

 07582371984

 [playgroup.feltwell@gmail.com](mailto:playgroup.feltwell@gmail.com)

 Feltwell Playgroup

 [www.feltwellplaygroup.com](http://www.feltwellplaygroup.com)



# NEWSLETTER

*Spring Term 2025*

## Local Schools

Welcome back!

Please see links to all the local catchment schools:

Feltwell: <https://www.edmunddemoundeford.co.uk/>

Hockwold: <https://iceni-hockwold.attrust.org.uk>

Weeting: <https://www.weeting.norfolk.sch.uk/page/?title=Weeting&pid=6>

Methwold: <https://www.methwold-pri.norfolk.sch.uk/page/?title=Duchy+of+Lancaster&pid=3>

Mundford: <http://www.churchsidefederation.norfolk.sch.uk/mundford/>

If your child is starting school in September this year, please let us know which school they will attend once their placement has been confirmed.

National Offer Day when school decisions are made available is 16th April 2024. Appeals closing date is 26 May 2024 and mini admissions round to consider changes is 20 May 2024.

## Names on Lunch Boxes & Water Bottles

Would parents please make sure to clearly put names on their child's lunch box and water bottle as it takes time trying to match water bottles to the correct child during lunch time. We want to avoid children drinking out of someone else's bottle! It would be very helpful if names would be on the OUTSIDE of the lunch boxes.

## Playgroup at Tesco Brandon

We are in the customer vote for 'Tesco Stronger Starts'. It's a scheme which gives community projects like us grants of up to £1,500. Tesco customers will now vote in Brandon from mid January to the end of March 2025 to decide how much funding we get, so please support us next time you shop at Tesco by selecting Feltwell Playgroup with the blue tokens you get when paying.

## Bag for Each Child

Would you please make sure your child arrives with a bag with a spare set of clothes that are labelled. This will also allow us to have somewhere to put items from home or to be sent home.

## Future Committee Meetings

Thursday, 19th September 2024 - 6:45pm via Zoom

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## Watching Children Play Outside

If you arrive early to collect your child, would you please stand out of view, so as not to distract the children. Although they love to see you, it can be disruptive and lead to them stopping play to stand at the fence/gate. It can also be upsetting for them to come back inside, once they realise you are here.

## Our Staff

Please find below the list of staff from Feltwell Playgroup:

June ~ Manager	Jon ~ Chairman
Carolyn ~ Deputy Manager	Anne ~ Treasurer
Emily ~ Early Years Practitioner	Merle ~ Secretary
Emma ~ Early Years Practitioner	Joe ~ Trustee
Kerry ~ Early Years Practitioner	Chris ~ Trustee
Kirsty ~ Early Years Practitioner	
Rebecca ~ Early Years Practitioner	
Merle ~ Administrator	

## Late Collection Fee

Please note in line with our policies, if you are late picking up your child by more than 5 minutes (therefore after 11:35am, 12:35pm or 3:05pm), we will charge a late fee. Our drop off times are 9am to 9:10am, and 12:30pm to 12:40pm. If you arrive after these times, your child will not be able to attend these sessions.

## Approaching Staff outside Playgroup

While we understand that some parents are friends with members of staff, we kindly ask you to find out about your child at Playgroup only during staff working hours and only via our phone number, email or Tapestry. Staff are not permitted to discuss any progress or development outside their working hours or on their personal devices.

## Chocolate, Sweets & Healthy Eating

As we are a **Nut-Free** setting, please ensure that your children do not have any items in their lunch boxes that contain nuts including any chocolate spread. We encourage healthy eating, So please be thoughtful and keep your child's lunch box healthy, nut free with maybe **ONE small treat!**

## Term Dates

Half-Term: 17th to 21st February 2025

Easter Holidays: 7th to 22nd April 2025 (first day back is Wednesday, 23rd April 2025)

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### Thanks for your Patience

We would like to thank all families for standing so patiently on the playground in the mornings. Please remember not to allow your children to play on the equipment while you wait and not to cross the barrier.

### Medicine & Illness

Children who have been given medicine like Calpol, Ibuprofen, cough medicine etc should not attend Playgroup.

If your child is not well enough to attend without this kind of medication, please do not send them in. Our complete Illness Table can be found here: <https://www.feltwellplaygroup.com/info>

### Paying Fees

Please remember that fees must be paid in advance of sessions attended. As per the policy, fees are now expected to be paid at least a half-term in advance. However, in some circumstances, it can be arranged for fees to be paid weekly. If your child is absent (half fees are payable in this instance) then any money remaining from what has been paid in advance will be credited to your account.

### No Accessories

Please ensure your child does not wear any accessories to Playgroup. This is to avoid choking and breaking of the item.

### Tapestry Journal

We like sharing your child's learning and experiences at Playgroup with you and we hope that you enjoy receiving these regular updates via *Tapestry*. If you have any questions about using your child's online learning journal on *Tapestry* please speak to your child's keyworker or send us an email. We love learning about what your children do at home, too. *Tapestry* can also be used for this or, of course, you can always fill in a High 5 slip with your child's achievement or news for them to bring in and share with us!

### Mobile Phones on Premises

For safeguarding reasons please DO NOT use your mobile phone whilst on the Playgroup premises, this includes the playground areas, unless you have been given permission by the Manager.

Your co-operation is much appreciated. Whilst we appreciate you sometimes wanting to take pictures of your child/ren, we would request that you take them once you have left the premises so that you don't accidentally photograph another child.

### Absent Child

We will get in touch with you via text message or phone call if your child is absent for two of their consecutive days without having informed us at Playgroup why they are not attending. This is to make sure you and your child are ok.

### Future Events

Feltwell Playgroup Cake Sale - week commencing 10th February 2025

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## Sessions from September 2025

As we have children leaving Playgroup in the summer to start primary school, we currently have all sessions available from September 2023. If you would like to up or change your child's sessions from September, please let us know. We advise to do this soon, as enquiries are coming through and spaces are filling up.

## Early Collection

If needed we can accommodate an earlier collection for your child in the afternoon. We are aware we have some families that need to do the school run in Hockwold. To make this possible we allow the child to be collected from Playgroup at 2:30pm. Please note the collection time is either 2:30pm or 3pm and nothing in between.

## Any Questions?

If there are any questions you may have or if there is anything you would like to talk about (child related or not), please know that we are always here for you. You can speak to any member of staff or send an email if you prefer. We will try our best to help and support you in any way. Please be assured that any conversation will be kept confidential.

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Phone: 07582371984

## Fees from April 2025

We have reviewed our fees, taking into account the cost of living and the increase in minimum wage from April 2025.

Therefore, from 1st April 2025 our hourly rate will be £6 (is has been £5 since April 2023), which means a morning or afternoon session will be £15.00, morning and lunch will be £21.00 and all day charges will be £36.

## Photographs & Videos

Please be reminded that it is not allowed to take any photos or videos whilst on Playgroup premises.

## Help at no Cost

We've registered with *easyfundraising* and we need your help at no cost to you at all! *easyfundraising* is a great website where you can help Feltwell Playgroup raise funds simply by doing your everyday online shopping with over 4,000 big name retailers like Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden, and M&S. Every time you shop, we receive a small donation to say 'thank you' and it's completely free too!

We want to raise as much as possible so please sign up and help us at:  
<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/feltwellplaygroup/>