



# CSG Pre School Playgroup Newsletter

## 9th November



### This week at pre-school

Dear Parents and Carers

This week at pre school we have had lots of fun, learning all about changes in seasons and over time. We have had some amazing activities set up for the children to explore, play and learn. We have been on nature walks in the meadow to collect some natural treasures.

We have also been learning some makaton sign language and the children are now grasping the signs for our welcome song in the mornings.

We will be learning some new special songs in the coming weeks, so please listen out for your children singing them at home.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all of the staff in the setting as well as Hayley and Sarah behind the scenes for helping to promote our Halloween week before half term. We raised an amazing £125. THANK YOU PARENTS for all of your efforts and pennies spent. We really do appreciate it.

Have a lovely weekend and stay safe.

Tania and the playgroup team.

#### COVID-19 UPDATE

As you will be aware the Government have released further guidance for Early Years settings and Lockdown 2:0 There are not really any changes for how we operate, however we will be sending out a contingency plan and updated policy to parents via Tapestry. These documents will also be available to download via the website.

Please can we remind parents to maintain social distancing when outside the gates at pick up and drop off.



Christmas and pre school photos Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December

End of term Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020



#### FUNDING

Funding forms for next half term have been sent out via email please return this forms **BY THURSDAY** via email or to Tania at the setting. Printed versions are available if this is easier. All of the funding forms can also be found on our website. [www.csgplaygoup.co.uk](http://www.csgplaygoup.co.uk)



**FOREST SCHOOL**  
**Woodland Warriors and Forest Tribe Friends**

**Parent Letter link**

**<https://chalfontstgilesplaygroup.files.wordpress.com/2020/11/ww-fff-awards-2020-parents-note-copy-1.docx>**

**12-3PM EVERY THURSDAY – TO BOOK PLEASE EMAIL  
[CSG\\_PLAYGROUP@BTINTERNETCOM](mailto:CSG_PLAYGROUP@BTINTERNETCOM)**

Hi, Melanie here, I wanted to give you some further information regarding what goes on at woodland warriors and why it is so beneficial for children to get this opportunity to play and learn outside.

Forest School is all about getting out there and children exploring their outside environment, in their own way.

Along with Tania and the team, we have activities which include making dens, exploring and learning about different environments with bug hunting and identification – where can they find bugs and why are they in that area, recognising and identifying different trees from clues of bark, leaf shape, nuts & fruits. Exploring the area, taking ownership of their space and returning each week to their ‘rocket’ under the trees with the bouncy branch, or their ‘motorbike’ a log at the top of a slope which they can sit on with a friends, to see the whole of the Dell area.

Over the last half term we have also been working towards our Ladybird award, a programme which sets ‘small achievable tasks’ to. As there were lots of new children to forest school Ladybird award included – learning the forest school rules, even our quieter children were able to demonstrate they know the rules by their actions and behaviour. Ladybird award also includes balancing and moving around the area, identifying a mini beast, collecting and showing woodland treasures.

Other activities we have been doing this half term are, fire management – using a striker to get a spark to light a fire, using a Kelly kettle to boil water to make hot chocolate, playing leaf snap – can I find a leaf which matches either by colour, shape, size the learning opportunities in the woods are endless! .

Forest school is a holistic experience – the sounds of trees, the Red kites above, smells of the fire & popcorn cooking, feeling the uneven ground under foot or the mud on your hands from scrambling up banks or from mud kitchen.

For children’s physical development, what’s better than a natural playground with climbing to strengthen muscles, balancing for core strength, carrying, commando crawling under rope nets, fine motor skills picking up bugs carefully - to name just a few.

If you would like more information about Forest School and Woodland Warriors – please get in touch.

Kind regards

Melanie

Forest Tribe Friends

07803340096

## Useful Websites to use for Home Learning

- IXL is a great website with an extensive catalogue of English and Maths activities. Starting at Reception up to Year 13.  
[Click here](#)
- Coolmath4kids is an excellent website for younger children's maths. It has a lot of games, as well as quizzes and lessons. Good for the 4 operations!  
[Click here](#)
- NatGeo has loads of interesting articles, quizzes and fact files. As well as a dedicated section for primary resources on History, Science, Geography, English, Maths, Art & Design and PSHE.  
[Click here](#)
- A good one for the older science/history enthusiast; the Discover section of the Natural History Museum website.  
[Click here](#)
- One your children might be familiar with Scratch from school. Its perfect for teaching simple coding.  
[Click here](#)
- A great one for reading and writing; Pobble365 is updated with a new story, picture, questions and challenges on a daily basis.  
[Click here](#)
- NASA Kids' Club has articles, games, pictures, videos and loads of excellent at-home activities!  
[Click here](#)
- NRICH covers all areas of Maths from the Early Years to Secondary school. Lots of thought-provoking and fun challenges as well as useful documents and articles.  
[Click here](#)
- Hungry Little Minds - a resource provided by the government. Activities for babies through to 5 year olds shown through lovely videos.  
[Click here](#)



## TAPESTRY AND HOME LEARNING

<https://tapestry.info/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2020/03/Websites-for-Home-Learning-1.pdf>

Tapestry is a vital tool for communication between the setting and home. Please ensure you are logging on regularly to check out your child's observations, read the memos, policies and also upload your own photos.

Here is an infographic for Home learning ideas and websites.

## PHOTOSHOOT NEW DATE

Our photographer will be in on **THURSDAY 10TH DEC** (Lockdown permitting)

In order for your child to be photographed and to have the opportunity to purchase photos you will need to book a mini session. (see details on the flyer)

If you haven't booked then please make sure you do so you don't miss out not only on some lovely Xmas photos but also a 2020 pre-school photo (in uniform).

Please see attached examples from my shoot with the boys last year.

Snap Happy Babies are amazing at what they do and as you can see from the advert they are very reasonably priced.

If you have any questions please email me [no1germanteacher@gmail.com](mailto:no1germanteacher@gmail.com)

## Christmas Mini Photoshoot

We are pleased to announce Snap Happy Babies are joining Chalfont St Giles Pre-School Playgroup on **18th November 2020**

£5 Shoot fee

Minimum of 2 backdrops

View and purchase your images online within 48hours



Prices: £10x 1 image, £20 x 3 digital images, £35 a Disc of All Images, £45 a USB of All Images  
To book your child to be photographed please go to:

[WWW.BOOKWHEN.COM/SNAPHAPPYBABIES](http://WWW.BOOKWHEN.COM/SNAPHAPPYBABIES)

For more information contact Nicola 07710718564/ [www.facebook.com/snaphappybabies](http://www.facebook.com/snaphappybabies)

## LUNCHBOX IDEAS

Just a reminder that we are a nut free pre school, therefore we ask that the children do not have anything in their lunchboxes containing nuts this includes Nutella and peanut butter. We also ask for you to minimise items in packaging. Children are given a drink at lunchtime, please do not send in juice. Children have access o water all day and receive water or milk at snack times. Please see this link for some lunchbox ideas.

<https://www.parents.com/recipes/nutrition/bento-box-lunches/>

