



PANGBOURNE VALLEY PLAYGROUP NEWS

FEBRUARY

2020



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Welcome Back

After the Christmas break, we were delighted to welcome back our children and families, both new and returning, on the 6th January

For the run-up to Christmas, the Playgroup ran a number of **fundraising events**, including guess the weight of the Elf cake at the Pangbourne Christmas Fair, the Christmas raffle and the "Wind in the Willows art trail", raising a total of £220. We also had our first **article published in the Pangbourne Magazine**.

None of this would be possible without **support** from our **staff, volunteers and families**. We are deeply **grateful** to have people who are willing to dedicate some of their time to support the Playgroup. There is always a space for everyone no matter how **big or small** your **contribution** may be.

We hope that 2020 will bring all of us even more inspiration and opportunities. Speak to us if you want to join our team and make a difference today!

1

REGISTER

Spaces are currently **available** if you wish to increase or need an ad-hoc session

2

HELP US

Don't forget to **recommend us** to your friends

3

FUNDRAISING

Let us know if your company supports **community projects** for charities

IMPORTANT DATES

→ 10-14 FEB

Key worker letters to be sent

→ 17-21 FEB

Half Term Holiday

→ 5 MAR

World Book Day,
"Stay & Play" session

→ 6 MAR

Pamper Evening

→ 6-15 MAR

British Science Week

→ 3 APR

Parents Meetings

→ 6-17 APR

Easter holidays

→ 4-20 APR

Great Duck Hunt



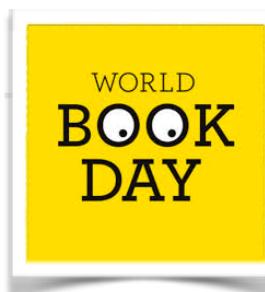
30 hour Funding

Codes must be reapplied for by **Feb 11** to ensure you continue to receive the funding

Plans For The Term

This term we will be focussing on the themes 'Relationships' and 'People who help us'

We will include activities that involve sharing and turn taking, exploring our feelings and the correct way in which to express them to each other. These are key features in helping to teach our children how to be kind, helpful, tolerant and gentle people not just through their pre-school years but during their entire life.



World Book Day Celebration!

There will be book themed craft activities from 2nd - 6th of March

World Book Day is a celebration of authors, illustrators, books and, most importantly, it's a celebration of reading. It was designated by UNESCO as a worldwide celebration of books and reading, and marked in over 100 countries around the world.

To celebrate books and their importance to children's literacy we will be holding a "[Stay & Play](#)" session for parents and carers on [Thursday, 5th of March](#) from [9am-9.30am](#) and from [2.30pm-3pm](#). Children who are not in sessions for that day [must be accompanied by parents](#). Please come along and read stories with the children. A sign up sheet will be displayed in the cloakroom closer to the date.

Children are invited to come to Playgroup throughout the week dressed as their favourite character and bring their favourite book from home to read with us.

British Science Week

We will be running a whole host of exciting science activities from 6th-15th of March



British Science Week is an annual celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths that is coordinated by the British Science Association, funded by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

This year we will focus our activities on [simple experiments](#), tailoring them to encourage the children to actively participate, keep trying and discover what might happen when they make small changes. This encourages communication and problem solving, team work and reasoning, resilience, creativity, challenge and reward. We will be exploring topics such as [light and colour](#), [water and materials](#), [recycling and baking](#).

THINGS YOU CAN DO AT HOME TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILDREN

- 👉 **Discuss feelings** between you and your child, not only theirs but yours too.
- 👉 After a tantrum [take time to explain](#) why a certain behaviour was unacceptable and what your child should do next time.
- 👉 **Play games** that encourage turn taking. Simple games like rolling a ball back and forth are perfect.
- 👉 Spend time discussing [what your child is brilliant at](#), what makes him/her a fantastic child and encourage your child to do the same to you and others.



Meet The Team

As you may know, our Playgroup is Parent-led, which means that parents, through committee roles, take on the responsibility for managing the setting.

This encompasses everything from ensuring financial stability, to paying wages and ensuring that the playgroups financial needs are met through fundraising activities. As the committee play such a fundamental role in the continued success of the Playgroup, support of parents is always welcomed.

