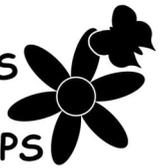


Playgroup News

ST JOHN'S
NURSERY
PLAYGROUPS



St John's Methodist Church • Oakmere School

Spring Term 2019

Baker Street Mobile: 07969 924482

email: enquiries@stjohnsbakerstreet.co.uk

www.stjohnsbakerstreet.co.uk

Facebook: [St John's Nursery Playgroup Potters Bar](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsNurseryPlaygroupPottersBar)



We welcome all the new children and families that have started with us this January. It's lovely to see the new children settling into the busy life of St John's so quickly. Your child's keyworker is available to see you at the beginning or at the end of the session if there is anything you wish to discuss regarding your child or children.

Spring Term Theme

The children will be exploring 4 books this term. They have already had a fantastic exploration into **The Stickman**.

They've made The Stickman with real sticks and they've painted stick men. In the tuft tray, they've picked up bugs hidden under the sticks and twigs, excellent hand eye co-ordination and fine motor skills using the large tweezers. They've threaded beads onto sticks, estimating if the bead is too small to fit and how many fit on the stick. They have measured the length of different sized logs with bricks and counted how many bricks equal the same length or height of the logs.



They are currently exploring the **Three Little Pigs**. Activities around this story will be repeated refrains i.e. saying the repetitive phrases in stories"I'll huff and I'll puff...." Story sequencing next, then, later. They are making a great picture of the three little pigs houses using straw and sticks, the bricks were too heavy for the paper so they are printing bricks from sponges, voice sounds e.g. loud, quiet, high, low, blowing, puffing, cheering, wheeee.

Later this term they will explore **The Gruffalo's Child** and **Elmer in the Snow**.

Mrs Stone has also introduced some great new physical activities. See our Facebook page for photos of the children exploring different movements. Facebook: [St John's Nursery Playgroup Potters Bar](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsNurseryPlaygroupPottersBar)

Sessions for next term

We have a very full summer term ahead, a list will go on the notice board shortly asking if you want more sessions in the summer term however there are only afternoon spaces available. It's a good term to have longer days in readiness for reception.

Snow Conditions

Winter has definitely arrived with these chilly days and northerly winds. In the event of snow, we would like to advise you of our 'snow policy'. If at least two of the local primary schools are closed due to the snow, we will not be able to open either.

Please check our website, Facebook page or phone the playgroup (07969924482) where we will leave a recorded message.



Crackerjacks Fund Raising Event

"Fund raising event
Pyjama & Onesie Fun
Day on Friday 15th
February 2019.



We would love your child, together with the other children and of course the staff team, to take part and join in with the fun and help raise vital funds for disabled children. All you have to do is simply let your child come to nursery ready for this themed fundraising event dressed in pyjamas or a onesie and we will do the rest. Crackerjacks are only asking for a small donation from each child around £2 if possible, this will help Crackerjacks to be able to supply vital specialist disabled equipment such as wheelchairs, wet rooms, Eyegaze systems, sensory toys or a much needed respite break at our new holiday home (Ray's Sunshine Holiday Home) for a disabled child and their family.

Photos on Facebook

We have issued permission forms for photos of your child to appear on our Facebook page. We have received most of the forms back and we know who has requested that their child does not appear, some are happy if their child's face is not visible or at least non recognisable. If you haven't returned your form or if you want to confirm with us your position, then please speak with Mrs Mash.

Staff News

A very warm welcome to Ahdieh Khosravizad who re-joined St John's this term. Mrs Khos, as known by the children, will be a Blue Butterfly.

Stephanie Michael has joined the playgroup and is gaining experience before starting a Level 3 Early Years Educator course alongside Mrs White & Mrs Sime.

Clothing

Please ensure your child arrives at playgroup in appropriate clothing for a fun, messy, outdoor, indoor, painting, gluing, playdough, water, shaving foam, corn-flour, lots of fun kind of day! In this weather they should have a warm coat and sensible shoes (useable inside and outside) as we do go outside in all weathers unless it is really inclement. We have a supply of St John's fleeces, rain trousers and jackets which the children can grab in their haste to go outside and a stock of wellington boots if it is really wet with puddles. You could bring your child's Wellies, clearly named please.



Change of clothes

Can you also bring a change of clothes for your child in a small bag (drawstring gym bags are ideal for hanging 'low' on the peg, allowing room for the coat above).

If children use playgroups clothes and underwear i.e. if they have an 'accident' please could you wash and return the loaned clothes as soon as possible.

Any outgrown clothes would be greatly appreciated please, particularly girls leg-ins and boys track pants (for easy handling at toilet time.)

Illnesses at Playgroup

We have had a number of illnesses since the start of this term. Thank you for parents keeping us informed if your children are unwell and not able to join us. There have been several cases of Chicken Pox, Conjunctivitis, high temperatures, Scarlet Fever, Hand,

Foot and Mouth disease and one case of Molluscum contagiosum.

Molluscum contagiosum is a common and generally harmless condition that causes spots on skin, it is very infectious but cannot be excluded as there is

no 'danger'. It is most common in children and young adults. It can spread to others if the spots are in direct contact with someone else or they share the same item such as a towel. The spots usually appear a few weeks later. For full details visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/molluscum-contagiosum/>

If you need any advice regarding any of these illnesses, we have some literature but it's best you speak with your GP for full guidance.



Volunteers Needed

If you could spare half an hour a week to come a little earlier on a morning session and help us by washing up the children's snack plates and cups, it would be really appreciated.

In addition, we always welcome parent helpers to come and read a book, or do some painting with the children. It's best if your child has already settled in the setting. Please see Mrs Mills or Mrs Mash if you can assist in any way.

Toys...

Children love to 'borrow' toys or items they are particularly attracted to but unfortunately it does leave us with missing jigsaw pieces, missing dice or play money etc. Small pieces are often part of a larger set and can leave an activity very incomplete if many of the pieces are missing.

Please check your children's pockets and return any items that may have 'slipped' into their pockets. We understand and no questions will be asked.



Snack sharing

Thank you to all the parents and carers that regularly bring in a piece of fruit or vegetable for the children to share at snack time.

Creative Church

Creative Church is on Sunday mornings at St John's Methodist Church.



All the family are warmly invited to the informal Creative Church craft mornings which take place monthly in the Rainbow Room. The dates are February 17th, March 17th and April 21st from 10.30am to midday - art, craft, games, cooking, singing, food, bible story, toy corner, crèche and refreshments. All are welcome.

Dates for your Diary

Spring Term 2019

Half term 18th - 22nd Feb

Fri 15th Crackerjack fundraising

4th April 11-12noon Easter Event in the church, all parents & carers welcome.

Fri 5th April is the END of Spring Term.

Playgroup closes at 11.55

Summer Term 2019

Tues 23rd Apr to Fri 19 July

Tues 23rd Apr INSET DAY—closed

Wed 24th Apr all children return

Fri 26 Apr new children induction

14th May - Photographer

Half term 27th—31st May, playgroup closed

Sun 9th Jun - Potters Bar Carnival

Fri 5th Jul - Parent consultations

Thur 11 Jul Summer Farewell Picnic and fundraising event for Great Ormond Street Hospital