



CSG Playgroup Newsletter

10th July 2020



Updates this week

Dear Parents

We are approaching the end of the academic year and what a year it has been. I don't think any of us would have predicted what 2020 had in store for us but we have adapted and are raring to go for the next academic year. We thought it would be useful to share a summary of the year and our plans for September.

Staff

- We welcomed Tania as our Preschool Manager at the beginning of the year. Since then she has implemented lots of positive changes at the setting. One change which parents may be more aware of is the introduction of the tapestry system. This allows staff to track the children's progress against the Early Years Foundation framework. The feedback from parents has been positive about how easy the system is to use and to see what their children have been achieving whilst at the setting.
- A new staff member will be joining in September to bring our team back to full capacity again. We looking forward to introducing her to you in September and we are sure she will be a great addition to our team.

Lockdown

- During the lockdown the staff focused on training and planning.
- Staff have worked towards improving their knowledge in a number of areas such as autism & children's mental health.
- Tania started her Forest School course so she will eventually be qualified to run the Woodland Warriors sessions. This is a positive step for us as we will be able to run Woodland Warriors in house ensuring that we are utilising Tania's love for the preschool & the outdoors to create a great experience for the children.

Reopening

- We were delighted to be able to reopen at the beginning of June and accommodate 13 children back into the setting over 5 mornings a week.

September

- We will be looking to open the setting for 5 days per week, the introduction of Fridays going forward will hopefully help to create more consistency for parents.
- The pandemic is changing ways we implement routine in September. Parents will be required to drop, children at the gate and will not be able to enter the gates for any reason. (more details regarding September to follow)

Fundraising



- We had to cancel our annual Easter Egg hunt & Fun day so we will be looking at ways to fundraise during the new term. As always we will be looking for the support of parents to help us to make these as successful as possible for the preschool. If you have any ideas or suggestions please do get in touch.

A graphic with the words "Wish List" written in a colorful, cursive font. The letters are in shades of purple, pink, and yellow, with small dots scattered around them.

DONATIONS PLEASE

We are on the lookout for technology toys, old used non-working; mobile phones, keyboards, headphones(not in ear) cameras, laptops, telephones etc.

We are also revamping the garden in preparation for September, would anyone have an office desk they would like to donate?

DATES TO REMEMBER – Summer term finishes 17th July at 12pm

Pre School return 9am 3rd September

A poster for CSG Pre School Playgroup. At the top, it says "CHALFONT ST GILES" and "Pre-school PLAYGROUP" around an illustration of a teddy bear and a duck. Below that, it says "CSG PRE SHOOOL PLAYGROUP". The main text reads "WE ARE NOW OPEN FRIDAYS 9-3". At the bottom left is the Ofsted Good Provider logo. At the bottom right, it says "SPACES AVAILABLE FROM SEPTEMBER 2020", "2-5 YEAR OLDS", "FUNDED PLACES AVAILABLE", and "PICK UP SERVICE FROM CSG NURSERY SCHOOL".

CHALFONT ST GILES
Pre-school
PLAYGROUP

CSG PRE SHOOOL PLAYGROUP

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▼

Ofsted
Good
Provider

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MEET THE TRUSTEES

Here is our first instalment of meet the trustees. We hope you enjoy reading a little bit more about our committee. The committee play a major role in running the playgroup and they are all volunteers, who work behind the scenes alongside the staff.

Chairperson: Lindsay Turner

I am Chair of the Trustees and started the role in Spring 2020. My daughter, Sophie, has just turned 4. She's been attending playgroup since she was 3 and starts school at CSG infant school in September 2020. I also have a 1-year-old, George. I used to be a Science teacher but now work part time as a project manager and do some private science tutoring on the side. So I always have a big interest in children's education and enjoy making engaging activities for the children at home. I'm always looking for new ideas and love to see what Sophie has been learning and playing with at pre-school via observations on Tapestry and social media posts. I am a big foodie. I love to cook and eat healthy food and we try to grow some of our own veggies in the garden too. I also love to run as I like to keep fit and get lots of fresh air at the same time!

Sally McClaren – Treasurer

Sally lives in the village with her husband and 2 children. Maggie is 4 1/2 and will start CSG village school this September, and Sam is 2 1/2 and attends playgroup which he loves.

Sally runs her own t-shirt business following a career in fashion buying. She has been a playgroup trustee since October 2018 (i think - maybe check this?!) and enjoys the small role she plays in supporting the charity.

During her (limited) downtime, she enjoys running, yoga, reading and podcasts.

Lucy Webster – trustee

Hello! I am Lucy, I have two cool dudes know as Aaron and Arlo. Aaron is 9 years old and Arlo is 3 years old. Arlo has been attending the playgroup for over a year now and absolutely loves it there. Aaron attends the local Junior school.

I grew up in Harrow but moved to Chalfont St Giles when I was pregnant with Aaron (10 years ago). We love this village! The community is so welcoming and there is always something going on.

