

WELCOME!

Well, Hopscotch has been open nearly half a term now and we are very pleased with the way everyone has settled in. All the staff have really enjoyed getting to know the children and we hope they have had a great time too. So far this term we have been thinking about 'our bodies' - ways of moving, exploring textures with hands and feet, keeping healthy and food we eat.

Next half term we will be looking at the changing seasons and festivals and celebrations, which will of course include Christmas once we get into December. If you would like to support what your child is learning at playgroup you could talk about the weather, the changing trees and falling leaves as you are out and about. Perhaps if you visit a park or go on an outing you could collect some leaves, conkers, acorns or other items to bring along to Hopscotch. Also you could talk with your child about preparations your family are making for special events and how you celebrate together, e.g. birthdays, holidays, visiting family members, festivals, etc.

Smile Please!!



We have a photographer, Val, coming along to Hopscotch at 10.45am on

Weds. 1st November. If Wednesday is not your usual day but you would like photos taking, please pop along between 11 and 12 on that day.

As we are a new playgroup we have been pleased to welcome lots of visitors over the last few weeks. We have had good support from the education authority through the Early Years Support Team staff, Gloria Livingstone and Pat Medland, and from the Pre-School Learning Alliance development worker for our area, Tracey Wilson. They are all helping us to get ready for our first Ofsted inspection, which is likely to be quite soon. Their observations have been very positive, Gloria commented particularly on the lovely group of children, how settled and busy they were and on the high quality of the talk between the staff and the children. We have also had a visit from an organisation we have made a grant application too. They should decide soon and we are hoping to be successful.

Term Dates 2006 -2007

Autumn term

Weds.6th Sept. - Fri.15th Dec.2006

Half term

Mon. 23rd - Fri. 27th October 2006

Spring term

Weds. 3rd Jan. - Fri. 30th March 2007

Half term

Mon. 12th - Fri. 16th February 2007

Summer term

Mon. 16th April - Fri. 13th July 2007

May Day Holiday - closed Mon. 7th May

Half term

Mon. 28th May - Fri. 1st June 2007

Did you see the article
in West Life magazine?
Turn over to take a look.

HOPSCOTCH PLAYGROUP *WHERE EVERYONE WINS!*

To the parents of the children who attend Hopscotch Playgroup in the Martyrs Church Hall on Westcotes Drive, the best thing about it is the staff, who work there. Having trust and confidence that your child will be happy and cared for away from home is a big thing for any parent, so the fact that the staff are well known as child carers in the local area is a big bonus.

To the staff the opportunity to set up a new playgroup combining all their experience and ideas is very satisfying. If you love children and get excited as you see them developing their understanding and skills- it doesn't get much better than this. Lorraine, the playgroup leader, is a qualified early years teacher, so all the equipment, toys and activities are designed to encourage children to learn through play and having fun together.

So what about the children? It's obvious when you see them at the group that they love the whole experience. They chatter happily to each other and the staff, they play totally absorbed with the materials available to them, and they proudly show off a painting or drawing they did when its time to go home.

A good, well-organised playgroup, helps children to become more independent, provides opportunities to develop the knowledge and skills they need and prepares them to do well at school.

Hopscotch is a truly local group, run by local parents with children at the heart of it. You are welcome to contact Lorraine for more information and/or to arrange a visit by ringing **07909 948 943**.



11 West Life Magazine, 20 Coronation Avenue, Wigston Magna, Leicester LE18 2BN

We do still have places available; if you would like additional sessions for your child please let one of us know soon. Also, please pass on our details to friends who may be interested. We have some leaflets available or they can ring Lorraine on either 0116 254 8759 or 07909 948 943.



We are planning an open morning later in the term. Look out for the date soon.

Thank you for all your support this term. If you have any comments or suggestions to make, please speak to one of us.

Thank you,

Lorraine, Ruth, Sarah and Rebekah.