



Playwell Pre-school Newsletter

January 2021

Dates for this term

Last Day of term – Friday 12th February

Back to school – Tuesday 23rd February

Welcome back! We hope that you made the best of Christmas and we are all hoping for a happier, healthier (and less stressful) 2021.

We have new children starting this term and we are sure that you will join us in welcoming them into the Playwell community.

We would like to thank you all for your gifts and kind words written in our Christmas cards, you are all so very kind.

Covid update

We have attached a 'covid newsletter' and we will put it on our notice board too. Please note the updates on symptoms and testing.

Children starting reception

For the children who are heading off to reception class in September we will be doing 'schoolwork' during our sessions starting soon. These small, short sessions will be planned around each child's individual learning. Some children may be working on pencil control, others may be working on numbers etc, but most of all they are geared around listening and concentrating without distraction. The children will be doing this around 3-4 times a week at around 10 minutes per session, if you have any questions, please ask.

If your child's date of birth is between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 you will need to apply for a Reception place for September 2021. You will need to apply online before January 15th 2021.

Refunds for closure

We are currently in the process of refunding you for the remainder of the week that we needed to close. If you are paying this term for your sessions we will take your money owed to you off of your payment for this term. If you are not paying we will reimburse you. If you think that we have missed you, please speak to Julie.





Facebook issues

We apologise for the glitches on our facebook page at the beginning of term, it has hopefully been sorted now and we hope that you have been enjoying the photos that we have posted.

Lunchtimes

For new lunchtime parents, if your child is staying for lunch we ask that it is a healthy lunch with no sweets. You do not need to provide a drink as we have milk and water available so please do not bring in water bottles. We are trying to avoid as much non-necessary contact with items as possible. No peanut butter and no nuts as we have children with allergies and could we also ask that grapes and tomatoes are cut in half as they are a choking hazard. If your child has a yoghurt in a pot please provide a spoon. Can you please provide your child's lunch in a plastic lunchbox so that we can clean it with antibacterial cleaners.

Final thoughts

Please provide your child with a coat as we do go outside every day and please name your child's coats, jumpers and cardigans.

We have been putting your child's work into carrier bags to avoid lots of people touching it. We ask that you take the bag on your last day of the week. If you need to take the work daily, just take the work out of the bag.

All of the newsletters and letters that we give to you are on the website and weekly updates of the children's learning is posted on Facebook. Term dates and other important information is on the website as well as on the 2 notice boards, please check them regularly, just in case you think that you have missed something.

Despite all the changes we hope that you all have an enjoyable term at Playwell.

Don't forget- we are available at all times if you have any concerns or worries regarding your child.

Thank you.





Covid -19 reminders

As per the DFE and Government guidelines we are continuing our Covid -19 routine.

We are usually very welcoming and love to chat with you, but the way we do things has had to change for the time being.

At the start of the morning session, we are inviting 1 parent per child into the setting to drop your child off. The doors are open from 9 - 9.15 and you and your child must sanitise your hands upon entering the setting.

As we are limiting the number of adults we have in the setting, we ask that you drop your child into Playwell as quickly as you can, unless you are settling your child, as other parents are waiting outside to bring their children in and please wear your mask. If you do not have your mask at drop off we will ask you to leave your child at the Playwell door. If you do not have it at collection time, we will send your child out to you.

When collecting your child, we are asking that only 1 adult per child comes into the setting.

We are also asking that you do not leave your buggies and scooters at Playwell. We are trying to avoid as much non-necessary contact with items as possible.

Can you please provide your child's lunch into a plastic lunchbox so that we can clean it with antibacterial cleaners. Please make sure that ALL of your child's lunch fits into the box. It can be confusing as to who has what crisps, who had a banana etc.

Usually we would leave your child's work out on the table for you to collect. We are now putting your child's work in a plastic bag for you to collect when you wish. This is to avoid as many people touching the work as possible. Please take your work on your child's last day of the week.

Please do not bring your child in if they have any symptoms – persistent cough, high temperature etc. You must get a test immediately, please go to a test centre where the results do come through quicker than a postal test. Remember- the faster you get results, the faster we can act on it and the less contact Playwell staff and children will have with others.

We have a symptoms notice on our 'Covid' board in the friendship centre for you to check, along with any updates we receive and we hope that you find this useful.

To keep updated of any outbreak, please check the website and facebook.

You may have noticed that we haven't had some toys available for the children to play with.

Following Government guidelines we are unable to have

- Playdough
- Sand
- Cooking
- Dressing up
- Lego/sticklebricks (due to intricate parts and difficult to clean)





We are also unable to have our rugs for the home corner and book corner and materials to decorate the tables.

Children's practice has changed too. Hand washing has always been a big part of our day; after using the toilet, before eating and after messy play. Children are now encouraged to wash their hands at these times as well as before storytime and after playing outside. Hand sanitiser is used before food and before going home.

Occasionally you may see the children playing with baby clothes. Please be assured that they are washed at the end of the day.

All toys are cleaned or sprayed with antibacterial spray at the end of each session before putting away.

We have also had to postpone any outings that we had planned.

We are reviewing our practices regularly.

Let's keep our Playwell community and families safe.

