# Newsletter

**AUTUMN Term 2021** 

We would like to wish you a very warm welcome back and a special welcome to all our new children! We are looking forward to lots of fun and learning this term!

We would like to Welcome Gemma Widdowson to our team, as she starters her apprenticeship with us this term.



# AN INVITATION TO JOIN OUR COMMITTIES

As a Committee run playgroup, we are always looking for new Committee members

We really need your support. If you or anyone you know have a little spare time then please speak to Alison for more information.

Next Committee meeting at Playgroup is on Thursday 23rd September at 7.30pm

All Welcome!



#### SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

In the times in which we live, it is vitally important that we make every effort to keep our children safe. With this in mind, we will be running a series of features in our newsletters on the subject of safeguarding.

#### What should you do?

If you think that a child is being abused or harmed, take action straight away!

If you have concerns about a child, help is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Contact:

Leicestershire County Council - 0116 305 0005 childrensduty@leics.gov.uk

#### **Police**

Non emergencies, call 101 In emergencies, always dial 999

ChildLine - 0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk

NSPCC - 0808 800 5000

help@nspcc.org.uk



As a Healthy Tots setting we recommend that you send

your child with a variety of healthy food for their lunch

with just one treat of either chocolate, crisps or cake.

For ideas on healthy packed lunches please visit

www.nhs.uk/food/swaps

#### **Dates for the Diary**

St Giles Fair & Dog Show at the Church on 25th September 1-4pm First Steps will be attending with face painting and games!

Harvest Festival Celebrations (date & time tbc)

Disco - (date & time tbc)

**Christmas Cracker - (date** & time tbc)

More details to follow.

#### Do you have any spare time?

We are looking to recruit a group of volunteers that can support First Steps by coming in to the setting and playing with the children. If you think this is something you would enjoy then please contact Alison for more details.

#### **Contact Details**

First Steps Playgroup

Old School Hall

Church Road

Barlestone

**CV13 0EE** 

Phone: 01455 292083

Mobile: 07903 132279

Email:

firststeps@live.co.uk

Website:

www.firststepsbarlesto

ne.co.uk

It is really important we can contact you, especially with COVID 19 in mind!

Please make sure all contact details we hold for you are correct and up to date, in case of an emergency.

### OPENING TIMES

Morning sessions are:

\*Monday to Friday

9am to 12.00pm

Afternoon sessions are:

\*Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

12.30pm to 3.30pm

#### **Term Dates**

Half term break: Monday 18 October - Friday 22 October 2021

Term ends: Friday 17 December 2021

**Spring Term** starts: Tuesday 4 January 2022

A very warm welcome to all our new starters! If your child is potty training, please could you provide a change of clothes, including shoes and socks, as accidents sometimes happen and we like to support your child at every step of their development.

If you and your child are new to First Steps and have any questions, please approach Alison or your child's key person or another member of staff; we are always happy to help!

The Old School Hall is available to hire for private functions. For more details, please contact Cathie on 07486538793.

Do we have any Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Aunts or Uncles who are?

Tree surgeons - for small logs

**Builders - for small bricks** 

Carpenters - for small pieces of wood.

#### SICKNESS POLICY

When your child has had a sickness / diarrhoea bug, our policy states that they should not attend the setting for 48 hours after the last bout of illness.

For example, if their last illness was on Sunday evening, then your child would not be able to attend the setting until Wednesday morning.

If you are unsure, please telephone us and we can advise on this. Many thanks.

#### **amazon**smile You shop. Amazon gives.

We are registered with Amazon Smile please support our charity when you make your purchases.

#### MESSY PLAY

We really enjoy getting messy with our play, expressive arts and crafts, so please send your child in clothes you don't mind getting messy, as we can't guarantee all stains will wash out!!



#### Easy Fundraising.org.uk

Go to:

www.easyfundraising.org.uk /firststepsbarlestone to register and shop with over 2,000 well known retailers like Amazon. Argos, M&S, eBay, and many more.

Whenever you buy something, the retailer makes a donation to First Steps Playgroup.

It won't cost you a penny extra to shop through easyfundraising, but it could really make a big



## Don't forget to visit our website: www.firststepsbarlestone.co.uk



We have a Health Care Plan for children who need to take regular medication or suffer from a medical condition.

First Steps need to be clear on how to treat your child in this instance. It is important that we have an agreed procedure to follow should the need arise.

The Health Form will need a signature from you as a parent / carer and a professional such as a GP, nurse or Health Visitor.

Alison or Elaine will come and see you if this affects you and your child.



PLEASE INFORM US IF YOUR CHILD HAS HAD AN **INJURY BEFORE** THEY ATTEND PLAYGROUP.

(THIS COULD BE ANYTHING FROM A CUT FINGER TO A **BUMPED HEAD OR** A BRUISE.)

MANY THANKS.

#### and if it is positive remain isolated for 10

**COVID 19** 

**Symptoms: Fever over** 

37.8, a new continuous

You will need to isolate

immediately, get a test

If the test is negative

isolating. Providing your

child feels well enough

your child can stop

they can return to

playgroup.

smell.

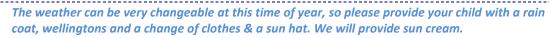
days.

cough or a loss of taste or

difference to us!

#### www.childcarechoices.co.uk

You can find lots of useful information on the above website regarding your entitlements, including 30 hour funding, 2 year old funding and Tax Free Childcare.



Many thanks for your continued support of First Steps Playgroup.

