



Christmas is only 6 weeks away so for the playgroup that means the annual Nativity Play, the children's Christmas party, Letter to Santa, parent consultations and lots of glittery pictures and cards! Information on all of these activities now follows:

Letter to Santa/Father Christmas



You should by now have received a letter home asking permission for your child to join in the writing to Santa/Father Christmas activity and requesting a 2nd class stamp or 61p. If Christmas is a celebration that you as a family do not celebrate, then your child will not be required to 'write' a letter.

Once the children have written their letters to Santa, we will walk with them to the post box to post their letters using the Walkodile. Letters must be with the post office by Friday 6th December. We would appreciate some parent helpers that week to accompany us on the walk. Extra warm clothing may also be needed if it's particularly cold.



Parent Consultations

Consultations with your child's keyworker will take place on **Friday 13th December**. We will give you your child's learning journal and a brief report to take home earlier in the week; please remember to bring it back with you for your 10 minute appointment.

There is a form on the notice board stating when your 10 minute appointment time will be. This is a time to discuss your child's progress with their keyworker.



Snow Conditions

With winter almost here, there is the possibility of snow. We would like to remind 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 or phone the playgroup (07969924482) where we will leave a recorded message.



Christmas Nativity

**Wednesday 18th
December, 11.15am**

We are planning to perform our nativity event in our St John's Methodist church. All the children who attend St John's Nursery Playgroup are invited to take part. Family and friends are invited to attend this wonderful event, sharing in the celebration of the birth of Jesus. Coffee and mince pies will be served in the Clifton Room from 10.40am and parents can take their seats (entering via the Clifton Room entrance) in the church from 11.00 where you will be able to view pictures from our sessions. If you are able to help serve refreshments before the service, please let us know.



Children who attend on Wednesday should be dropped off at the normal time at 8.55am, the remaining children (ie those who do not attend on a Wednesday) are to be dropped off at 10.40am. Please let us know if your child will be attending (using the form on the notice board) and if your child normally attends lunch club if they will be staying or going home with you following the nativity. (note we finish at 12.55 on this **LAST DAY OF TERM**).

All the children are given the opportunity to wear a costume if they wish and we will not pressure any children to dress up if they don't want to, however please do not feel too disappointed if they refuse or change their mind - remember this is the first of many opportunities they will have to perform! We are looking to borrow some children's dressing gowns on the day, if you have one we could borrow, please bring it in, **clearly labeled**.



The car park usually gets packed so please park considerately and avoid blocking cars in; we encourage you to walk if at all possible. In the past we have allowed parents to take pictures and videos (as unobtrusively as possible please), however we can only allow this with the agreement of all parents - if you have any concerns about this, or any other issues concerning the nativity, please speak to Mrs Mills or Mrs Dean in complete confidence. Videos and photos must not be uploaded onto social media sites e.g. Facebook

Children's Christmas Party

Monday 16th December 12am—2.30pm.

We would like to invite all the children, whether they attend on a Monday or not to join the Christmas party on Monday 16th December.

During the party we will have time for making Christmas crafts and party games. We will provide lunch and finish with Smartie Artie who will entertain the children between 1.30 and 2.30pm in the main hall at the front of the building. The party food will be sandwiches, fruit, vegetables, snacks, and party treats and including fruit squash or water.

We ask for a contribution of £3.00 from every child to go towards the days activities.

- Children who attend Monday mornings arrive at normal time (8.55) but can stay until 2.30pm.
- Children who **do not** attend Monday morning's are invited to arrive at 12.
- Children who attend Monday afternoons, are also invited to arrive at 12.
- Children who normally are with us on a Monday afternoon can stay until the usual 3.00pm pick up time.

In order to make this day possible we will need parent helpers to help us prepare the lunch, set up the rooms and to generally help with the children.

A form will be on the notice board for you to let us know if your child will be attending and if you are able to help on the day

30 Hours Free Childcare

If you are already using the 30 hours free child care and received an eligibility code online, you will need to reconfirm eligibility online by 31st December 2019 by logging back into your Childcare Choices account.

For all new parents who may be eligible for 30 hours for free childcare from January 2020, you also have a deadline of 31st December 2019 to apply for an eligibility code on the childcare choices website.



Annual Stakeholders Meeting

The ASM will be on Friday 29th November at our St John's based at Oakmere school. Please see separate letter. Please join us for the short meeting. The report will be available to read in the Upper Room; if you would like your own copy, please let us know.

Fruit Sharing & Tissues Please bring in some fruit each week for children to share. We will provide the carbohydrates and protein ranging from bagels, crackers, pitta bread, crumpets, popcorn, humus and cheese!



Please could we just remind you that if you put grapes in your child's lunchbox then you must slice them length ways to avoid choking.

We would also be grateful if every child could bring a box of tissues to help us keep the children's 'noses wiped' as much as possible.

Extra session January 2020

If you would like your child to attend more or different sessions from January 2020, please note changes on the form on the noticeboard. If you do not want to change sessions, please write 'same'. We will let you know later in the term whether we have been able to allocate the changed sessions. As we have to ensure we are in ratio we may not be able to accommodate everyone's changes.

Dates for your Diary

Autumn Term 2019

Fri 29th Nov 12.30 - Annual Stakeholders Meeting, all invited at Oakmere School
Fri 13th Dec Parent Consultations
Mon 16th Dec 12-2.30 Children's Christmas party, all children invited
Wed 18th Dec - Nativity Play 11.15am
Wed 18th Dec—LAST DAY OF TERM closing at 12.55pm after lunch club.

Spring Term 2020

Monday 6th January -Friday 3rd April
Mon 6th Jan - Inset day, playgroup closed
Tues 7th - current children return
Fri 10th Jan - new children's first visit 12.20
17th-21st February - Half term
Mon 6th Apr - Easter Holidays starts

Summer Term 2020

Monday 20 April—Friday 17 July
Monday 20th April Inset day, playgroup closed
Tuesday 21st April Current children return
Friday 24th April New children first visit 12.20
FRIDAY 8th May Bank holiday
Mon 25th —Fri 29th May Half Term
Sunday 7th June Potters Bar Carnival
July: Annual picnic/sports day/fundraising
July: End of year party