



October 2017



Orton Wistow Under 5's

Welcome to the new term

Welcome back to what is going to be another busy year!

We have been busy meeting and settling in all our new children and welcoming back some of our old ones.

You should have all received an email over the summer showing all the activities we will be doing. There is also a paper copy on show in the foyer for you to look at too!

Our Healthy Lifestyle theme this term is all about "Our Teeth". We have activities focused around this topic and to help you we have attached a couple of print outs for ideas on healthy meals and when to make the first dentist appointment.

Committee AGM

Thank you to the 7 parents who came to our Annual General Meeting. As you all are aware we need to form a committee in order to continue to run. We were fortunate to have a couple of parents who turned up and was able to volunteer their services to the committee. We still need a couple of more members though! So if you are able to help write our newsletter or volunteer to help fundraise please let us know.

Any help is appreciated, even if it is volunteering a couple of hours at our up and coming Christmas Fayre!

Our elected committee is

Chair—Jamie Heaton

Vice Chair—Tracy Chapman

Secretary—Vicky Brown

Treasurer—Sophie Chambers

Fundraisers—Emma Mehmed, Kathryn Goose, Lisa Hall

Dates to remember

- ☉ Monday 23rd-27th October—Half Term
- ☉ Monday 30th October—Back to playgroup
- ☉ Wednesday 1st November—Dress up Day
- ☉ Friday 17th November—Children in need

Sessions

Playgroup sessions start at 9am and 12.30pm. Please can we ask all parents/carers to arrive promptly. This is to make sure that the session starts promptly.

Lunch hour is 11.30-12.30pm

Sessions finish at 11.30am and 3pm.

We would like to remind parents of our penalty charge notice for being late. We really do not like issuing a late fee but we need to ensure that children are collected promptly. Thank you

Reminders

Please can we remind parents to name their children's belongings clearly. Including, coat, jacket, jumpers and lunchboxes! Wellie Boots are not suitable for children attending all day sessions, please bring alternative footwear to put on before session starts.

To support children's independence and toileting please avoid clothing such as belts, skinny jeans and dungarees.

Please also remember to include an ice block in your child's lunch box especially if arriving at 9am. They are not stored in a fridge.

We would also like to remind you that party invites are your responsibility. Please can you hand these out at either the beginning or end of the session, Thank you.

Phone Number

If you need to get hold of a member of staff (to report absence or to discuss child's welfare) please contact playgroup on 07547907303

For any administrative enquiries (inc change of sessions, fees etc) please call

Natasha on 07760971856 or email

Natasha@owu5.org

Phone messages and emails will be responded to during working hours. Please be considerate to this arrangement.

Christmas Fayre!

Our Christmas Fayre is our biggest fundraiser at playgroup! This years is held on Saturday 2nd December so please keep the date free!

We will be leaving a box in the foyer for any donations to our nearly new sale/tombola or Raffle. More details to come soon!

If you are able to volunteer to help organize the fayre or volunteer your time on the day please let Donna, Jamie, Emma or Tracy know! Thank you

Fundraising!

We are always continuously fundraising to improve the setting for your children. If your employer offers a charity scheme, or local community fund please do ask them!

Also, if you come across anything on Facebook, Twitter or in the paper about fundraising, community schemes please let us know as we can look into applying where relevant. We recently won a competition on Facebook from a company called A Sporting hands. We were nominated to win £100 towards a training session. We have just had a visit from them and the children all loved it! We have another booked in for November. This would not have been possible if it wasn't for eagle eyed parents.

Last year we were given £500 from Norwich and Peterborough to go towards much needed sheds. This was arranged by a parent through her employer.

Thank you!!

Thank you to all the parents last year (and so far this year) who have donated Snack items and taken the washing home to be washed. Little jobs like this is invaluable to us and we really do appreciate it!

If you would like to donate snack items then please leave them in the basket in foyer. Items such as Apples, Carrots, Raisins etc can be donated. Thank you again!

Dress-up Day

On Wednesday 1st November children and staff are welcome to come to playschool in any fancy dress outfit in return for donations to our tombola stall for our Christmas fete.

Items such as bottles, Toiletries, Chocolates or New and un-unopened gift sets etc. Anything suitable for male, female or children is greatly received.

Childcare Options

There are plenty of ways to pay for your sessions at Orton Wistow Under Fives, Such as the Government funded 15 and 30 hours. Some employers also offer childcare voucher schemes, or Childcare Tax Relief. Please see www.gov.uk/childcarecalculator

Online Safety

Donna and Fil recently went on a safeguarding course and the topic of Online Safety came up.

www.InternetMatters.org is a great website which is full of ways to keep children protected whilst online.