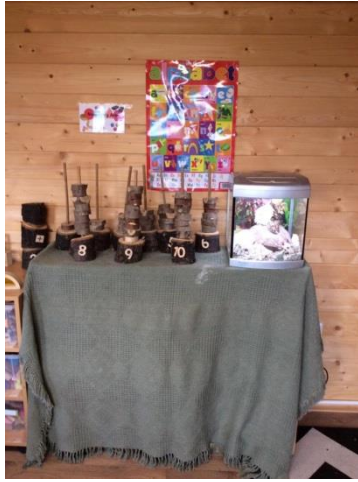


### This week at playgroup

We have been very busy at playgroup this week and you will have seen from our Facebook posts that Tania has been transforming the cabin into an amazing space for the children to explore.



The children have also enjoyed lots of different activities including hunting for worms, painting, exploring items trapped in ice, dinosaurs in cereal and using the emotion stones to talk about feelings. Don't forget to check Babysdays to see what your child has been getting up to every day as well as our daily notes and observations.



We have also taken delivery and ordered some exciting new equipment for the children. The new Easel has been enjoyed by the children today for the first time and the children have loved mark making and using different writing tools such as chalk. We are also excited about finally having an outdoor sink and permanent sandpit – so watch this space! All of these purchases have been possible due to all of our fundraising and Co-op sponsorship. So many thanks for your support.

## REMINDERS

**Welly Boots** – please refrain from sending your child to playgroup in wellies, it makes physical activity very difficult for them. You are welcome to send in boots in case it rains or we go for a muddy walk.

We have changed the routine slightly as of this week so please can you ensure that after dropping bags etc. off in the boot room, that you bring your child to the main room for registration.

We are also going to be more spontaneous with our trips to the woods/walks so please make sure children are dressed for the weather and/or have extra clothes and wellies in their bags.



## Coffee & Chat

We would like to invite you to our **first coffee morning of 2020 on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January at 9:30 in the White Hart CSG**. This will be an opportunity to meet Tania the new manager and also meet the Trustees and other mums/dads/grandparents/carers. ALL are welcome, if you have children then they are welcome too. We look forward to seeing lots of you there.

### Extra Sessions

Sessions are filling up with some sessions nearly at full capacity. We try where possible for extra sessions to be granted but please try and give as much notice as possible. Now is the time to add extra sessions if you are thinking about it as next term we expect to be full. Please inform Sarah via email and we can fill out the relevant paperwork for you to be invoiced.

### **PLAYGROUP IN THE WOODS**



All children who attend Playgroup have the opportunity to attend regular sessions in the woods, we alternate each week to go on a different morning. The children arrive dressed appropriately for the weather, there is a head count and then they are free to go across the field to our first meeting point on route to the woods, at our first meeting point Sammy Squirrel goes over the 3 rules of Woodland Warriors

1. No pick – no picking any plants, leaves off trees, children can collect resources off the floor.
2. No lick – there is access to hand washing, so children aren't allowed to put their hands or fingers in their mouths
3. STOP – stopping immediately if they are told

Our second meeting place is at the entrance to woods, here the children are reminded about the boundary and our stop signs indicating how far the children can go. As a group we then make our way to base camp.

Base camp is where the children gather at the start and the end of the sessions. Base camp is also where the children will enjoy a healthy snack. Sessions are child initiated we supply resources like bug kits, paint brushes and buckets, tree and plant identification cards and den making equipment.

**Please dress your child appropriately for the weather and please remember to bring a change of footwear for when we return at the wellies get very muddy.**

A reminder to please contact playgroup using the following number only **07960278409**

**Email contact** [csg\\_playgroup@btinternet.com](mailto:csg_playgroup@btinternet.com)

**Website** <https://csgplaygroup.co.uk/>

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/csgplaygroup/>

**We still have spaces for Forest School EVERY THURSDAY 1-3 from September. £17 and £8.50 if you wish to use your funded hours**

**Free early education and childcare**

In England some 2 year olds and all 3 and 4 year olds are eligible for 15 hours free early education and childcare. In addition some 3 and 4 year olds are eligible for up to an additional 15 hours. This is for 38 weeks a year but may be stretched to enable you to claim less hours over more weeks.

The date in which your child can start claiming 15 hours of free childcare depends on when their birthday is:

<b>Child's Birthday</b>	<b>When you can start claiming</b>
1 January to 31 March	Summer Term (from 1 April)
1 April to 31 August	Autumn Term (From 1 September)
1 September	Spring Term (From 1 January )

Funded places are available through a range of providers including Childminders, Pre-schools, Day Nurseries, Maintained Nurseries and Schools with nursery classes or earlier years provision who are approved by Buckinghamshire County Council to deliver funded places.

[Find more information about participating providers in your area.](#)

What is 2 year old funding?

Based on a range of criteria the funding gives your child up to 15 hours a week of learning opportunities in a play based, safe and nurturing environment. This gives your child the chance to mix with other children and perhaps try out activities which may not be possible at home. It also gives you, the parent, 15 hours a weeks to study, return to or look for work.

[Find more information about 2 year old funding](#)

[Check your eligibility](#)

What is 3 and 4 year old funding?

Universal 3 and 4 year old funding

Every child that is 3 or 4 years old is automatically entitled to 15 hours of free childcare the term after their 3rd birthday. As for 2 year old funding, this can only be accessed at approved childcare providers.

Extended 3 and 4 year old funding

The additional 15 hours funding is also known as the '30 hours free childcare'. This is an extension of the 3 and 4 year old funding, but unlike the universal entitlement you must match the eligibility criteria. If you are found to be eligible you will be given a validity code to enable to claim up to an additional 15 hours from a Buckinghamshire County Council approved provider.

[Check if you are eligible for the additional 15 hours funding at 3 and 4 years old.](#)

## Important Dates and Upcoming Events

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 9:30-10:30 coffee morning with Tania(see details above)

Good Friday – Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February – End of half term.

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February – Back to school