

 Playgroup News – Friday 21st May 2021

*Hello Everyone,*

*Here is our Playgroup news for this week….*

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|  **Learning this week** The Squirrel children have been developing their fine motor skills through threading activities. This activity sparked conversations around mathematical concepts such as estimating as the children used their critical thinking skills to guess how many pieces of pasta were on their ribbon. They have also been discussing size, length, and shapes and practicing their counting. The Squirrel children have continued to enjoy the listening CD’s where they have to listen to the sounds and then match the correct picture. They have also been investigating the Nature Area and Muddy Garden, they have been practicing taking off their shoes and putting wellies on and then exploring these areas for insects! They found some wiggly worms and slimy snails! Pin on MontessoriThe Very Hungry Caterpillar Early Years Resource PackCookie Clipart Free PNG Image｜IllustoonThe Penguin children have baked some delicious cookies this week; this has enabled them to use their maths skills for weighing/measuring and number recognition. There has been lots of singing, dancing and moving in various ways to a variety of music which the children have really enjoyed! The children in Penguins have also been developing their fine motor skills using the pipettes to squeeze water, mark making and practicing name writing and threading. They have been continuing to learn the story of ‘The Very Hungry Caterpillar’, and have been sequencing the story from memory using the picture cards.  |
|  **THANK YOU…MUSICAL INSTRUMENT DONATION**Musical Instruments Clip Art - Royalty Free - GoGraphWe would like to say a big ‘Thank You’ to a very kind parent who donated a variety of lovely musical instruments for the children to use. They have had lots of noisy fun this week exploring the new resources. |
| **Change of Management** As you may be aware Marie Ridgway has resigned as the setting’s manager and Sarah Rawlings and Carly Halford have now been appointed as Joint Managers. Rachel Hale has now been promoted to Deputy Manager. Please rest assure we will continue to deliver the high quality care and provision for all of your children and we welcome any ideas that you may have for the setting moving forward. UPDATE - Reopening Plan! - Lancaster High School  |
|  **Water Bottles and Healthy Lunchboxes** Healthy Choices Clipart - Clipart Kid | Food, Healthy lunches for kids,  Making lunchIt is a **legal** and **statutory** requirement that children have access to ***water*** throughout the day and are able to access it by themselves. During lunchtime they are able to have a drink of their choice such as squash but they must have an ***additional bottle of water*** for the rest of the day. Each room has a designated ‘Water Station’ and the children are reminded at various intervals during the day to have a drink. See the source imagePlease can you also ensure that your child has a varied and balanced healthy lunchbox (which is named!) as we are continuing to see lots of sweet treats and salty snacks. If you need support with healthy lunchbox ideas, please speak to your child’s key person and/or visit the Change4Life website which has lots of different recipes. [Lunchbox Ideas | Recipes | Change4Life (www.nhs.uk)](https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes) |
|  **Don’t Forget……!** Some Penguin children still **do not** have a PE kit here at the setting- please can you provide them with a named t-shirt, shorts and trainers/daps.Can your child please bring in a pair of named wellies that can be kept here for those wet and muddier days!Free Reminders Cliparts, Download Free Reminders Cliparts png images, Free  ClipArts on Clipart LibraryPlease ensure your child is dressed in appropriate clothes for the weather that day e.g. suitable shoes and coats!  |
| **Things you can do to support your children at home…………**  Younger children Older Children |
| * Taking shoes on/off
* Helping with their coat
* Support with drinking from a cup
* Toilet Training if you child is showing signs of readiness
 | * Putting on own coat and zipping up
* Putting on their own shoes and socks (shoes with velcro are great!)
* Developing fine motor control in preparation for school- Activities include playdoh, threading, using scissors, mark making using chalks, pens, pencils, crayons.
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| **Fundraising- Thank You!**Thank you to everyone who has signed up and bought a ticket for the Forest Lottery and supported your child’s setting- we are so grateful! We are aware that there has been lots of information recently in regards to supporting us fundraise but please note that all of the money raised is used to support your children and it helps us to develop and maintain a high standard of learning experiences and opportunities- we really wouldn’t be able to do it without your support!We currently have two main ways that you can support us- Forest Lottery and Amazon Smile. Forest Lottery- Tickets are £1 per week, per ticket and the top prize is £25,000!! Please click the link below or search ‘Forest Lottery- Coalway Early Years’ and join us.  [Support Coalway Early Years when you play Forest Lottery - Forest Lottery](https://www.forestlottery.co.uk/support/coalway-early-years)Amazon Smile – Valley Mills Christian ChurchAmazon Smile- ***Support us with no extra cost to you!!*** If you shop through Amazon, please can you shop through the Amazon Smile site? Amazon smile is exactly the same as Amazon but you purchase through a different domain (below) Or by using the Amazon App. Simply follow the instructions below to select Coalway Early Years as your charity and activate AmazonSmile in the app. