

KINETON PLAYGROUP NEWSLETTER



21 November 2024

THIS WEEK AT PLAYGROUP

On Monday afternoon we visited the Catholic church of St Francis in the village. Ruth and Maggie told us about the pope and gave us some books to bring back with us. We had a go with some instruments and played along to the music. On Tuesday, the sudden weather change prompted us to get out books about snow and we even had a visit from some penguins and polar bears in the small world area. We went on a snowy walk around the field, where we saw different tracks left by the wildlife and had a go at making snowmen and throwing snowballs. The children have loved exploring the snow and watching the process of freezing and melting as the days have gone on.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

Children in Need: We raised over £120.00 for Pudsey!

PLAYGROUP'S CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Playgroup will be running a Christmas Raffle. Tickets on sale at playgroup from 25 November with grand prizes of two chocolate hampers donated by Lynda. Tickets are £2 each, 3 for £5 or 6 for £10.



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Christmas Performance: 10.00 to 11.00, Tuesday 03 December, Primary School Hall
Casting details and invitations were sent home yesterday, rehearsals in full swing!

Christmas Party: 9.45 to 12.30, Friday 20 December, Helen's Place

Party invitations will be set out next week.

Christmas Church Services: Monday 16 December, St Peter's Church. All invited, meet at the church.

KINETON VICTORIAN EVENING CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE

Please return your all raffle books (including unused books) and cash by Wednesday 27 November so we can pass them onto the event organisers. If you feel able to sell tickets to friends or family, please ask for extra raffle books.

BOOK ADVENT CALENDAR

A great idea from a playgroup mum! We have wrapped up lots of books, numbered 1 to 24, and will be giving a numbered book to children at playgroup every day they attend in December. These are not new books, just playgroup books we have available to borrow - the excitement is in the unwrapping! You are welcome to keep them or return after reading to the Book Exchange by the office window. You can join in by adding a special Christmas story book at home yourself for Christmas Eve.

PROTECTING YOUR CHILD - SAFEGUARDING & KEEPING SAFE AND HEALTHY

Internet Safety [Click here](#) to visit the UK Safer Internet Centre. This contains lots of useful information to help you to ensure that your children remain safe online.

The most important things to remember are that:

- children seem to have a natural attraction to and ability with technology, so they want to use it as much as they can
- they have no real concept of risk, and to them the whole world is an exciting place - perhaps thankfully, they do not understand that there are some really nasty people out there who will tell lies to them on line and do them harm, so it is up to us to worry about that for them
- make sure your children use any digital media devices where you can see them - ie supervise them using the internet highway as you would them using a physical road
- check the browsing history on any devices
- control is lost on anything uploaded - once it is posted it can be used by anyone

Remember that open replies to Facebook posts are public and can be read by anyone so use a direct message instead.

Hand washing: Help us to limit the spread of infection by washing your hands, and supervising your children to wash theirs, just before and after coming to playgroup or school. We practice lots of hand washing with the children while they are here as well!

Exclusion times: If your child has sickness or diarrhea, please keep them at home until at least 48 hours clear from the last 'episode'. If they have a specific illness, such as hand, foot and mouth disease, please check with us for the period of time they have to stay away - we have a whole list from the Health Protection Agency. Although we are able to administer prescribed medication if your child is otherwise well enough to come in, we do not administer any over the counter medication (including Calpol). In general (exceptions being issues such as injuries), if your child needs to take Calpol to bring their temperature down or otherwise appear well enough to come to Playgroup, they should in fact be at home.

Glue ear: This is a prime time of year for children to develop glue ear, following colds or other viral infections; roughly 1 in 5 pre-school children have glue ear at any one time! Symptoms include changes in behaviour and sleeping patterns, to becoming more tired and easily distracted, asking to turn up the volume or them shouting themselves. If you are concerned do speak to your Health Visitor or GP - although it may sort itself out, glue ear may require further intervention. A top tip to help is to encourage your children to learn to blow their noses, rather than sniff or wipe them.

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

