



CSG Playgroup Newsletter

4th September 2020



CSG Pre School

Learning through play



Accepting all children from age 2-5

Dear Parents and Carers

We hope you all had a wonderful summer and managed to enjoy some sunshine and fun with the family. We are really excited to be welcoming all of the children back despite it being different to the usual start of term.

You will have received a letter via Tapestry regarding “back to pre-school” procedures. Here are some of the key points below.

A member of staff will welcome your child and their belongings (strictly no toys from home) through the gate, whilst waving goodbye to parents/carers. We will walk them to the hand washing station and clean hands, then on to our newly decorated cloakroom cabin, where a member of staff will be sat with the children reading stories, introducing themselves, singing songs and mini activities to ease the children in.

We will aim to call new parents after 30 minutes to put your mind at rest, as the team know how heart wrenching it can be to see our little ones into preschool without the additional stresses that COVID19 has caused.

CSG nursery collection:

For children who are attending the nursery and being collected by us, two members of staff will walk down to the nursery and collect the children and their belongings. There will be a CSG preschool box for lunchboxes and change of clothes bags outside the nursery. We will collect this and encourage the children to carry what they can back to preschool. We aim to be back at the setting ready for lunch. Your children will then have an afternoon of fun activities with us.

At the end of the day:

The children will be waiting in the cloakroom cabin with their belongings; a member of staff will call the children as we see the adult responsible for collecting on the day. The team member will give a handover of how the child’s day was and inform the adult of anything important. Please keep your distance from the gate until your child is called to avoid congestion and adhere to social distancing rules.

If you have any queries or concerns during the preschool day please do not hesitate to call or text us on 07960278409 we will answer as soon as we have a spare minute from fun activities with the children.

For any questions or queries in the meantime please do not hesitate to contact us: csg_playgroup@btinternet.com

We look forward to welcoming you all in a few weeks’ time.

Tania and the CSG team 😊

NEW GARDEN PROJECT

As some of you are aware we were lucky last year to receive the Co-Op community grant and as a result we have been able to revamp our outdoor garden area. Tania and her volunteers have been busy over the summer and I am sure you will agree it is a massive improvement and one that I am sure the children will enjoy. Here are some photos below to show the before and after. Thanks to Tania for her hard work over the summer and to those volunteers who helped her with the project. Tania is up at the setting this week, making the final touches and she has a big surprise arriving for the children too!! We can't wait to see the children enjoying the new space!



UNIFORM

We have uniform for sale, although uniform is not compulsory.

T-Shirts £7 Sweatshirts £12

COMMUNICATION

There are various ways you can contact us and various methods we use to contact parents and carers.

If you wish to contact playgroup then please call or message **07960278409**

Email contact csg_playgroup@btinternet.com (Admin)

To email Tania (Manager) csg.manager@outlook.com

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

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

You should also have a log in to Tapestry our online learning journal and communication tool. If you are having problems with accessing this please speak to Tania.



How to use Tapestry

We hope that you are enjoying seeing the photos, videos and observations that the staff are busy uploading to your child's learning journal.

Tapestry is an easy-to-use and secure online learning journal helping staff at Little Explorers and families celebrate your children's learning and development.

It builds a very special journal of your child's experiences and journey through their early years. Using photos and videos, staff and parents can 'weave' the story of each child, enabling these memories to be kept as a permanent record. The communication between staff and parents that Tapestry enables helps build a shared understanding of how every child can reach their full potential. You will have the opportunity to download your child's journal at the end of their time at Little Explorers. By then, it will be full of lots of memories and is a lovely keepsake.

Just to let you know that if you are using Tapestry on your phone or tablet, there is a Tapestry app which you can download which is very easy to use. Just search for the name "Tapestry mobile" with the Tapestry logo in your App store.

Once logged in, you will see your child's observations on your home screen in a list – selecting any one of these will open up the observation for you to look at. You are able to "like" or add comments in the box at the bottom of the observation if you would like to – and we love to receive comments! We would also love to see your contributions too. It is easy to add your own photos or observations to your child's journal. Choose the 'Add Observation' option (or the 'plus' icon if using the app) and add the relevant information in the boxes on screen. Photos and videos may be uploaded by choosing the 'add media' option. (Videos have to be less than one minute long). When you have saved your observation, you may go back to the home screen at any time by choosing 'home'. The observation will say "not in journal" until a member of staff has approved it

CSG PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP PRESENTS OUTDOOR
LEARNING
THROUGH PLAY AT

CSG FOREST SCHOOL

Do you want your child to develop their self
esteem and physical confidence?
Do you want them to explore nature in a
woodland environment?

