sign the relevant paperwork if you have not already done so. **Please note: children are entitled to funding from the term following their third birthday, up to the 30th of March for Summer term entitlement. If your child's birthday falls....April 1st to August 30th they are not eligible until September. We must have seen your child's birth certificate as this is a funding requirement.**

New Committee members: As a registered charity, we are run by a committee of volunteer parents, without which we could **not function**. As children and parents move onto pastures new we are always looking for new members to join. If you wish to join us or have any questions about what is involved then please ask any member of staff. It is a lovely opportunity to meet new parents and your involvement can be as little or as much as you wish. All members would complete the relevant DBS checks. Thank you.

PARENTAL DONATIONS: Thank you again for the generous donations we have received last term. We had a tractor/trailer, pasta for pasta play, numerous books, a car track with cars and a large toy selection of chunky vehicles etc. They are all very much appreciated.

Sun tan cream:

As the sunny weather approaches please be aware we have limited shade outdoors. Therefore, if you could provide sun hats and pre-apply a long lasting brand we would be most grateful. Unfortunately we are unable to apply sun cream. Thank you.

Lunch boxes:

Again with the warm weather it is vital that icepacks are included within your child's packed lunch. We are unable to store packed lunches within the fridge due to a lack of space. Thank you.

Important notes: We remain **full** each morning so will be unable to swap sessions or accommodate any extra morning sessions at present. Please make sure you are clear on the days your child is registered as to avoid any disappointment.

Prior notice: We will close earlier than school in July as we do not receive funding for the last few days of term, but remain open on school inset days. Therefore, our last day of the Summer Term will be **Friday the 23rd of July returning on Thursday the 2nd of September**. If your child attends school also then you will have to make alternative arrangements. We are sorry for any inconvenience caused. Thank you for your understanding.

Easter Raffle: A huge thank you to all who supported our Easter raffle. The winners were:

- 1,...Kit M...(410) 2,...Max B...(748)
3...Sophie C (728)... 4...Miranda Henshaw...(693)
We raised £...83.00

We have now purchased a new laptop for our staff team to log child observations on via the Tapestry system. Thank you for your generosity

Play group Fees: Following a review of our finances and the pending increase of the minimum wage, rent etc, the decision was made by our Committee to increase our session costs to £13.50 from after this term.

All invoices list a payment deadline date of 2 weeks into each term. Late payment invoices of £25 (in line with our policy) will be issued if this exceeds. Please appreciate how time consuming and costly this can be for us to chase outstanding payments and we must remain viable as in any business. It is vital we retain a healthy cash flow especially during this most challenging of times.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Labels: Please could you ensure that all your child's items are clearly labelled to reduce time searching for (coats, bags, hats, lunch boxes, drinking containers etc). Thank you.

Staff changes: Please join me in saying farewell to Natalie Middleton who will sadly be moving onto pastures new from the end of May. Natalie has brought such a sense fun to our children, staff and parents over the last 10 years and will be sorely missed. We wish her well for the future.

Changing circumstances: If your child develops any changes to their health, medication or personal circumstances it is important that you inform us so we can maintain our records to support your child accordingly.

Term dates: We will be closed for the Bank Holiday **Monday, 3rd of May**. The last day of term prior to the May half term will be: **Friday the 28th of May**, returning on, **Monday, the 7th of June**. Please note if the school has an inset day then we will be **open as usual**.

Finally:

Please feel free to approach us with any concerns or questions you may have and we will do our utmost to help. Thank you.

May I convey a huge thank you for your continued support as we strive to continually provide a local amenity to be proud of!

Ravenshead Preschool Playgroup



Learning Through Play

Christine, Committee and Playgroup team.