

# Begbroke Playgroup Newsletter

## November 2020



### Term Dates

Playgroup closes for the Christmas holidays on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

7 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	until	23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2020
2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2020	until	18 <sup>th</sup> December 2020
4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	until	12 <sup>th</sup> February 2021
22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2021	until	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021
19 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	until	28 <sup>th</sup> May 2021
7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	until	16 <sup>th</sup> July 2021

### **Contact Us**

Begbroke Playgroup  
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OX5 1RN

Telephone: 07594652291 - please put this number in your contact list on your mobile.

Website: [begbrokeplaygroup.org.uk](http://begbrokeplaygroup.org.uk)

Email: [chairman@begbrokeplaygroup.org.uk](mailto:chairman@begbrokeplaygroup.org.uk)

Follow us on Facebook

## Welcome

Welcome to Oscar and Frank who join us this term. We hope you enjoy your time with us.

## Nativity

Due to the current climate we have decided to record the children performing their Nativity Play. They are practicing daily, you may have noticed!!, and getting on really well. More information to follow.

## Planning

As a setting we constantly look at our environment and how we provide for the children. We are in the process of changing the way that we plan to embrace Planning in the Moment PITM. This involves less paperwork for staff and frees us to interact even more with the children. This does not mean that the children's development/education will suffer. PITM involves us creating an enabling environment and allowing the children to fully choose how, when and where they learn, and we as staff will continue to engage with the children planning immediately from our interactions with them and taking opportunities to 'teach' as appropriate. We will be creating an enabling environment for play while sprinkling those higher-level skills over their play. This follows on from us over the last few months planning in advance less and taking our cues from the children more. Play is so powerful!

## Key Person and Buddies

Our key person approach is still in place and all children have a key person, and buddy who would take over if a key person were off. If you do not know your child's key person or buddy please ask when dropping off or collecting and a member of staff will let you know.

## School Applications

Applications can now be made online for reception 2021/22 entry for children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 inclusive. Parents and Carers have until 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021 to apply and can do so at [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions)

Ideally any applications should be made online. It is quick and secure. A paper form is available for those unable to apply online.

For more information please go to the link above or call 0345 2412487.

## Easy fundraising/Amazon Smile

In the current climate we are unable to fundraise in our normal ways. You can support Begbroke playgroup by shopping through easy fundraising and Amazon smile. Each eligible purchase generates a small donation to Begbroke playgroup with no extra cost to yourself. Win win situation.

Please support Begbroke Playgroup on #easyfundraising, you can raise FREE donations when you shop online with over 4,300 retailers. In the lead up to Christmas, it's the easiest time of the year to support them! It's simple and only takes 2 minutes to sign up! Plus, once you have raised your first £5, easyfundraising will match it! Sign up now: [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/begbrokeplaygroup/?invite=BLU02S&referral-campaign=s2s&utm\\_source=refmailshare](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/begbrokeplaygroup/?invite=BLU02S&referral-campaign=s2s&utm_source=refmailshare)

[amazonsmile.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk)"

### Drop off and Pick up

Pick up and drop off will be at the front door, we will take one child at a time, take their bags/lunchbox and you can say goodbye. We will shut the door and help that child wash their hands and then take the child into the main room. We will then come back to the door to collect the next child and start the process again. We appreciate this will take more time, but we must ensure that children and staff are protected from risk as much as possible. Social distancing markers are in place to assist parents while waiting to drop off or collect.

We are asking everyone to ensure they are on time for collecting their child; in order to open playgroup and keep the children safe we have a large amount of cleaning to be done every day and this can only be done once the children have all left for the day.

### Car Park

Please can we remember to be careful when driving into the village hall car park. Due to social distancing waiting parents and children may need to wait into the car park, alternatively please wait in your car until there is space in the garden. On the same note please make sure your children are NOT running around in the car park when dropping off and picking up, thank you.

### Spare Clothes

Please could you provide your child with a bag containing a complete change of clothes, sun hat and sun cream. Nappies and wipes if required. Outdoor play is an essential part of our day therefore please provide a waterproof coat for your child we do go outdoors even in the rain.

### Lunch boxes

Please provide your child with a named lunch box which includes a named drink, we need the lunch box clearly named. We provide fresh water in bottles throughout the day, but children enjoy their own drinks for lunch, named please, this could be any juice, milk or squash avoiding

fizzy drinks. We do have a microwave in the kitchen so if you would like your child to have a hot meal for lunch that is no problem, i.e. pasta, soups, noodles or potatoes etc.

Your child's lunch box should have a least one portion of fruit or vegetables, a small treat but NO sweets, to promote healthy eating habits. We are promoting oral health and will encourage the children in this.

### Committee

Begbroke playgroup is run by our fabulous and hard-working volunteer committee chaired by Kate Bye. We have a treasurer Martin who has been in place for 11 years and he now needs to come off as a matter of urgency. Could you help? The committee are looking to outsource the payroll. If you can spare 1 evening a term to help and support the playgroup as treasurer or as a committee member please contact Kate on [kate.bye@aol.com](mailto:kate.bye@aol.com)

Without our lovely committee we would be unable to run. Full support and handover.

### Grant

I received this email and thought I would pass it on in case anyone you know is struggling:

Dear EY Manager,

I am writing to make you aware of emergency assistance for families in financial hardship. You might know of children at your setting whose families are struggling to purchase food and essential supplies, and could be eligible for this support.

Citizens Advice can allocate supermarket vouchers to eligible families. The maximum value is **£250 per family**. Cherwell District Council has financed this scheme using the '*DEFRA Local Authority Emergency Assistance Grant for Food and Essential Supplies*'

To be eligible, the person requesting a **Covid-19 Hardship Grant** must be:

- a resident in Cherwell district and over the age of 18
- struggling to afford food or essential supplies due to the current Covid-19 situation.

A Citizens Advice advisor will talk to the person requesting the **Covid-19 Hardship Grant** about their benefits /finances and see if there is any way to improve their financial situation or if they have other advice needs. Unless an immediate solution is found to resolve the hardship, the client will be sent the supermarket voucher.

If you know of families that are in need of **immediate relief** and struggling to afford food or other essential supplies due to the Covid-19 situation, please put them in touch with Citizens Advice North Oxfordshire:

Banbury - 01295 221448

Bicester - 01869 321806

Kidlington - 01865 955919

Please tell the person that it may be possible that they can get support rather than say that they will definitely get a shopping voucher. This will avoid creating an expectation that may not be met if the person is not eligible for any reason

They will not be able to request a voucher if they (or someone in their household) have already received one as part of this scheme. The vouchers will be available until the funds are spent or 31 March 2021, whichever is the sooner.

If you require any further information regarding this grant, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Kevin Larner**

**Healthy Communities Manager**

Communities / Wellbeing / Cherwell District Council

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