



## Collaton St Mary Community Playgroup Committee Spring Newsletter

With the Spring term well under way, we thought it was time to give a special welcome to all the new children and their families who join us this term; we hope that you will soon settle in and feel part of our group.

### **Qualifications**

The committee would like to add their congratulations to Lesley and Jane for completing their NVQ3 qualifications. All of the staff have continued to attend courses, to update and extend their knowledge in all areas of the curriculum and child welfare. These courses are mainly provided by Torbay Early Years. Jackie, Lesley and Alison have also renewed their First Aid qualification, thus maintaining the Playgroup Policy to have all staff qualified in First Aid.

### **Playgroup Fees**

Along with this newsletter you will be receiving your invoice.

Starting this half term we will be introducing a fee paying week. We are doing this because there have been an increasing number of late payments that are taking time to chase up, but it will also enable us to ensure that your payment is recorded and a receipt is issued straight away.

For this half term the payment week will be the week commencing **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March**, and Jane will be available to take your payments each morning in the left hand room from 9.00am. If your child only attends in the afternoon please just hand your payment directly to Julia or Jane on the afternoon your child attends.

We would also ask that you retain your receipt.

### **Outside Play Area**

We have put in an 'Expression of Interest', for some funding that is available from Torbay Council, to enable us to create a small all-weather play area to the left of the Parish Rooms.

If successful the area will be used for lots of different activities and will be particularly useful when the grass is wet and muddy. We also aim to reinstate the pond area so that the staff and children can safely use it as a nature resource. We will keep you informed on the progress of our application.

### **Lunch Club**

As previously mentioned Lunch club continues to be very popular and we are looking at ways of increasing the number of spaces available. Just a reminder that we continue to promote healthy eating at Playgroup and ask that you support us by providing a healthy packed lunch and drink for your child when they attend lunch club. Please limit your child to one snack style chocolate biscuit and one pack of crisps or similar.

As the weather is getting warmer can we remind you to include a small ice pack in your child's lunch pack as we don't have the facilities to store all the children's lunches in the fridge.

### **Committee**

With our AGM due to be held in April we would like to emphasise that we are still looking to welcome new members. If you feel that you would like to join us or would like to find out what is involved please speak to Tara Berlyn (Luke's Mum) or Julia.

The date for the AGM will be confirmed soon, so look out for the poster.

### **Newsletters**

A copy of the latest and recent newsletters can now be found on the Playgroup website, at this address: [www.collatonstmaryplaygroup.co.uk](http://www.collatonstmaryplaygroup.co.uk).