Forest school sessions run on a Thursday
12.00pm - 15.00pm (term time)

£23.50 per child/per session

Includes all activities, water proofs, snacks &
drinks.

Limited places, pre booking essential
csg_playgroup@btinternet.com
07960 278409

At Forest school on a Thursday afternoon (12pm-3pm), we aim to develop confidence, critical thinking, an appreciation of the environment, flora and fauna, physical development... and we mainly have lots of fun!! We try and help the community, we recently helped sow wild flowers around the dell.

Some of our favourite activities also include -hammock balancing, shelter building, using tools, fire lighting, cooking on the fire, treasure hunting, cloud watching, mud kitchen....

If you would like your child to attend Woodland Warriors this half term please email csg_playgroup@btinternet.com and we will send out your invoice and make sure your child has a place.

We still have spaces for Forest School EVERY THURSDAY 12-3 from September £23.50



MEET THE TEAM

Each week we will be introducing a member of the team. First up.....Chantelle our newest team member.



Hi, my name is Chantelle, I am very new to CSG playgroup and I am very excited for this new opportunity in childcare. I have been brought up in Buckinghamshire and still I am living in Buckinghamshire to this day. I am one of three children. I am the eldest; I have grown up around children almost all my life. I have babysat my siblings and babysat for other family friends too which I enjoyed.

I studied at the Amersham school completed all of my GCSEs. I had a set career path of working with children and so I left school to then become an apprentice at the age of 17 to work in a nursery. I realised at this time that I love working with children and I wouldn't see myself anywhere else. I have completed my level 2 in childcare and now on to my level 3 starting here at CSG playgroup.

Some of my hobbies include dancing, boxing, DJing and gardening. Back in 2012 I was part of a Dance school in Chesham bois. Ballroom and Latin dancing which I kept up for a few years and got to my platinum award. But I decided to stop and find a different hobby which was boxing. I attended boxing classes with my sister Ruby and enjoyed going but had to stop due to my GCSE exams in 2017. I know, DJing and gardening sound like very dissident hobbies. But I do these with my grandad and help do discos and parties where I can.

I enjoy being around my family, it's always my happy place.

TRUSTEES

As you know we are a Non-Profit organisation which is run by a group of Trustees. The Trustees form our Committee, who along with the Management team ensure that the day to day running of the playgroup is adhered too.

We are currently looking for a NEW SECRETARY - do you know anyone who might be interested?

The committee meet every few months to discuss any issues, upcoming events and general information connected to the Playgroup.

Please see the list below of who is on the committee for your reference:-Chair: Lindsay Turner

Treasurer: Tony Lord

Secretary: Sally McClaren (resigning)

Other members: Emma Farrell, Lucy Webster and Natalie Zelaey

We would love for new members to join our committee as the more the merrier! If you or any of your family or friends would like to join our team then please let us know. It's a great way to meet parents and be part of the community. If you would like any more information about being a Trustee then we would be more than happy to share this with you.

We would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to our current trustees and all our families who are very supportive to us and we appreciate your help immensely.

FUNDRAISING



As a registered charity, fundraising is a big part of life at CSG pre-school playgroup. Obviously, with the recent pandemic we haven't been able to have our usual events such as our family fun day in May which raises around £4000. We hope that we will be able to hold some events this academic year and continue to raise funds for the children at the pre-school.

We do have other way you can help and we will share these with you over the coming weeks. This week its easyfundraising.org.uk which is another great way you can support us - and it **costs you nothing!**

Take a look at easy fundraising...we get a donation EVERYTIME you shop!

Thank you to everyone for raising donations for CSG Pre School Playgroup with #easyfundraising! If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE. 4,300 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to do your everyday online shopping - at no extra cost to you! Every donation you raise makes a difference to us so please sign up & share today.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/csgpresch/...>

LUNCH BOX IDEASFor those staying all day, quick reminder to bring a lunchbox. We try and encourage healthy eating, we will be posting some ideas and inspirations on Facebook. **A polite reminder that we are NUT FREE so please avoid peanut butter.** All cherry tomatoes, sausages, grapes, blueberries must be cut in half to avoid choking.



Here are some ideas.....

<https://feedingmykid.com/article/34-perfect-preschool-lunch-ideas/>

Important Dates and Upcoming Events

We have lots of dates coming up and it won't be long before the Christmas fun begins 😊

AGM OCTOBER 2020

Playgroup Photos TBC

