

December 2013



CASTLEROCK
PLAYGROUP

NEWSLETTER

Activities / Themes

This months activities are based around;

CHRISTMAS

The Christmas Story, Characters of Christmas, Festivals & Celebrations

THE LEARNING POTENTIAL IS;

To use daily routines to develop new skills, cutting, making models & crafts.

To talk about the season's celebrations with children & adults

INTEREST TABLE

The interest table shall run with the Christmas Theme and will include SPARKLY ITEMS and PHOTOS of Children visiting Santa

Dates for your diary (All Children):-

Tuesday 10th December Post Office Trip to post letters to Santa
If your child doesn't normally attend on this day bring them along at 9.30am

Thursday 12th December Lantern Parade
Meet at 6.20pm at Peter Thompson Hall

Thursday 19th December Nativity Play

Friday 20th December Christmas Party!!!
Playgroup finishes this day and returns Monday 6th January

If any parent feels that they could help out in Playgroup from time to time, please contact Fiona and become one of our Emergency Staff bank. This would require you to be vetted and would enable you to help out at playgroup during staff illness etc.

Christmas Concert

Thursday 19th December 2013 - This year we plan to hold a Christmas concert showcasing a selection of songs. The songs the kids will be singing include Jingle Bells & Merry Christmas. Music sheets have been sent home with the kids, please could all parents, Grannies or Grandads go over the songs with the children. This would be very much appreciated!

Admission charge is £1.50 per adult and the concert will start at 10.15am sharp in the Main Hall. Tea / coffee will follow afterwards in the pavilion.

Welcome - We would like to welcome our new trainees Zara & Emily who both help out in playgroup two mornings a week.



Castlerock Lantern Parade and Tree Light Switch On

Castlerock Playgroup will be taking part in the parade leaving the Peter Thompson Hall at 6.30pm. We anticipate that parents will meet at the hall for 6.20pm and accompany their child, with their lantern, down to the tree for switch on and the arrival of a special visitor. We hope to see you all stay for some festive fun at the fayre!

What a busy month!

On the 10th December we will walk to Costcutters Post Office to post our letters to Santa. The children will need to bring an envelope addressed to Santa Claus, North Pole, SANTA 1 - no stamp required!

Within the envelope will be your Child's Santa list and a self addressed envelope with a stamp attached. Santa may find time to collect the letters himself and therefore all parents are invited to share this special day with their child.

Christmas Cards

At playgroup we are only partly funded by the education board and therefore need to raise funds to cover operational costs. The Christmas cards in past years have played a large part in contributing to these costs.

Playgroup children have been supplied with 5 packs, priced at £3.00 per pack. To date a lot of money has been returned and we would ask if all outstanding monies or unsold packs could please be returned a.s.a.p. If you need more cards, or know of an outlet willing to stock some, we can supply more - please contact Fiona or Janet on 07791537768.

A BIG THANK YOU

This month is a very busy month for the kids, playgroup staff and the committee with organising activities, outings etc. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents who have helped out in many different ways throughout the year and all the parents who are helping out on the committee.

Playgroup staff would like to wish you & your families...



Last Months Activities

We had a positive Social Services Inspection - the report is available in the playroom if anyone would like to read it.

During playgroup we were making patterns and talking about the weather.

We have been learning number rhymes :-
5 Currant Buns, 5 little ducks & 6 fat sausages!

The home corner was turned into a farm and the children developed their roleplay ideas.

We introduced flour and made banana bread.



Coats, hats & scarves

Please ensure that these are sent each day to Playgroup as this will enable us to play and learn outside as often as possible in our fantastic garden.

Lets go fly a kite...

We were talking about and observing the weather on a windy Tuesday so we decided to make kites. We had great fun going outside, holding our kites high & running to make them fly.



Nativity Play / Coffee Morning

Will take place on Thursday 19th December - parents, guardians, grannies and grandads etc. are all invited!

We plan to hold our nativity in the Main Hall and would ask that if anyone has any objections to their child taking part or if their child will not be at playgroup on this day - please speak to Fiona ASAP

Finally Friday 20th December will be the Christmas Party as we finish the end of term.

Keeping you informed

Our notice board displays current information regarding the playgroup - holidays, themes and forthcoming events. Please look for any changes or messages as this is our easiest method of informing parents. If you require further clarification regarding any notices - please speak to a member of staff. Children's names and photographs are not left on the board outside of playgroup hours in accordance with our Child Protection Policy.

Fee Payments

Can you please ensure that all fees are paid promptly on the 10th of each month as this assists the treasurer in completing the banking and reporting.

If you are experiencing difficulties in making payments then please do not hesitate to discuss the situation with Fiona. We assure you that all information will be dealt with confidentially.

Telephone Number 028 7084 8265

Available Monday - Thursday 8.30am - 1.30pm and Friday 8.30am - 12.30pm