



# Newsletter

February 2012

## Welcome

A very warm welcome is extended to all the new children and parents to playgroup this session and also to those who are returning for more fun at Nile Grove Playgroup. We hope that you have all enjoyed the half-term break and that your children are full of energy for the forthcoming term!

## Rota Duty

Please ensure that you sign up for your duties this term if you haven't already done them before the February break.

Can all parents please arrive in time to start setting up the equipment at **8.40am**, thank you!

If you are unable to make your duty, please call the Nile Grove Mobile **07505366580** by 8.40am to let Vanessa know. It would be extremely helpful if you are able to find a replacement to cover your duty if you are unable to do it.

## Congratulations

We have some exciting news to share with you all. Vanessa is expecting a baby in August so many

Congratulations to her. Vanessa will be taking a year off Playgroup and will finish with us at the end of June. This leaves us with a vacancy for a manager for 12 months. There are specific qualifications required for playgroup managers and you can look at these on the SSSC website:

[http://www.sssc.uk.com/component?option=com\\_docman/Itemid,486/gid,1824/task,doc\\_details](http://www.sssc.uk.com/component?option=com_docman/Itemid,486/gid,1824/task,doc_details)

Vanessa will also keep a copy of the qualifications at Playgroup if you or anyone you know is interested in the role.

If you have any questions about this, please don't hesitate to contact Vanessa or Lisa Gallacher, Chair of the committee at [nilegroveplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:nilegroveplaygroup@gmail.com)

We will keep you updated of progress over the next few months.

## Fundraising

We are delighted with what has been raised so far with the Fundraising which was carried out before the Christmas Holidays;

The **Obstacle course** raised an outstanding £1,035 and the 4 children who raised the most were Nicholas Ridley, Nicole Paterson, James Waller and Remy Woodhouse-

Britten. Thank-you everyone for contributing to this event.

The **Christmas Raffle** raised £311 and the hampers went to the following families;

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: The Richards Family

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: The MacIntyre Family

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: The Bell Family

### **Future Fundraising Events**

Please put **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May** in your diary as a night NOT to be missed! It promises to be a fantastic night and more details of the Nile Grove Fundraiser of the year will be available in due course.

For all parents who would like to be involved in helping with the Fundraiser, there will be a meeting on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March** at Boroughmuir RFC at Meggatland @ 8pm in the Club bar. The more volunteers the better as we want to make this a really memorable night. Please can you sign your name on the poster which will be posted at the notice board area week commencing Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February. Please can you e-mail Samantha Narro [samanthanarro@yahoo.com](mailto:samanthanarro@yahoo.com) if you cannot come on the 6th but would still like to be involved. As Nile Grove Community Playgroup is a Charity and relies very much on its fundraising, your help and support will be hugely appreciated both in the run up to the event on the 26<sup>th</sup> May and for future fundraising later in the year.

### **Advertising**

We are looking to promote businesses which are right here on our doorstep. If you or anyone you know has their own business and would like to advertise it in our

Newsletter then we want to hear from you. An advert costs **£20** and you can choose to advertise in every newsletter, of which there are 4 over the course of the year or just advertise the once and see how the response is. All money taken from adverts will go directly into our fundraising so the Playgroup will be benefiting greatly from this so please pass the word around. Please forward your details to Karen Brown [kybrown@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kybrown@yahoo.co.uk) by the end of February if you are wanting to advertise in the next Newsletter.

### **Stair Gates**

Hope you are all enjoying our lovely new stair gates and finding them a little easier to open and close! Gates should always be closed after dropping off your child.

### **Childcare Vouchers**

If you would like to pay your playgroup fees using childcare vouchers we are currently registered with: Care-4, Kidsunlimited, Co-operative Childcare vouchers, Fideliti, Computer share and Edenred voucher schemes.

Childcare vouchers are a government scheme operated through employers that allow you to pay for childcare from your PRE-tax salary. If your employer uses a different voucher scheme please let us know and we should be able to sign up with them as well.

### **Coffee Morning**

Coffee will be served in the Church's Pentland Room (opposite ladies toilets) on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb** during playgroup hours for all parents and carers to have a chat and meet other

parents, younger siblings are also very welcome.

### **Volunteers**

We are looking for volunteers who would like to be part of our great playgroup. If you know of anyone in the community, perhaps a grandparent, who would like to volunteer some of their time, please pass on our phone number and we would be happy to talk more about it. We run with 3 staff and 2 parents each morning and as we are now full every morning, feel that having an extra pair of hands to help prepare snack or join in with play and stories would be fantastic. Please spread the word!

### **Term Dates for your diary**

The Spring Term runs until **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March** and the Summer Term resumes again on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April**.

### **Message from the staff.....**

We'd like to say a big **thank you** to our brilliant committee who put in many hours of their own time to keep playgroup running. It is actually a legal requirement that we have a committee working alongside our staff, otherwise we would not be able to operate. If you would like to be part of the committee, meet other parents and be involved in helping our community playgroup to thrive, then please do let us know.