



# Peterborough Early Years Newsletter

## Keeping in Touch!

It is certainly a busy time and as with new guidance coming out and proposals for reopening it seems it will only be getting busier. We are in the middle of making 'keeping in touch' calls with you all, if you haven't heard from a member of the team already you will shortly. One of the queries that has been a reoccurring theme is furlough, we appreciate that this has been a very challenging and confusing area. The most up to date guidance is dated 17<sup>th</sup> April 2020. If you need us to resend any of the updates, guidance or FAQs to support you with this please let Diana know.

## **Transfer to School Document**

We had planned to share this, this week but as now looks as though children will be back with you before the summer holiday we would suggest that you complete the document once the children have settled again with you. Therefore, we will share the document next week.

## Eligibility for government childcare offers protected

Temporary measures ensure critical workers will still be eligible for childcare offers if their income has changed due to coronavirus:

https://www.gov.uk/government/news/eligibility-for-government-childcare-offers-protected

## **Time Together**

Time Together is an activity booklet for families of 0-4-year olds, which shares simple evidencebased ways parents and carers can support their children's language development at home and get them ready for school. The booklet includes suggestions for chatting, playing, singing, painting and drawing and sharing books with young children. It also provides useful tips for creating a healthy routine and preparing for children to go to or return to school. This booklet has been amended to consider the current challenge of school and library closures, and there is less of a focus on getting together with friends in large groups or going to the libraries.





# Summer Term SEN Funding Claims Payment

Summer SEN funding, we are requesting that settings please complete a review form detailing on how funding has/will be used during the summer term to support children who are in receipt of this, even if setting is not open but are still intending to claim.

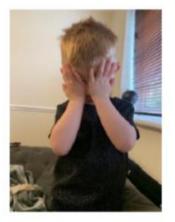
Please email <u>diana.teixeira@peterborough.gov.uk</u> with your completed form or if you have any queries.

#### Ideas for home learning

Try this at home ....

# Listening and talking

Ask your child to close their eyes. What can they hear?



- Talk about the different noises they hear. It could be traffic, voices, music, birds singing, the washing machine, baby crying, a dog barking etc
- Ask your child to describe the noises they hear. Are the noises loud or quiet? Do they like the noises? Are there any noises that they do not like?
- A sound they hear may remind them of a familiar or recent event. This will
  provide you with a good opportunity to talk about this event and share photos
- This activity can be done anywhere. It could be inside your house, in the garden, or on a walk.







#### More wonderful practice to share....

Newborough Preschool



We are keeping in contact with all of our families via our Facebook page. Parents are sending photos of the things their children have been busy doing. We have also had videos of the children talking virtually to their pre-school friends. Our pre-school website is being constantly updated with activity ideas too. For those families who may need extra support I am calling and messaging them. The families are able to contact me whenever they need to, I am always available to have a chat. As we are rural I've managed to incorporate a wave at the window or across a fence to a lot of our families as I have been out walking. I've also had lots of children's noses peering through my window and knocking when they are out for their exercise with their families. The children have also received a letter from me and their green ladies. We thought it would be nice for them to get a letter from the postman through the door (please see attached photo).

During a phone conversation with a team member Debbie shared how she has We have distributed cardboard boxes to the children in the village and they have been making cars, boats etc. The families have been putting photos onto the settings Facebook page of what they have created together.





#### Little Owls Day Nursery

We are currently closed but we have delivered goody bags with a memory book, worksheets, tips, information, stickers, sweeties and colouring pages to all of our children and a goody bag for parents too.





We have sent out lots of bits to parents about starting school and use the family app to share information.

#### Sarah Bointon Childminder

The 3 children I currently care for are all temporary key children that have come from closed nurseries. I have extended my hours and days to suit them and continue to be as flexible as I can be. I have been lucky that they have all settled in very quickly, I've tried to make them feel at home as much as possible and have let them lead the play and learning too.

Two of them are starting school so I have shared the START leaflet and What to expect when document with parents and I am encouraging independence in everything we do. We talk about the schools they are going to, look at school photos and read lots of stories. I try to extend the play with phonics and maths as much as possible.

Water play has been a favourite here, we have making shapes, forming letters with water and brushes and measuring with different containers whilst making magic potions!

I just love how accepting they have been with what's going on, they will happily tell me why they can't go to the park or hairdressers and have been making face masks from pieces of material or eye masks (all child led) and the other day were playing a running game and were running away from the "Covid 19" all whilst laughing their little heads off :)

At first I didn't know if staying open was the right thing to do, I am so glad I did though, it keeps me and my family busy during this lockdown and I feel like I'm helping in a small way. Plus I love having conversations with 4yr olds every day, they are hilarious!