Committee Members

Chair: Carrie Gadsby

Treasurer: Jenny Williams

Secretary: Jackie Simpson

Enrolments: Maebh Booth

Fundraising: Anastasiya Savchenko

General members: Cesca Major, Ally Heath and Rob Mitchell

Staff

Acting Manager: Sam Allwood

Acting Deputy Manager: Emma Carney

Staff members: Evelise Rocha,

Tina Robins and Kate Eggleton

Donations

The Playgroup **does not receive any funding from the government for the provision of snacks and supplies** to the children, **other than free milk**.

To help us to continue providing healthy snacks and creative items to the children, it would be great if parents could help out by **bringing in items from list displayed in the Playgroup cloakroom** (updated weekly) and/or to **donate £10 per term or £30 per year**. Donation can be given to a member of staff, or email us if you would like this to be added to your termly invoice.

Parents Help

To ensure we keep the Playgroup operational and safe for our children, a lot of work is done behind the scene. It would be great if parents could **help with tidying** the Playgroup on a termly basis, as well as with ad hoc **handyman/small maintenance** jobs.

We will have a **sign up sheet** on display in the cloakroom soon. If you have any particular skills please do let a member of the team know.



PLACES NOW AVAILABLE

PLAYGROUP PLACES AVAILABLE

We have **spaces available now** so please spread the word about the good work the team do. If you would like to change/add any sessions, either as a one-off or regularly, please email us (enquiries@pvpg.org.uk) and we will endeavour to fit you in where we can. **Funded hours** must be **agreed at the beginning of each term** as we cannot claim for an increase in funding part-way through a term. As such, if you think you would like extra funded sessions, please let us know as soon as possible each term.

Fundraising Activities

To ensure we **provide incredible child care** with fantastic activities that engage and challenge our children we need to make sure that our **fundraising events are proactive** and profitable. As such, **any support** at fundraising events organised by the committee would be **greatly appreciated**.

Pamper Evening 2020

This year, our famous luxurious **Pamper Evening** is going to be on **Friday, 6th of March, from 7pm till 9.45pm**, at the **Elephant Hotel** at Pangbourne.

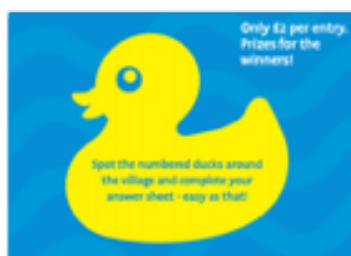
This is our biggest annual event that was created to provide an unforgettable **experience of relaxation** to every guest. You can enjoy inspiring atmosphere of the event whilst being pampered.

We already have a number of local **therapists** confirmed, who will offer the following treatments: facial and foot reflexology, finger nail file and polish, Indian head massage, chair massage, hand massage, upper back massage, and sports massage. The list of the **stallholders** include locally produced organic cosmetics, Tropic skincare, handmade jewellery and accessories, etc. Prizes for our **raffle sale** are provided by our partners.

Besides, there will be a small surprise for you, as we have invited some **experts** to deliver a 10 minute talk on the importance of healthy lifestyle.

The first confirmed speaker is **Michael Cordova**, the co-founder of Floating Point Float Centre in Pangbourne, who gave the world's first **TEDx** Talk on Floatation Therapy and regularly appears on BBC Radio Berkshire's wellbeing panel. He will talk on "**How to improve your wellbeing by 'Doing Nothing'**".

This is the perfect event for you to arrange a relaxing and inspiring night out with your friends or beloved ones. **Tickets are already on sale!** Please book your ticket and appointment **online** via our [Facebook Event Page](#) or by emailing anavsmor@gmail.com. Talk to us for more details.



The Great Duck Hunt

The ducks are coming back to Pangbourne this Easter from **Saturday 4th of April to Monday 20th of April**. Buy your entries at Playgroup or Garlands in Pangbourne Village. **Spot** the numbered **ducks** around the village and return your completed answer sheets to us for a chance to **win a prize**.

HELP US

Take some flyers to a local Baby and Toddler group that you attend

DONATE

Snacks, creative items, and/or **£10 per term or £30 a year**

FUNDRAISING

Participate in our events and **promote** it among your friends and family

**PLEASE
VOLUNTEER!**