

## POTTERS BAR CARNIVAL Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2018



To the Parents and Carers of children attending St John's Nursery Playgroups at St John's Methodist Church and Oakmere School. The time is fast approaching for the 2018 Potters Bar Carnival. It is certainly time to start on the costumes. We look forward to seeing lots of families from both of our settings joining us on the day.



Our theme this year: 'LIFE CYCLES' We will concentrate on the lifecycles of FROGS, CHICKENS and BUTTERFLIES.

We want to make it simple, but effective from a spectator point of view. It can be difficult to see the full effect of the lovely costumes because adults obscure the view of the children, so we ask everyone, including staff, all children attending (siblings big and small) and all adults walking with us, to dress up.

**At playgroup, we will be making with the children:**

**PLEASE LET US KNOW WHICH ITEMS YOU WOULD LIKE FOR YOUR CHILD OR IF WE CAN HELP WITH ANY OF CRAFT ITEMS FOR THE REST OF THE FAMILY**

- \* Headbands with lifecycles ie eggs & chicks/hens; tadpoles & frogs, caterpillars & butterflies. Or for hanging off a hat/cap
- \* Caterpillars made with circles, paper plates which can be stapled or glued onto a t-shirt
- \* Chicks and butterflies made with toilet rolls (to carry or put on buggy or hang off a cap)
- \* Small butterflies, chicks and frogs to pin or clip onto clothing
- \* Large butterfly wings brightly coloured to represent many types of butterfly (maybe even symmetrical) to tie on back
- \* Frogs made with Muller corner yoghurt pots

See our notice board for more ideas of what we have prepared or thought of so far.

**Other suggestions for outfits which you could make at home:** Colourful items and costumes such as:

Decorated buggy or pushchair

- \* Chick: feathers or feather effect with card/paper (remember not all chicks are yellow). Or even roll child in feathers ☺. A yellow (or brown, black) t-shirt with a beak headband or cap. Egg shaped tabard or A-board (we had many different coloured eggs this year including turquoise, brown, white, beige, pinky). Half eggshell with chick popping out
- \* Frog: bubblewrap (frogspawn) with a little back dot in each circle. Black t-shirt for tadpole, coloured costume for Frog (most common is green but we will display pictures of other frogs), with large eyes on hat, cap or headband
- \* Butterfly: caterpillars: green t-shirt, green trousers/leggings, green face/hat (or other colour); cocoons (wrap child in paper);
- \* All: hoola hoop to wear around waist with a mixture of lifecycles hanging down

PLEASE LET US KNOW WHO WILL BE COMING TO JOIN US ON THE DAY. There is a list provided on the notice board, so we can get a rough idea of numbers attending.

I am sure you will have lots of ideas yourselves, but please do use as many of the children's creations as possible which will be available to take home the week running up to the carnival. It's the playgroup/homemade creations that are noticed by the many local people who line the road through the town to watch the parade.

**WHEN:** Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 12-12.15

**WHERE:** Meet in Mount Grace School Grounds, by the Mount Grace Road Entrance, Potters Bar (entrance for the Sports Centre). Please park in Mount Grace School car park at top of school and not in Mount Grace Road as the procession will need all possible space on that road. Or better still - get a lift so no cars are left in the way of the floats -it is a busy road once we are all ready to walk.

**TIME:** No later than 12.15pm as judging will take place at 12.30pm (staff will be there from 12.00).

**BRING:** We recommend bringing a packed lunch and drinks, as there is quite a lot of hanging about before we walk. A (suitably decorated) buggy - it can be a long walk. It's a good idea to apply sun cream before you come as we are often fortunate to have warm sunny weather.

**WEAR:** Costumes as above. In addition, we will have lots of items for the children to hold on the day.

**FINISH:** The whole procession will enter the field at Elm Court and continue into the arena where results of the winning floats will be announced before we are formally dispersed. You can then go and enjoy the Carnival.

**PLEASE NOTE ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT, IN COSTUME!** - the playgroup staff will not be able to take responsibility for the care or safety of any of the children.

Please let us know ASAP if you are able to join us; brothers, sisters and other family members are very welcome too, but please can everyone attending dress to the theme! Please support us - it will be fun!

We are looking forward to a great day and seeing you all there. Contact numbers on the day are 07969 924482 or 07711 510556.

St John's Methodist Church will have a stall at the carnival where you can go for a free drink and some fun activities for your children as well as being able to buy cakes, jams and pickles.