

Shaw Ridge Playgroup Newsletter

Term 3 - January - February 2018

**IF YOUR CHILD IS NOT GOING TO BE IN PLAYGROUP FOR ANY REASON,
PLEASE RING US/TEXT AND LET US KNOW - 07712 713369**

Week Commencing	Sound of the Week	Colour of the Week
2 nd January	S	RED
8 th January	A	BLUE
15 th January	T	YELLOW
22 nd January	P	GREEN
29 th January	I	PINK
5 th February	N	BLACK/WHITE

Happy New Year everyone! We hope you had a lovely Christmas break? A very warm welcome to our new children and their families, we look forward to getting to know you all.

TERM DATES

Tuesday 2nd January to Friday 9th February 2018. Term 4 starts Monday 19th February.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT/CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

It was lovely to see so many of you at our concert; we hope that you enjoyed it. HUGE thanks to all of you who bought raffle tickets and donated items. We raised £164 from the raffle and £30 from the colouring competition. The ladies would also like to thank you for all the presents and cards we received.

EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS

Did you get a new phone for Christmas? Please let us know if your telephone numbers have changed. Are your other emergency contact details still correct? If there is an emergency we need to be able to get hold of you quickly, please come and check if you are unsure.

KEYWORKER APPOINTMENTS

Thank you for attending these in December, we hope you found the information provided useful. It was also lovely to receive feedback about the types of activities your children enjoy at playgroup. We shall be holding the next meetings before Easter.

STAY AND PLAY

**These sessions run for the first half an hour of each session,
i.e. 8.50 - 9.20 and 11.50 - 12.20.**

**TUESDAY 16TH JANUARY WEDNESDAY 24TH JANUARY
THURSDAY 1ST FEBRUARY FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY**

E-SAFETY

There has been lots in the news lately about how much free access to the internet children as young as 3 and 4 have via their parent's smartphones/I pads etc. There are obviously many risks and dangers to this. Safer Internet Day is 6th February so we will be doing some activities with the children about how they can keep safe. However, they are more likely to be on-line at home so you can find more information and ideas on keeping your family safe here:

<http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/sid-2017/exploring-power-image-digital-youth-culture>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety>

<http://www.vodafone.com/content/parents.html>

URGENT - PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

Please remember that if your child is due to start school September 2018, you MUST apply by 15th January 2018 for their place. Details and more information on Tapestry.

PUBLIC HEALTH CAMPAIGN - 'LOOK FOR 100 CALORIE SNACKS, TWO A DAY MAX'

We have shared some important information on Tapestry regarding this.

IMPORTANT - NEW SHOW & TELL

We teach the 'phonic' sound of each letter, not the letter name, for example, if you are bringing something for the sound "a" then an apple would be suitable but an aeroplane would not. Similarly, for "i" an igloo is great but an iron isn't. Thank you so much for your support with this.

We have reviewed our practise and have decided to make this time more focussed in-line with our weekly sound and shape/colour of the week.

THEREFORE, PLEASE TAKE TIME TO FIND SOMETHING AT HOME WHICH RELATES TO THESE ONLY.

For example, in the first week please bring in something which either begins with s or is a circle - or be super clever and in bring something which is both!

Show and tell is a very important part of your child's development as it encourages:

Good listening skills

Turn taking

Self-confidence

Speaking in groups

Awareness of self and others

Please encourage your child to participate!

HONESTY LENDING LIBRARY/DUAL LANGUAGE BOOKS FOR SHARING

We have a box of books in the lobby which you are very welcome to borrow and share at home with your child, just help yourself. **We have put new books in for this term.** Please remember to return them when you have finished so that other children can borrow them. Please do not forget we have a wide range of Dual Language books that you can now borrow too. A list is displayed on the notice board. Please speak to the ladies if you require any further information or would like to borrow one.

WEBSITE

Please take time to have a look, don't forget you can find lots of information such as policies, prospectus, term dates, information about the Early Years Foundation Stage and copies of

newsletters. There is also a links page with lots of different websites which may be of help or interest to you: <http://shawridgeplaygroup.org.uk/>

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS

Whilst our main role is to provide care and education for your child, we would like to remind you that we are also here to offer support for our families. Should you require any help or guidance in any aspect of your child's welfare please come and talk to the ladies. We have a wide range of experience and training and if we are unable to help you directly we can certainly find out the details of someone who can! Any matters will be dealt with in the strictest of confidence. **We can also offer support and guidance to enable you to support your child's Next Steps at home.**

OPEN DOOR POLICY

Please remember that we have an open door policy, this means if you have any questions, concerns or queries, please just come and speak to one of the ladies. We are here to help!

WANTED PLEASE:

(Huge thanks to all of you who donated last term!)

More donations of any of the following would be hugely appreciated!

Tissues (we still use so many boxes of these!!)

Craft items Coloured paper/card Laminating Pouches

Glue sticks Double sided tape Sellotape

Thank you!

THE PLAYGROUP LADIES