My profession is Graphic Design. I'm very fortunate as I see this as a hobby as well as a career. I've worked inhouse for some major companies such as BBC, Unisys and Johnson & Johnson. Over the years I have worked my way up to Design Manager. While at Bristol Myers-Squibb (global pharmaceutical company) I managed a team of over 30 people across 3 countries ensuring alignment across all the marketing material. I then moved on to Johnson & Johnson where I have had the privilege to work with brands such as Johnson's Baby, Aveeno, Neutrogena, Calpol, Clean & Clear and Nicorette (to name a few). Having been made redundant in 2016 I took the decision to go freelance and have never looked back. I continue to work with J&J but now on a global scale and have clients all over the world. It's a real buzz to see products and graphics you have designed instore and online!

In my spare time (which isn't much these days) I breed and show Hungarian Pulis (dogs). I have two UK champions and am currently campaigning my homebred girl. I also like to keep fit and will run when I can. I have completed the London and New York marathons!

HOME LEARNING

It is a bumper SUMMER edition this week, we have lots of ideas and activities to keep you and your little ones busy during the summer holidays.

The resource cards this week are all linked with the same theme, within each one the activities are interwoven and the cards can be used separately or all together.

Throwing - exploring how to make things to throw (safely) and fun games and activities to use them.

<https://earlyyears.buckscc.gov.uk/media/47691/200430-rm-throwing.pdf>

Junk Modelling - ideas for resources and items to collect to have some fun junk modelling time.

<https://earlyyears.buckscc.gov.uk/media/47692/200604-nw-junk-modelling-3years.pdf>

Water Play - simple activities to support water play at home <https://earlyyears.buckscc.gov.uk/media/47694/200608-mf-water-play-lah.pdf>

Nursery Rhymes, The Big ship Sails - a selection of rhymes, stories and activities exploring boats.

<https://earlyyears.buckscc.gov.uk/media/47695/200625-hw-the-big-ship-sails-nursery-rhymes-final.pdf>

Nursery Rhymes, I Hear Thunder - a selection of rhymes, stories and activities exploring the weather.

https://earlyyears.buckscc.gov.uk/media/47700/200703-hw-i-hear-thunder_.pdf

Creativity Outside - a selection of fun activities to support parents to explore creativity with children.

https://earlyyears.buckscc.gov.uk/media/47698/200626-rm-expressive-arts-and-design_.pdf

Bird Watching - linking action songs, story time and craft activities to bird spotting.

<https://earlyyears.buckscc.gov.uk/media/47701/200706-jhjf-bird-watching-lah.pdf>

Early Listening Skills Activities 1 - going on a listening walk, hidden sounds, listening for sound patterns and guessing what's in box?

<https://earlyyears.buckscc.gov.uk/media/47696/200626-hea-early-listening-skills-lah-1.pdf>

Early Listening Skills Activities 2 - pretending you are going to the zoo, Simon Say's, musical games and ideas for sound matching.

<https://earlyyears.buckscc.gov.uk/media/47697/200626-hea-early-listening-skills-lah-2.pdf>

Spotter Sheets

Mini Beast Spotter - can you use this to spot the little creatures outside that help our gardens flourish?

<https://earlyyears.buckscc.gov.uk/media/47699/200703-hs-minibeast-spotter.pdf>

Bird Spotter - can you spot all the different birds in your area?

<https://earlyyears.buckscc.gov.uk/media/47693/200608-jf-bird-spotter-sheet.pdf>

Numbers and Letters Spotter - finding letters, numbers, symbols and words in the local environment.

<https://earlyyears.buckscc.gov.uk/media/47702/hs-lah-walk-numbers-and-letters-spotter.pdf>

30 HOURS FUNDING

If your child is currently entitled to 30 hours of childcare please do not forget to renew your eligibility code even if your child is not currently attending nursery, This is really important particularly if you wish this funding to continue to September.

If your child is 3 or will be turning 3 before the 31st August and you think you will be eligible for 30 hour funding it is important that you apply before the end of this term for the funding to begin in September.

The link for this funding is below but if you need assistance or have any questions please do let us know.

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>



SURVEY

Reflecting on the past year, we are interested in your views in relation to communication to parents. We are always looking to improve and develop as an early years setting and your feedback is extremely valuable.

Please could we kindly ask that you complete the survey below (Anonymously). It should only take a couple of minutes and your feedback will ensure that communication continues to improve and it will also ensure that parents are receiving the right kind of information.

Please copy the following link <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WBHCS5Z> Many thanks for your help

Funding and Forms

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:

A poster for CSG Pre School Open Day. The background is light green with several colorful handprints in shades of pink, orange, and yellow. At the top, it says 'CSG PRE SCHOOL OPEN DAY JULY 17TH 12:30'. Below this is a central image of a brown teddy bear and a yellow duck, both smiling. The text 'CHALFONT ST GILES' is written above the bear, and 'Pre-school' is written vertically on both sides of the bear. Below the bear and duck, it says 'PLAYGROUP'. At the bottom of the poster, it says 'JOIN US AT CHALFONT ST GILES CRICKET PAVILLION' and 'Contact us to book a spot for a viewing and to meet the team.' There is a Facebook icon and the URL 'https://www.facebook.com/csgplaygroup/'. At the very bottom, it says 'csg_playgroup@btinternet.com'.

Child's Birthday	When you can start claiming
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.](#)