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E-mail: [jackandjillplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jackandjillplaygroup@hotmail.co.uk)

## NEWSLETTER - TERM 3

01634 717585

Dear Parents

Welcome to all our new children and families that have started since January`25. Children have settled well please be reassured they will get lots of attention until they love us! We have just a few updates for parents.

### LEARNING AND PLAYING OPPORTUNITIES

As always, a reminder that we play and learn all year outdoors. Please make sure your child is suitably dressed for indoor and outdoor activities with plenty of layers. Parents please initial/name everything, hats, gloves, and scarves we have many of the same! Staff will biro names in if identified.

This terms celebrations, activities and learning will include Chinese New Year, Valentine Day, Pancake Day events. Children will be learning about the changes to our world around us as the season changes from Winter to Spring, days of week and months alongside nursery rhymes. Children will have lots of fun creative, mark making and craft opportunities as we progress towards the Easter Break.

# 新年快樂

Happy Chinese New Year

## SEPTEMBER 2025 SCHOOL ADMISSIONS FOR RECEPTION

Please check you have applied for the schools of your choice. If you have not, please contact Medway Council School Admissions to find out what you need to do:

Tel: 01634 331110.



### Afternoon Sessions

We have space available in the afternoon sessions if anyone wishes to add to their child`s sessions, please speak to Sally/Delia.

Reminder of our times of drop off and collection below. Please let us know if you are picking up early or late. We are experiencing an increase in late pick-ups which effects the running of session times. Please be prompt, we may have to start charging a fee for repeat offenders!

#### A.M SESSION:

8:30 am to 11:30am

#### P.M SESSION

12:00 noon to 3:00pm

Lunch Club will run to bridge the session for 30-hour parents 11:30am to 12 noon at a cost of £3:50.

**BREAKFAST CLUB:** Breakfast club from 8:00am to 8:30am. This is a flexible childcare service which parents can drop in on the day at a cost of £3:50 will include choice of cereals, toast, drinks, and activities until the AM session starts.

**Fee prices across our childcare service are as follows:**

**Fee Session price is £16:50 per 3-hour session.**

**Lunch Club price is £3:50 per lunch club.**

**All fees must be paid up to date and in full by the end of each term, a reminder that our policy is not to be more that 2 weeks in arrears. Invoices are sent out**

to parents for the full term`s fees with details how to pay. Parents will receive follow up texts asking for payment if your account is in arrears of 2 weeks.



Playgroup closed for the February Break from Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February, and we return Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February` 25.

Please note our next staff development date is Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April` 25. Provision closed for childcare.

Parents please remember:

30 Hour codes and Two-year-old funding for working parents:

Eligible working parents please renew or apply for your 30-hour codes, they must be valid by the end of the month before a new term starts and must be reviewed every 3 months. Eligible working parents can apply for 15 hours of childcare for their two-year old at [www.medway.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.medway.gov.uk/admissions) and once again must be renewed every 3 months.

For more information on childcare and costs go to the [Childcare Choices](#) website.

Funded forms for children entitled to free 3- and 4-year-old funding after 31<sup>st</sup> March` 25 will be sent out to parents' next term.

## HEALTH INFORMATION



### Health Visitor

Every child under the age of 5 has a Health Visitor. If parents have any concerns about their child's health and development, you can call the Health Visitor service who can undertake an age-appropriate developmental check and give advice. They can be contacted via 0300 123 3444.

### Advice from UK Health Agency

We have been asked to help share the information to parents and carers regarding Measles.



**Protect your child from measles.**

The number of children catching measles is on the rise. Measles is highly infectious and can make people seriously unwell. One-in-five children who catch measles are hospitalised and in rare cases, it can be fatal.

The NHS are asking parents and carers to check their children are up to date with their MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccinations.

Contact your GP practice to arrange any vaccines that your child may be due, especially before they start school or nursery. This is important, as your child will be mixing with more children. If they are not up to date with their jabs, they could be at risk of catching preventable diseases.

If you are not sure what vaccines your child has had, check their red book or contact your GP practice.



The early symptoms of measles include: a high fever, sore red, watery eyes, coughing, a runny nose, aching and feeling generally unwell. [Find out more about the symptoms of measles on the NHS website.](#)

If you have symptoms of measles stay at home and phone your GP practice or NHS 111. This will help prevent spread of the disease.

Thank you for your co-operation.

## SICKNESS WITHIN PLAYGROUP

Thank you to parents for their continued support in delaying the spread of any infections to the children and practitioners.

If your child is unwell, continuous runny nose or continuous cough, their immune system may be lowered so please do not bring them to playgroup. Children will need rest and good hydration at home until they are well again.

Please do not bring children who have had a temperature during the night and required paracetamol/Calpol or any other medication to lower temperature this will wear off very quickly and the children usually tell us!

Do not bring children who have had diarrhoea and or sickness for a clear 48 hours of the last attack.

Do not bring children that have normal childhood ailments such impetigo, conjunctivitis until they have been treated and please let us know. They are very contagious, and we seem to have had quite a few cases recently within the group.

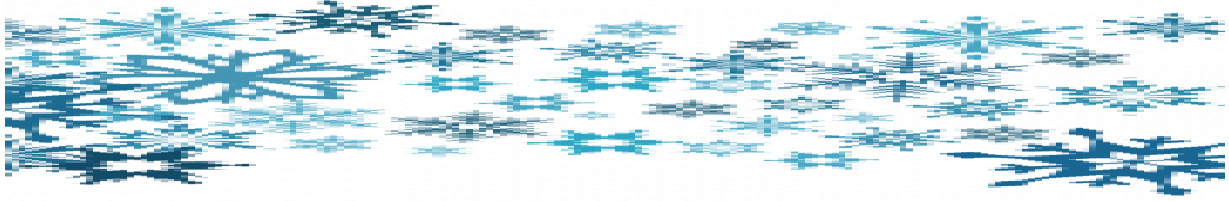
Please remind your children to wash hands with soap regularly and supervise their hygiene routines more closely at home.

Please telephone, email, text and let us know if your child is not attending playgroup for any reason.

**Ensure we have all your up-to-date emergency details, and someone remains contactable while your child is at playgroup.**







## Bad Weather/Unsafe Site Access

If we have no access to the playgroup, if we believe the playgroup site to be unsafe, if we do not have enough staff: children ratio for expected children then playgroup may be closed for childcare. We will endeavour to contact parents on the morning of the closure by text and a message will be placed on the Playgroup website.



## DONATIONS OF UNWANTED TOYS, PUZZLES AND OUTDOOR VEHICLES

If you are having a clear out of children`s toys that are in good condition, inside or out, please consider donating to us. No soft toys please. Creative materials tubes,



fabric, paper, buttons, we can make good use of them and recycle what we can't use. Thank you.



Find us on:  
**facebook®**

*We have a private parent Facebook page. Jack and Jill Playgroup Strood. Please sign up, we post regular photo updates of what your children are doing throughout the week!*

*Thank you for your continued support*

*Delia/Sally*