



Stratton Playgroup

New Road, Stratton, Bude, Cornwall EX23 9AP

Telephone: 01288 356135 E-mail: strattonplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk

Website: www.strattonplaygroup.uk Ofsted No.: 102959 Registered Charity No.: 1038250

HELLO November



In this month's newsletter

- Planning - what are we up to this half term?
- Book focuses
- Our learning intentions
- Role play
- Online safety, Poppy Playtime
- Gate safety, rules when coming down the path
- Tapestry
- Lending Library news
- Labelled Belongings and spare clothes
- Headlice
- Photos
- **Dates**
- All my own work Christmas

- Children in Need
- Christmas party Date change
- Bags for School collection
- School applications
- Watch this space for a Christmas fund raiser
- Updates
- Term dates

Planning – What are we up to this half term?

Our Topic this half term is ***Celebrations and Stories.***

We will begin the half term by learning about staying safe in different environments. We will practise our fire drills as well as learn about firework safety, and how important it is to listen to adults. The children will learn about road and car park safety, and we will go into the car park and practise crossing the car park safely.

We will then learn all about the Hindu festival of light - Diwali. The children will make diva lamps using their physical skills to manipulate clay into the small lamp shape. We will mark make with chalk outside to create Rangoli patterns. We will also try food from the Eastern world for snack time. Towards the end of the week, we will create poppy craft for Remembrance Day and watch clips on the iPad to find out why we wear our poppies.

Next, we will be reading the Stickman and creating crafts and activities around the story.

Moving on to making reindeer food, singing Christmas songs and many more Christmas crafts.

Book focuses

- Stickman
- The Christmas Bear
- Mog's Christmas
- Snow Bear
- The Gingerbread man

Our learning intentions

- How to keep myself safe
- The importance of listening to an adult
- Listening to instructions
- Learning about different celebrations

Role play

This half term our role play inside is a Stage, we are looking forward to seeing the children and their talents. We will later turn this area into a Christmas themed role play. Outside we will be developing our reading shed into a gingerbread reading house.

Online safety and inappropriate material – POPPY PLAYTIME

It has come to our attention that some of the children are watching clips on their tablets at home that are not appropriate for their age. There is a new online horror game which some children are talking about in playgroup. It is called Poppy's playtime and is based on a toy named 'huggy wuggy' which chases you around a toy factory. There is not an official rating for the game! Children have told us they watch this on their tablets at home. Other characters in the game include kissy missy and candy cat.

Videos and versions of the game are becoming increasingly popular on YouTube, Roblox, and other platforms used by young children. It features frightening images and themes that are paired with child-friendly items. This disturbing content can have an effect on children's personal wellbeing, the language they are using and how they play with others. It can create stress, fear, and intrusive thoughts.

We would ask that you check your parental controls on devices and keep a close eye on what your children are watching/playing on their tablets/devices.

Gate safety, rules when coming down the path

We have been informed that siblings of children attending playgroup, have been opening the gate down to playgroup, please ensure that only adults are opening and then closing the gate securely.

A staff member will always greet you at the side gate at both drop offs and collection times. We do also advise that children do not climb along the wall or the railings as this can result in unwanted accidents.

Tapestry

It has been lovely to see lots being shared on Tapestry from home, we always share any uploads with the children at playgroup.

Lending library news

Some of our children have achieved their '5 books' award this half term. The children love bringing their books back after sharing them at home with their families. They tell us all about the book and who they read it with. They have a stamp on their library card and work towards their certificates.

Awards this term go to:

Amaya-Lily

Paddy

Grace

Jackson

Labelled Belongings and spare clothes

Please can we ask that children bring a coat and bag to playgroup each day they attend. Along with spare clothes, including socks, weather dependent clothing, e.g. gloves, hats - **a labelled water bottle**, and for children that require toileting accessories; nappies, wipes and any other items needed. We suggest that children have a pair of wellies to leave at playgroup.

Please can all children's belongings be clearly labelled. If you borrow playgroup clothes, please return them.

Headlice

A text was sent out just before half term about headlice at playgroup. Please ensure you check your child's hair regularly and treat if needed. Further information of treating headlice can be found here [Head lice and nits - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice/)

Photos

We hope everyone now has their photo proofs, and have been able to make their orders, if wanted, If you do have any problems with this, please speak to a member of staff.



Dates

'All my own work' Christmas

All my own work Children's Christmas card designs will be coming home the week of 30th October. All information about how and what you can order will be coming home with the designs. Please ensure your order is returned to playgroup by **Monday 13th November**. Payment must have been made with your order.

Children in Need

We will be joining in with 'Children in Need' which takes place on Friday 17th November. The theme this year is **SPOTacular**, therefore we are asking children to come to playgroup dressed in spots, the staff will be joining in too. We will be doing lots of exciting activities, suggested donation £1.



Christmas party - Date change

Our Christmas party will now take place on **Friday 15th December** in the afternoon (all children invited - more details will be sent out nearer the time). Playgroup's session will run as normal in the morning. Playgroup will then close for the Christmas break, and we will re-open on Thursday 4th January.

Bags for school

Our next bags for school collection is on Wednesday 22nd November. Please see the link [What We Collect | Bag2School](#) to see what can be collected.

Please bring your bags to by Weds 22nd November, we can store bags before if needed.

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.**

Watch this space for a Christmas fund raiser

Details of our Christmas fund raiser will follow shortly.

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

Committee AGM	7pm Wednesday 1st November
Bags for school collection	Weds 22 nd November
Christmas Party	Friday 15 th December PM
Last Day	Friday 15 th Dec After our Christmas party
Start of Spring Term 2024	Thurs 4 th January
Half-Term	Fri 9 th - Fri 16 th February
Last Day	Thurs 28 th March
Start of Summer Term 2024	Mon 15 th April
Bank Holiday	Mon 6 th May
Half-Term	Fri 24 th May - Fri 31 st May
Long Weekend	Fri 21 st - Mon 24 th June
Bags for school collection	Thurs 13 th June
Last Day	Thurs 18 th July
Leavers Party	Fri 19 th July

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

Kelly and all the team 😊