

# Nile Grove Playgroup at Greenbank

[www.nilegroveplaygroup.co.uk](http://www.nilegroveplaygroup.co.uk) 07505366580

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the Summer term! We extend a warm welcome to any new families joining us at Playgroup.

## We warmly welcome.....

Audrey Cameron, our newly appointed Playgroup Manager. Audrey has a wealth of experience working with children, which includes 14 years in Canada, working with children with Additional Support Needs. Audrey has combined her working career with studying for qualifications and in 2012, graduated with a BA in Childhood Practice. We look forward to hearing from Audrey in the coming months.

## Events:

Following the success of the Christmas Raffle, the Obstacle Course which took place in February, raised a healthy £1019.20! Thank you to all who sponsored and heartfelt congratulations to Charlie Melville, Millie Little and Amos Burt who raised the most sponsorship.

It's now time to put on thinking caps and spread the word about the **Summer Social Evening on Sat 21<sup>st</sup> May**. Plans are coming along nicely but it is important that everyone supports this event in some way, to make it as successful as it can be. You can help by:

- contacting local businesses or people you know and ask them to donate a suitable auction prizes
- buy and sell tickets which are £20 (available from the fundraising committee)
- Attend the event and bid for prizes!
- Sell raffle tickets to family and friends (raffle tickets will be handed out to families shortly).

Everyone can contribute in some way to make this a successful func



## Important Dates:

### Social Evening Fundraiser:

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2016

### End of Term:

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2016

### Holidays

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2016

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May –  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2016

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2016



## Advertising:

Can ALL families please continue to spread the word about the playgroup as some days are particularly low on numbers. Flyers are available from staff - just ask!

In addition, please take a few moments to send an email to playgroup with a testimonial for the website. Kirsty, Playgroup Administrator, will then add these to the website. These can make a huge difference to whether someone chooses to visit/enroll at Nile Grove over other playgroups.



For more information see our website: [www.nilegroveplaygroup.co.uk](http://www.nilegroveplaygroup.co.uk)  
or call 07505 366 580 during playgroup hours

A great way to market Nile Grove is via Netmum's. We have an information page on the website where you can write a review and this is where several of our parents have learned about Nile Grove. If you would like to share your experience of the playgroup, simply visit: <http://www.netmums.com/edinburgh/local/view/education/playgroups-pre-schools-and-nursery-schools/nile-grove-community-playgroup>

## Facebook

If you haven't already done so, and you use facebook, can you please 'like' the page to raise awareness. This will help generate interest in local communities.

## Fees ££

Thank you to everyone for paying your fees so promptly. As we are a small charity, it is really important that we can gather these in quickly to allow us to meet our regular costs, including rent and staff salaries.

## Other ways you can support Playgroup

Nile Grove receives no State funding and to keep running we rely upon regular voluntary giving by parents for additional costs that are not covered by fees, e.g. new toys, art resources.

- You can make a donation using our BT MY Donate page. We ask that everyone donates £20 per term (or £60 a year), or as much as they are able. Donating online is the best way to give to Playgroup as we can automatically recover the tax through Giftaid, allowing us to raise an extra 28p for every £1 you donate. If you are not currently a UK tax payer, please consider asking any tax payer in your household to make the donation. To donate, go to [www.nilegroveplaygroup.co.uk](http://www.nilegroveplaygroup.co.uk), then click on Make a Donation in the left hand menu. This will take you to our BT My Donate page:  
<https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/nilegrovecommunityplaygroup> Click on Donate Now on the right hand side and fill in the two-page online form.
- If you would prefer to do so, you can also donate in cash or by cheque (made out to Nile Grove Community Playgroup) and leave this in the Donations box on the desk at Playgroup.
- Easyfundraising is a shopping directory listing some of your favourite online stores including Argos, Next, Debenhams, John Lewis, Toys R Us, HMV and over 2000 others. Just use the links on the easyfundraising site whenever you shop online and, at no extra cost to you, we will receive a free donation of up to 15% from every purchase you make. It's completely FREE and you can even SAVE MONEY as many retailers offer discounts exclusive to easyfundraising. Go to <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/ngcp> and select Nile Grove Community Playgroup - Edinburgh when you register.

## Did you know you can pay for Playgroup using Childcare Vouchers?

If you would like to pay your playgroup fees using childcare vouchers please see our notice board for more information or contact Vanessa. Childcare vouchers are a government scheme operated through employers that allow you to pay for childcare from your PRE-tax salary.

## Rota Duty

Thank you to everyone for all your wonderful help on your duty days, we couldn't run without you!

A few points to remember:

Rota duty starts at 8.40am. If you cannot make that time, please inform staff PRIOR to your duty day.

If you can't make your rota duty day, it is your responsibility to swap. If you have no success or it is last minute, please call the playgroup mobile (07750536580) or email ([nilegroveplaygroup@googlemail.com](mailto:nilegroveplaygroup@googlemail.com)) asap. Insufficient adult to child ratios means that playgroup has to close so it is important to prevent this as much as is practically possible.

We ask that parents do as many duties per term as days their child attends per week, e.g. if your child attends for three mornings per week, you will need to do 3 sessions of duty each term. Thank you to everyone who has already signed up on the notice board this term.

When you are on duty it would be lovely if you could bring in your child's favourite book to share with the group at story time.

## Committee Positions from August 2016:

As the Summer term progresses, we will be seeking new members of the committee, as many of our families move on. Please contact Kirsty if you are interested in joining the committee. It can be a really great way to get to know more about playgroup and to make a real difference to staff and children, alike.

### And finally.....

Please send in **one box of tissues each term** for runny noses!

Please send in a **kitchen roll each term**, for drying hands. This is a recommendation, following the recent Care Inspectorate report.

Both are hugely appreciated!

A heartfelt thanks, as ever, to the Nile Grove Staff for their continued care and commitment.

Thank you to the whole Nile Grove community, for their efforts, in many ways, to make Nile Grove a great community resource for our little ones.

