

Staff

- Taking a look firstly at our fundamental staff team, we have had a truly outstanding year. The commitment and hard work from each and every staff member has not gone unnoticed.
- Charlene and Tracey have done a great job in their new roles as Leader and Deputy Leader of the Playgroup.
- Kate has successfully completed her Level 2, and Louise is very close to completing her Level 3. As a committee, we like to support our staff if we can with their personal development. This continuous development enables our staff to provide a high standard of care and education for the children who attend this playgroup and acquire skills and knowledge on current best practice.
- Also this year we have welcomed Lucy as our new administrator, and Sam Rey and Teresa on our bank staff team.
- We finished the end of the academic year with nine staff members. Sam T has transferred to our bank team from September, and Laura who is also on our bank team is due to return from maternity leave next month.
- On behalf of the committee, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff for their hard work this past year.

Playgroup

- Turning now to the running of the playgroup. A few years back, we made a cautious decision to open five days a week instead of four, on a trial basis.
- It is overwhelming how quickly the number of children that attend our playgroup has increased, especially this last year. I cannot imagine now how we would cope now if we were still open only 4 days a week. We ended our last academic year with 37 children on register, 18 started school in September. It is truly astonishing that we already have 33 children on register for this year, which sees us almost full already!

Committee

- As I explained in the meeting earlier this evening, we have had 9 committee members for the large part of this year. Sadly, we will be saying bye to Claire, Andy and Lisa after tonight's meeting and the handover meeting on 25th September. Thank you three for your support and commitment to the committee. Claire especially, your efforts to the fundraising of our playgroup has been outstanding. You leave very big boots to fill.
- I would like to thank all of our committee for their dedication and hard work shown this year. We are all volunteer parents, who are committed to ensuring this playgroup continues to provide the best childcare for all the children who attend and will attend in the future.

Fundraising

- Fundraising is important to Chestnut Playgroup as we are a charitable not-for-profit organisation. The grant funding and fees go towards staff pay, and any training they may require, our rent and utilities. However, we rely on fundraising to enable us to buy the extra things like new equipment, arts supplies, and make improvements to our outside space.
- Fundraising this past year has included our Halloween Disco, our Christmas Event, a Quiz Night, a Bingo Night, our Easter and Summer events, our Jumble Sale.
- We are very grateful to all the families who have supported the playgroup at each of these events, and we would like to encourage parents to continue to support us to enable us to reach our fundraising target of £2000, which we set each year. We are delighted to confirm that we exceeded our target this last year.