



# COMBERTON PLAYGROUP

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*We aim for our Playgroup to provide a stimulating atmosphere in which the children are encouraged to develop their full potential.*

## Newsletter April 2021

**We hope you have had a lovely Easter break!**  
**We would also like to give a warm welcome to our new children starting this term and their families.**

We start this term with a few changes to staff and children's keyworkers. Becky is now room leader in the Green room and will be working alongside Leanne Mon-Wed morning and we welcome Marion back on a Thursday and Friday morning. Rachel is now room leader in the Blue room, working alongside Jodi. Julia is now Deputy Playgroup Leader. Any changes to your child's keyworker will be attached to this email. We would like to welcome Phoebe and Elliott to our team. They will be covering sessions when needed in between studying at sixth form and university.

### Lateral Flow Tests

All staff at playgroup now have access to lateral flow tests, which we do twice a week (Sunday & Wednesday evening). Should a test show up positive, you will be notified that evening via email. The member of staff will then get a PCR test and follow the guidance from Public Health England.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

### Health and hygiene throughout the day

Staff and children will be washing/sanitising their hands regularly throughout the day. Key times being upon arrival/departure, before snack/lunch and when coming in from playing outside.

Hand sanitisers are available throughout the building and outside for when needed.

Toys will be cleaned regularly and things that are difficult to clean such as books will be rotated on a daily basis. Dressing up and cuddly toys will not be available.



# COMBERTON PLAYGROUP

## Existing injuries

Please remember to let us know via email if your child has had an accident/injury outside of playgroup hours.

We can then fill in an accident on arrival form.

We will need to know how & when the accident happened and if any medical attention was needed.

## Arrival at Playgroup

Face coverings must be worn when dropping off and picking up your children.

Staff will be doing the same.

Staff will only be wearing face coverings in the building when social distancing is not possible between staff members.

***Please stand 2 metres apart from other families at all times.***

- A member of staff will come and collect your child from you in the playground. Please do not come around to the door to ring the doorbell.
- There will be a trolley with the staff member so the children can place their belongings in there. They will be taken to sanitise their hands using the wall mounted hand sanitiser before taking them in. This will be done with 5 children at a time.
- When you come to pick your child/children up, please wait again outside and a member of staff will bring them out to you.

We totally understand that for some parents and children this may be quite stressful, but please be rest assured that we are not socially distancing from your children and they will have all the cuddles and reassurance that they need. If you have any worries or concerns, please do get in touch.

When dropping off or picking children up with older siblings, could you please make sure that your children are not playing on the play equipment outside, as they would have been cleaned ready for the next day.

Parent/carers and children must leave the playground as soon as they have dropped off/picked up.



# COMBERTON PLAYGROUP

## Curriculum this half term

This half term Blue & Green and the pre-school room will be focussing on planting and the environment. We will be growing vegetables and flowers and attempting to grow a tepee with sweet peas and runner beans!

Pre-school have tiny caterpillars, which the children will watch as they grow, change to chrysalis and finally emerge as butterflies which will be set free.

**WB 12<sup>th</sup> April** For the first few weeks we will be planting vegetables indoors in pots and in the back garden. The children will also be growing their own sunflowers, which they will take home to continue to grow in their garden.

If you could send us some pictures on Tapestry to show us how they are doing would be fantastic!

Blue and Green room will be making bug B&B's using empty 4 pint milk bottles.

Pre-school will be doing a runner bean experiment in clear plastic bottles.

**WB 4<sup>th</sup> May** Pre-school will be learning about rhyming and alliteration.

Blue and Green will be reading rhymes and doing rhyming activities.

**WB 10<sup>th</sup> May** Blue and Green will be getting the easel out for 'What's in the garden' painting, and Pre-school will be doing I-pad activities.

**WB 17<sup>th</sup> May** We will be preparing for 'Bee Day'. Which is 20<sup>th</sup> May.

This week we will be making bee bombs (wildflower seed balls) in the tuff spot and making bee headbands.

Pre-school will be making bee houses.

We will also be explaining to the children how important bees are to the environment, and what we can do to help them.

**On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May we will 'bee' asking everyone to either come to playgroup dressed as a bee or wear something yellow and black.**

**WB 24<sup>th</sup> May** Pre-school will be making clay mini beasts and going out and about with the cameras.

Blue and Green will be making mini or large beasts! With the junk modelling and going for a bug hunt around the playground and back garden for ideas.

### **Wanted**

2 litre lemonade/coke/squash bottles

4 pint milk bottles

**Thank you!**

### **Playdough**

We have decided to bring playdough back! The children will have their own named tub of playdough and they will be supervised closely when playing, to ensure that no mixing happens.

We have a certain number of lidded containers but not enough for every child, so if you could bring in a named lidded container for your child, that would be appreciated. Plastic takeaway tubs are the ideal size!



# COMBERTON PLAYGROUP

## General Information

### **Invoices will now be sent via email.**

Each child should bring in a named bag with spare clothes in, just in case. To reduce the risk of transmission we do request that no toys, comforters etc are brought in from home.

If your child is in nappies you will need to bring in a new sealed bag of nappies to be left at playgroup.

We are hoping to do as many activities outside as we can, so please bring in named appropriate clothing for both warm and wet weather.

We will also have windows open for ventilation, so layering is good!

All items being left at Playgroup will need to be named to avoid confusion.

If your child has an accident at playgroup, you will be informed via Tapestry, unless it is something urgent. In which case you will be called immediately.

**Please remember that the gate will be left open until everyone is in, so it is very important that you have hold of your child's/children's hand. They must not run around the playground.**

**Please do not park outside playgroup gates on the yellow warning lines as it is becoming increasingly busy. Thank you.**

## How to keep everyone safe

Please do not come to playgroup if you, your child, or anyone in your household displays symptoms of Covid-19. Please book a test and if unsure follow government guidelines.

If a child develops symptoms at playgroup, a member of staff will isolate with the child away from others.

The member of staff will don PPE (gloves, apron, facemask and face shield) and you will be called immediately to collect them and book a test.

Playgroup is required to follow up on any child absence so please let us know if they are not going to attend for any reason.



# COMBERTON PLAYGROUP

## **Term dates 2020-2021**

### **Summer Term 2021**

Term starts	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> April
May day, bank holiday	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May
Half Term	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May-Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June
Term ends	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> July

## **Fundraising**

A huge thank you to Alfie's sister, Elizabeth and Mum Helen, who raised a massive £1,300 running 5k at the tender age of 6!

## **Amazon Smile**

For extra fundraising we are registered with Amazon smile, so we are asking that you select Comberton Playgroup as your chosen charity. Amazon Smile makes no change to the amount that you pay, it simply gives a small percentage of your amazon purchases to your chosen charity, and it would mean a lot for that charity to be us! This can just be changed in the settings of your normal Amazon account.