

# KINETON PLAYGROUP NEWSLETTER



24 October 2024

## THIS WEEK AT PLAYGROUP

Preparations for Christmas are underway with lots of festive songs and dancing! We have been painting poppies and talking about Remembrance Day this week. You can see them hanging proudly in our windows! If you have any family or home traditions related to this time of year that you would like to share, do let us know as we would love to share them at playgroup.



## BAGS2SCHOOL - 11 NOVEMBER

Remember the Bag2School collection on Monday 11 November to raise funds for playgroup and KASC. Collect your old but usable clothes, bags, shoes, etc.

## APPEAL - THINGS TO COLLECT

While doing a pre-Christmas sort and collection for Bag2School, first check for

- any fancy shoes or bags which the children could use for dressing up at playgroup and KASC
- any soft toys for the Victorian evening box tombola

Bring them to us in a separate bag please.

Also if you see any pine cones when out and about, please collect pine cones and bring to us for loose parts play and craft activities.

## KINETON VICTORIAN EVENING CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE

Tickets on sale at playgroup now at £1 each, individually or a book of five, cash only please; playgroup will benefit from 50% of any sales made here, with the other 50% going to other local charities. If you feel able to sell tickets to friends or family, please ask for extra raffle books.

## DEVELOPING INDEPENDENCE

Do ensure that all of your child's clothing is named for Playgroup. It can get very confusing when there are lots of similar looking coats, hats, gloves, lunch boxes etc... Help support your child to develop their skills by letting them carry/wear items into playgroup sessions, and to put them away in the correct places themselves so they know what they have to find later and where it is.

## SCHOOL APPLICATIONS 2025

The portal for school applications for September 2025 opened on 01 November until 4pm on 15 January 2025.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/homepage/421/applying-for-a-primary-school-place>

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

**Christmas Performance:** 10.00 to 11.00, Tuesday 03 December, Primary School Hall  
**Christmas Party:** 9.45 to 12.30, Friday 20 December, Helen's Place

All children are invited to both events, whether not they fall on their usual sessions. Parents and friends are invited to watch the performance (about an hour), but not the party. More details will be included in your invitations, but please make a note in your diaries now! If you know your child will not be able to attend either event, please let us know, to help us with planning and logistics.

**Christmas Church Services:** 1-2PM, Monday 18 November St Francis Church and 10.00 to 10.45AM, Monday 16 December, St Peter's Church. All invited, meet at the church.

## KEEPING SAFE AND HEALTHY - TOP TIPS!

**Portion size:** Research by Paediatric Dieticians and Nutritionists show that when we feed our children larger portions, this forms an acceptance about what is an appropriate amount to eat and becomes the 'norm'. In other words, how much you offer often determines how much your child will eat - and habits learned in early life generally persist as we get older. Click the link to find out more: <https://www.infantandtoddlerforum.org/portion-sizes-table-2015>

**Social Media:** As more of our lives seem to move online, do continue to be 'Internet Aware': monitor what your children are accessing, watch out for potential frauds and scams on all platforms and be careful what you post/ share and who might read or see it. In particular be alert to anything that might identify your child and their movements. [Click here](#) for the UK Safer Internet Centre, with useful tips to help you to ensure your children's safety online.

**Accident prevention tips:** One of the worst ways for small babies and small children to be injured is when being carried by an adult who slips or trips, so keep one hand on your baby and one hand on the bannister when going up and down stairs.

**Sleep:** Individuals are different but research shows that children actually need more sleep than adults, even if it seems the other way round! Lack of sleep may make children seem hyper-excited rather than sleepy. Studies show that regular bedtime routines are key and that behaviour and health improves and better learning takes place after better sleep (easier said than done!). Screen lights can affect both falling asleep and the quality of sleep, so turn off televisions, computer, phones and tablets an hour before sleep (or longer if you can).

**Every mind matters:** Mental health fitness can help us feel better, sleep better and support us in doing the things we want to do. Common mental health problems include: stress, anxiety, low moods, and sleep problems. Click [here](#) to find out more about organisations that can help.

## HOLIDAYS AND ABSENCES

Let us know as soon as you can if your child will be absent from any session. We keep records of attendance and reasons for absence for all children for safeguarding and funding reasons. Absences without explanation may result in your funding being withdrawn by WCC, and a demand from them for re-payment of the equivalent fees.

## ONE WAY SYSTEM AT PLAYGROUP

Please remember to follow the one way system at the beginning and end of playgroup sessions - come in through the gate nearest the main school gates and out through the gate nearest Market Square. This makes it much easier for the children to put their lunch boxes and water bottles away and for us to welcome all of them in turn. A further plea - please use the footpaths around the car park rather than walking through the parking area.

<b>Autumn term 2024:</b>	Monday 09 September to Friday 20 December 2024 Half term: Monday 28 October to Friday 01 November 2024
<b>Spring term 2025:</b>	Tuesday 07 January to Friday 11 April 2025 Half term: Monday 17 to Friday 21 February 2025
<b>Summer term 2025:</b>	Monday 28 April to Friday 18 July 2025 Half term: Monday 26 to Friday 30 May 2025
<b>Autumn term 2025:</b>	First day of term - Wednesday 03 September 2025 (tbc)

