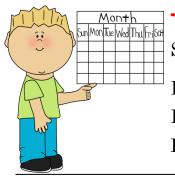


Newsletter Summer Term 1 2022





Term Dates:

Summer Term Starts: Mon 25th April 2022

Bank Holiday - Playgroup CLOSED - Mon 2nd May 2022 Break up for Half-Term - Friday 27th May 2022 Return for 2nd Half of Summer Term - Monday 6th June

Dates for your Diary:

Tuesday Afternoons - (from 26th April) - Transition Hour Weds 11th May - PM - Playgroup photographer in Thurs 12th May - ALL DAY - Playgroup Photographer in Weds 18th May - Dinosaur Day Fri 27th May - Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration (details to follow)

WELCOME BACK to all our families and a BIG 'Hello!' to all of our new starters this term.

We hope you have all had a chance to see our beautiful new Outdoor Art Room and look forward to creating some beautiful things with the children in it.

Tuesday Afternoons - Once again, this Summer term we are working with St Margaret's Reception classes to have an hour's free-flow play on a Tuesday afternoon. Two of our staff swap with two of theirs and the children from both areas are free to play in either area.

We have found that this relaxed atmosphere for a whole term hugely benefits our older children's transition to school, whether they will be attending St Margaret's or not.

To see classrooms with small tables, chairs and toilets, to be allowed to move outside freely and often, as well as having lots of space outdoors, is very reassuring for the children and they soon see that there are no 'scary' changes when moving to school. We find, in general, our children transition really well and settle quickly, largely due to these afternoons.

Photographer - Our usual DBS checked Playgroup Photographer will be visiting us on Wednesday 11th May (PM) and Thursday 12th May (all day), to accommodate as many children as possible.

If your child does not attend on these days but you would like them photographed (this is more likely with morning children) then please talk to Sue or Tara and we can arrange for you to bring them in just to be photographed. Siblings are also welcome to join in if available.





Dinosaur Day - Wednesday 18th May, all day

Today we will have lots of fun Dinosaur related activities going on. Feel free to dress your child in any dinosaur clothes they might have but this isn't a necessity.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations - Friday 27th May

More information to follow nearer the time but we will be celebrating during the day and also hoping that our older children may be joining in with an outdoor celebration at St Margaret's, which we are keen to invite parents to, if possible.

St Margaret's Car Park - As many of you have noticed, St Margaret's have recently installed electronic gates on their staff car park. They are continuing to ask parents to park on surrounding roads and come in on foot through the pedestrian gate. As the car park is theirs, we have said we will inform our parents of the new procedures. Thank you for your understanding.

Summer Sun - As the Summer progresses we are hoping for lovely weather. You are welcome to look at our sun procedures online but we ask for all children to bring a named sunhat that they will be strongly advised to wear (not always possible with our youngest children).

Our expectation is for children to be brought in with a strong suncream already applied and suitable clothes. For example, strappy dresses on a very hot day are not as suitable as capped sleeves or a t-shirt, Crocs / flip-flops can cause tripping so summer sandals etc. are preferable.



Named suncreams can be left in children's bags and the older children may be able to apply their own top-ups. We will assist appropriately if needed. We also keep some cream here ourselves for emergencies. We

do not want to stop children enjoying the outdoors so will apply to any child that looks like they could be going to burn unless we have had reasonable instruction from a parent as to why they would not want this.

We are happy to top up children's water bottles whenever they ask too.

Please provide a change of clothes in a small bag to go on your child's peg (including underwear and socks) as we're all very fond of water play on sunny days!

Snack Pot - A reminder, as last term contributions were quite low. We provide a healthy snack mid-morning for all children. Please help us by putting a small monetary contribution in the pot outside the front door on a pro-rata basis. Many thanks.

New Bumps & Bruises book - We have a new 'Bumps & Bruises' book in our office. If your child comes to Playgroup with a minor injury of any kind that has been sustained outside of Playgroup hours, then please inform a member of staff when you bring them in and they will assist you in filling in the details for us. This helps protect everyone so thank you for your cooperation.

After School Club - Last term I sent out a questionnaire regarding a proposed After School Club to possibly run between 3 and 5pm. Unfortunately, we only had a few takers and it is not enough for us to be able to run. I understand that mid-year was not ideal and many of you had already sorted childcare. In the next newsletter, I will repeat the offer for our carry-over children to next year and see if this makes a difference. Sorry if you were disappointed this term.

And Finally...

By now, all of our 'older' children will have been allocated a school for September. It is really useful for us to know who is going where, as quickly as possible so that we can prepare the best possible transitions for them.

If your child is going into Reception this year, please fill in and return the slip below to me, as soon as possible.



Many thanks

Sue & the Team

My child ______

Has been allocated -	<u>_</u>	school to attend from

September 2022.

Please advise of anything else you'd like to tell us regarding this allocation:
