

Tuesday Afternoons

For most Tuesday afternoons this term, we have agreed 'Transition Hour' with St Margaret's Primary School. During this time our adjoining gates outside are opened and their Reception children and our afternoon children are free to use both spaces. We also send a couple of staff up to Reception and they do the same with us. We find this is a great tool for successful and smooth transitions and takes away fears and worries of what school might be like as they will have had so many opportunities to play outside and in, during this term. Even children not going to St Margaret's benefit as they see the free flow set up is similar to ours and will be at other schools, toilets are small and teachers are nice etc.



During the second half of the Summer Term, children going to St Margaret's or other primary schools will also be invited to various play / story times. Please let us know when you do, if your child is leaving early or not coming in as it helps us for grouping and keeping track of all children safely.

Also, at the end of this letter will be a form where you can tell us which primary school your child will be attending and also a tick box to allow us to share information such as Learning Journals to their feeder schools which again, will aid your child having the best possible start to school.



Oral Health Promoter - Claire Brown

Claire will be visiting our Baby & Toddler Group on Thursday 16th May. She will have lots of useful advice and I am sure some freebies! If parents of any of our children would like to pop in after dropping off their children, then she will be here at 9am. She recently spoke to myself and other Pre-School Managers at a Network Meeting and has lots of really interesting, up-to date info. She is also coming in on Monday 20th May during the afternoon to talk to our older children about Oral Health.

Dinosaur Day - ALL DAY - Friday 17th May

Today will be Dinosaur themed with lots of fun Dino activities and resources on offer. If your child has Dino themed clothes, then it would be lovely to see them in these today.



Summer Weather

We are hoping that during this half term the weather will be warming up and the rain will finally stop for a while.

Once the sun does eventually start shining, we ask all children to arrive with a clearly named sun-hat which we encourage the children to wear whilst playing outdoors. Shoes should be sensible so that they can run, jump and climb safely; please avoid wellies, crocs, flip-flops or Birkenstock types of sandals. Girls wearing Summer dresses should avoid spaghetti straps and have shoulders covered if possible.

Our policies state that our expectation is that children should have sun cream liberally applied to any exposed areas **before** arriving at Playgroup. Some older children have extra in their rucksacks which they can apply later in the day if needed. We always keep sun cream at Playgroup and our policies state that any child we felt needed it, would have some applied by us, rather than stop them accessing the outdoors.

Water bottles should contain water rather than juice and we will always top up if empty.

May Day

We are waiting to hear from St Margaret's about what their celebrations will be and when. We usually join in with our older children starting the proceedings with a dance. More info to follow but this is often on the last day of half term.

Fees

Most families access or will access some sort of government funding but for those that do not, there will be a fee increase from £5.50 to £6 per hour from September 2024. This is still a very competitive rate compared to many other providers but unfortunately necessary, due to economic factors.

And Finally...

A big **WELCOME** to new families that have started this term. Early days but so far we are having a lovely time welcoming them in with no tears and lots of happy little faces.

A few reminders for new families:

Snack Pot - 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 or donations can be made via online banking with the reference 'SNACK' to:



Account Name: William Older Playgroup Sort Code: 30-95-09 Account Number: 00626350

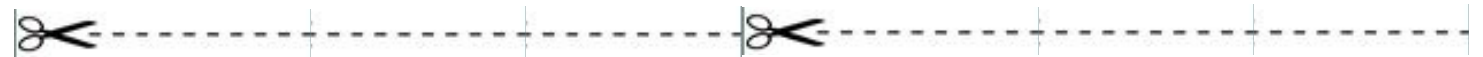
Illness - It is our policy that all children should be kept off for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness and/or diarrhea. This is to protect other children and staff alike. Children who also on antibiotics or taking Calpol are also much more comfortable at home so please do keep them off when they are poorly so they can fully rest up.

Facebook / Instagram -



For new families, we use our Facebook and Instagram pages to help keep you up to date with all the exciting activities your children are experiencing. We know it's not for everyone but if you change your preference and are happy to let your child be featured in our posts, then please let us know any time. Please 'like' and 'follow' us and our posts as it gives us an indication of our audience.

Sue & the Team



My child _____

Has been allocated _____ school to attend from
September 2024.

Signed _____ Parent / Carer

(Please tick to consent) I agree to Journals / Transition info being shared with feeder schools. (Schools that take journals, usually pass them back to you during the first term and for any schools that do not want to use them, we will pass straight to you at the end of term).