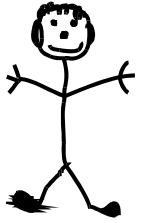


# FIRST STEP PLAYGROUP

The Scout Hut, Parkhall Road, Somersham, Cambridgeshire PE28 3HE  
Tel: 07855 035212 (9am to 3pm) [email@firststepplaygroup.co.uk](mailto:email@firststepplaygroup.co.uk)



24<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Welcome back! We hope you have all had a great Easter break. Below is an overview of the planned activities and information for this term at playgroup.

## Summer 2017

Children have settled back very well and our new starters are settling very well too. We are still focusing on child led play with staff engaging with the children to progress their development 'in the moment'. To help inform us of new emerging interests your child has please complete and return the 'Parent/child focus form' when your child's key person sends it home.

Please continue to add comments and likes to your child's Tapestry account. It's also great if you can add your own observations from home to share with your child's key person, to further support working in partnership. Newsletters will also be posted on Tapestry to reach out to all parents.

Bradley Bear has been to visit many family homes and will continue to do so, all children will have the opportunity to look after him. We all love seeing what the children have been doing with Bradley.

We are planning our sports day for the afternoon of Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July, details will be sent out nearer the time.

## Next Steps

This is a very important term for our Next Step children. We will begin our transition visits to Somersham Primary School this term. We will also start our Forest School outdoor learning approach. To incorporate both transition visits and forest school we will use the forest school area at Somersham School, this will also give a good start as the children will continue forest school when they join the reception class in September.

P.E sessions will continue, however this will be during the afternoon session along with revisiting the phonic sounds s.a.t.p.i.n

## Fundraising

Thank you to all that supported our Bingo Fundraiser in the spring term, it was a huge success and has enabled us to buy new resources for the children. We have purchased items to start our forest school, re-stocked the mud kitchen, updated the book corner with bean bags, we have some outdoor scales on the way to support math, tape measure and a new indoor weighing scale. Pipettes and test tubes to support science, a design and drill resource as the children love tools, remote control cars to develop technology, a petrol pump and traffic lights for our outdoor environment. I think we have covered all areas of learning, which is amazing, thank you all for contributing!

**Bag2school** is booked for 25<sup>th</sup> May, empty bags will be sent home by 12<sup>th</sup> May.

**Carnival Stall** is also an opportunity to raise funds for playgroup, we will be requesting bottles of alcohol to fill our popular alcohol raffle. Thank you in advance!

If you shop online please sign up to Easy Fundraising and join First Steps Playgroup Somersham. <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/firststepssomersham/>  
Playgroup will earn commission from your purchases at no extra cost to yourself, you just need to shop through the Easy Fundraising site or app.

### Key Dates

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April** Next Step Forest School and primary school transition begins.

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May** Next Step leavers' group and individual photos

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May** Bag2school collection

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May** Half term holiday

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June** Return to playgroup

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June** Carnival parade

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July** Sports day

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July** Leavers' disco

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July** End of term

### Superstar box

Please continue to use our superstar box. This provides us with valuable information we might not see in the setting, and of course your child will get a sticker and celebration from the group.

### Clothing

As the weather gets warmer please ensure your child has a sunhat and please apply sun cream protection before attending playgroup. We will send home sun cream application permission slips to children that attend all day to allow us to re-apply it.

Please ensure that your child's belongings are named, some of our younger children may not recognise their own belongings and clothes can easily become mixed up. If you would like to order name labels we do have some leaflets for Easy2Name. Please also be reminded we have t-shirts, sweatshirts and fleece jackets to purchase if you would like your child to wear a 'uniform'.

### Illness

If your child is not attending playgroup for any reason please inform us on 07855 035212.

A reminder of our 'Managing children with allergies, or who are sick or infectious' policy, if your child has had sickness or diarrhoea please ensure they are excluded from playgroup for 48 hours after the last bout.

If you have had to administer Calpol or similar to your child before playgroup, please consider whether or not they are well enough to attend the session.

<b>Diary Dates</b>	<b>Term Dates</b>
<b>26.04.17</b> – Forest school starts	<b>29.05.17</b> Half Term Holiday
<b>24.05.17</b> – Next Steps photos	<b>05.06.17</b> Return to playgroup
<b>25.05.17</b> – Bag2school collection	<b>21.07.17</b> End of Summer term
<b>24.06.17</b> – Carnival parade	<b>07.08.17</b> Summer Camp
<b>14.07.17</b> – Sports day	
<b>19.07.17</b> – Leavers party	