

RAVENSHEAD PLAYGROUP: NEWSLETTER, June 2021:

Welcome back:

We hope you all had an enjoyable and restful half term break. Playgroup are planning a range of lovely activities this term so your child can explore and 'learn through play' with an emphasis on children knowing how a story might end such as 'Goldilocks' or other traditional stories.



Next Committee Meeting: Our next committee meeting/Annual General meeting will be held at the **Little John public house**, Main Rd, Ravenshead, on **Wednesday the 21st of July at 7.30pm**. We will be looking at playgroup finances, as the year comes to a close. Our current Chairperson: Kerry Lea, will continue to support us, despite her child having left us some time ago. Her support along with other Committee members is invaluable. If you wish to join our Committee 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. Any volunteer role would be subject to a Disclosure & Barring Suitability check.

Our September registers: will be prepared and finalised this term, so could you inform us of your session requirements for September as soon as possible. This helps to secure your preferred options and assists us in confirming the numbers of children attending so we are able to prepare, in advance and staff accordingly. Thank you. I will be approaching parents to sign their September funding entitlement forms.

Transition to School: For those children who will move onto School in September, we will forward details of their development to their respective Schools accordingly. In the past we have arranged with School for your child to have transition visits but we will wait to find out if Schools are now re-introducing this during the current climate. This aims to help accustom your child to their new environment and ease their transition. Each School should inform you of their process.

30 Hours free childcare: You may be aware that the Government introduced 30 hours of free childcare for 3 year old children from September 2017. The 15 hours remain available to all and the additional 15 is dependent on your eligibility. You can access further information to check your eligibility and criteria for eligibility via: <https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk> <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk>
Also, <https://www.gov.uk/childcare-calculator>

Ice Packs: Please can we remind you that we are unable to keep packed lunches within the refridgerator so ice packs are required.

Sun tan cream:



As the sunny weather continues please be aware we have limited shade outdoors so we ask that you **provide labelled sun hats and apply** long lasting sun cream for your child prior to their attendance. **Please inform your child's key person that your child is/isn't wearing cream for their skin protection.**

Courteous Parking: Please can I remind parents of the importance of courteous parking when bringing to or collecting your child from playgroup. We like to maintain good relations with the surrounding residents and the school. We therefore request that you **do not park on or opposite the yellow zigzags**, refrain from blocking driveway entrances, nor park on the grass verges. This has posed a few problems historically. Thank you for your cooperation .

Summer fun celebrations: We are planning to end the Summer term with a 'fun week' full of cheery activities to celebrate our lovely year, despite its many challenges.

Term dates:

N.B: **We close for the holidays earlier than the school as we do not receive funding for the last week of term: For those children who attend both school and playgroup will need to make alternative arrangements. Thank you for your understanding.**

The last day of term prior to the Summer break will be: **Friday the 23rd of July, returning on, Thursday, the 2nd of September.**

Finally, as the end of term approaches: We bid our children a fond farewell as they embark upon their next steps to 'big school'. We would like to wish them well. They will be missed! We hope you have a lovely, happy, enjoyable and safe Summer holiday.

I would also like to convey a personal thank you for all parental support for playgroup during your child's time with us. It is greatly appreciated and we are proud to provide a lovely community provision.

Please join me in thanking all our Staff team who remain so committed in providing an inviting, fun environment in which your children can feel safe, learn and thrive.

I wish Jenny Dearman well in her newly appointed position as Manager and I look forward to semi-retirement after 13 years. I look forward still to being involved a couple of mornings to support this lovely cause.



Christine, Committee and team.