**Stratton Playgroup**

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**In this month’s newsletter – January 2024!**

**Happy New Year**

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*We would like to wish all our playgroup families and children a very happy new year. We are really looking forward to another year at playgroup. We are excited to be welcoming lots of new families and children to playgroup this month and again after Easter* 😊

**Planning**

This half term we will be learning all about ‘**How we travel’.**

To begin with the children will listen to the story **‘All change’.** They will explore shapes and make shape trains. We will explore moving like trains in a follow the leader style game. The children will use their mathematical skills to sort items according to colour, weight, using trains and carriages.

We will then explore transport that travels through the air. The children will make paper aeroplanes and we will measure how far they go when we throw them. The children will make various different craft throughout the week. The children will explore different countries that we can get to on planes and by air.

We will then learn about different farm machines. The children will mark make outside using tyres and paint. We will also make tyre prints with gloop inside. The children will use diggers to sort. We will also sing farm songs.

We will then be listening to the story Mr Bumpy’s boat ride. We will act out the story. The children will explore items that sink and float. We will take part in a travel survey. The children will tell us how they got to playgroup that day. We will count the results. We will use Musical instruments to sing songs.

**Our Learning intentions**

Exploring how things work – Understanding the World

Recognise similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries – Understanding the world

Talk about and explore 2d and 3d shapes – Mathematics

Listen to simple stories and understand what is happening with the help of the pictures – Communication and Language

Develop their movement skills, moving in a range of different ways – Physical Development

**Story Focuses**

*All Change*

*Mr Bumpy’s Boat Ride*

*Guess How Much I love you*

**Role play area**

This half term we have created a hospital.

**Childcare Choices/Funding**

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For all information about funding available to you, including the new 2-year funding coming into place in April, please use the link below:

[Childcare Choices | 30 Hours Childcare, Tax-Free Childcare and More | Help with Costs | GOV.UK](https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/)

**Lunch boxes - fresh fruit/vegetables**

Children should have at least one portion of fresh fruit/vegetables in their lunch box.

**Wrapping up warm / Labelled belongings and spare clothes**

During this colder/wet month, please ensure children are sent to playgroup with a warm coat, and other warm clothes items such as hats, gloves, and scarfs.

**Please can all children’s belongings be clearly labelled** – such as all spare clothes, weather dependent clothing, packed lunch boxes and water bottles.

**Fundraising**

Fundraising is an important part of playgroup.

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone who supported our Christmas hamper, it was a sell-out, and the winner was very happy with their hamper😊

To celebrate the new year 2024, we would like our playgroup children /families to join in with fundraising by raising £24. The children can be sponsored to raise their £24 however they want, some ideas are learning a new skill (riding a bike, swimming), walking, running, baking, cake sale, helping with chores at home, or helping a relative, but any ideas are welcomed.

Children are welcome to bring in their forms and money into playgroup at any time, we will celebrate all children’s achievements together. We would like to suggest that all children complete their fundraising by the end of the spring term - March 28th.

**Forms will be sent home with children from next week.**

The money raised will go towards developing our outdoor space.

**Dates**

**School applications**

If your child was born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020, you will need to apply for a school place for September 2024. **The deadline for applications is 15 January 2024.**

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/school-admissions/>

**Key person meetings**

Towards the end of the month we will be arranging key person meetings.

**Updates**

We are very proud of our website, where we display all our information; this will also be updated regularly with events and dates. This is available at: www.strattonplaygroup.uk.

We also have Facebook and Instagram - please find us as **“Stratton Playgroup Bude”.**

Monthly newsletters – these will be emailed to you each month.

At the end of each session a small description of the session will be written on the easel, outside – weather dependent.

**Term Dates**

Start of Spring Term 2024 Thurs 4th January

Half-Term Fri 9th - Fri 16th February

Last Day Thurs 28th March

Start of Summer Term 2024 Mon 15th April

Bank Holiday Mon 6th May

Half-Term Fri 24th May - Fri 31st May

Long Weekend Fri 21st - Mon 24th June

Bags for school collection Thurs 13th June

Last Day Thurs 18th July

Leavers Party Fri 19th July

Thank you for your time in reading **this newsletter**, if you have any questions please speak to a member of staff.

Kelly and all the team 😊