



Panda Playgroup, Sticky Mitts & Tiny Tots

newsletter

Autumn term 2014

Welcome to our Autumn term.



Panda News

Panda Leader Comment: Welcome back to all of our Panda families. I hope you have had a great summer. I have had a thoroughly enjoyable time with my family and I am now ready for an exciting year ahead with the Panda children. We are welcoming lots of new children over the next few months and we have quite a lot of children for this time of the year. Please feel free to come along and discuss anything with me regarding your child's development and progress, our provision, or to gain further information regarding Early Years education. Likewise, if you are a Tiny Tot or Sticky Mitt parent, Sharron will be able to discuss the provision we provide and childhood development with you.

Themes for this term: All about me, Harvest, Autumn and Christmas



Harvest Festival: The children are going to sing a little harvest festival on Monday 13th October 11:40 – 12:00. All children can participate in this and parents/carers can all come along and enjoy the children's singing. If your child does not usually attend on a Monday you may bring them at 11:40 for the harvest festival and you must stay with them. We are going to make a food hamper we can donate at the Methodist Church so we are asking for children to bring in one item of food from home. So that we do not end up with the same foods we have a list of choices on the registration table so please write beside your choice.

Ugly Bug Ball: Thursday 23rd October 4:00 – 5:00 or 5:00 – 6:00. Choose a suitable time! Dressing up, games and competitions – tickets for sale at Pandas. £1.50 each, includes a drink and a hot dog!

Ofsted: Having been expecting Ofsted for the last year I think they will be visiting us shortly as we have not been inspected since 2009. However, since 2009, the requirements of Early Years provision have undergone substantial changes and there are a lot more considerations in providing a good early years provision. I am confident that we offer the children good provision with great practitioners who always have the children's best interests at the core of what we do. It would be nice to have some comments from parents offering their thoughts and views of the provision – please feel free to complete a little green slip and post it in the box.

Security - We have a lot of younger siblings coming to playgroup to drop off their brother or sister now. As a safety precaution of little ones toddling off please can all parents close the gate behind them when arriving and leaving. Thank you!

Please shut the gate

Term dates

Break up: Thursday 24th October

Return: Monday 3rd November

Break up: Thursday 18th December

Ideas Spot

Outdoor Fun

The weather is still nice, why not encourage your child to participate in gardening and talk about plants, weeds, flowers. Do they notice any leaves changing colour?



Why not:

Look in the mirror at home with your child or simply at each other and talk about what you notice about their features.

Happy Birthday to:

- | | | |
|---------------|---|------------|
| Kai (4) |  | Jacob (3) |
| Ewan (3) | | Noah (3) |
| Tom (3) | | Nancy (4) |
| Sam (4) | | Elsa (4) |
| Charlotte (3) | | Alexa (2) |
| Lucy (3) | | Lily (2) |
| Aiden (3) | | Hayden (4) |

Welcome to our new Panda friends:

Charlotte, Luke, Jack, Ollie, Jacob, Lily, Alexa.

Quote from the children

Geraldine: Where does Milk come from?

Child: The shop!

Geraldine: But where does it come from before the shop?

Child: The fridge

Ask a silly question...





Tiny Tots and Sticky Mitts

Hello everyone and welcome back to the Autumn Term at Panda Sticky Mitts and Tiny Tots. Whilst it was sad to say goodbye to those who left for Playgroup at the end of the Summer term, it is great to see so many of you returning this term and also some new faces. This term I need to check that all the emergency contact details I hold for everyone are still correct so if over the next few weeks you could check what information I have for you that would be great. This half term we are going to be looking at Autumn/harvest crafts at the Sticky Mitts sessions, turning towards Christmas activities as we approach the festive season. As usual, if anyone has any comments or queries please let me know.

Thanks - Sharron



Dates for your Diary:

Harvest Festival Monday 13th October 11:40 – 12:00

Used Toy and Baby Equipment Sale: Sat 18th October 10am-12pm at Methodist Church Hall. £1 entry includes hot/cold drink. Tea, coffee and cakes available. 30% of sale proceeds donated to Panda. For more info or if you are interested in selling or donating items visit pandaplaygroup.co.uk or email pandatoyale@yahoo.co.uk. We raise much more from donations, so please have a clear out and consider us!

AGM: - Wed 22nd October 8pm. Royal Oak

Ugly Bug Ball: Thursday 23rd October 4pm-5pm or 5pm-6pm

Family Photo Session: Saturday 8th November 9am 5pm. Whitebox are back for copyright free professional photos of your family. Look out for sign-up sheet/flyers.

Appeal for resources! – Thanks!



containers with lids (eg. Takeaway containers)

CD Player – for children to use.

Milk crates,

storage trolley with wheels

Fundraising Target for 2014/15: £5000

Raised so far: £0. Still to raise this year: £5000



We have a Facebook Closed Group "Panda Playgroup, Sticky Mitts & Tiny Tots - Parents & Carers Group" which allows Staff, Committee, Parents & Carers to have a more confidential area in which to discuss the sessions or their children. If you would like to join please search for us and ask to become a Member.

You can also find us at:



www.pandaplaygroup.co.uk



Committee News

Welcome Back! Hello everyone. Welcome back to Panda after the summer break. The committee have all enjoyed the summer break with our families and are raring to go for the new half term. Autumn term is always busy and lots of fun for the children, families, staff and committee as we start fundraising for the year, look forward to lots of fun events and prepare for the AGM.

We're also planning to organize a social event one evening. We will put out sign-up sheets soon and hope to see lots of you there.

AGM and Committee Recruitment: I hope that you saw my video the other day (posted on Facebook and emailed). For anyone who didn't see it, I'll summarise the basics here. Panda Playgroup (which includes Sticky Mitts and Tiny Tots) is run by a committee of volunteer parents and carers. The children of many of the current committee have now left to start school. This leaves us in the, thankfully rare, position of needing to recruit a Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and about two general committee members. We must have a minimum of five committee members, including Chair, Treasurer and Secretary in order to operate. Every one of you as parents/carers of children at Panda Playgroup, Sticky Mitts and Tiny Tots, has skills you can bring to the Panda committee and we need your help. If you and your children value our playgroup please consider standing for a position on the committee at the AGM in October. It's a great chance to get involved with your child's Early Years education, have some fun, make new friends and gain new skills and experience. All we ask is a little of your time, willingness to get involved and help out as part of a team. For further information on any of the roles please email pandaplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk or ring me on 07957 208212. Thank you. **Marge**

How to get in touch

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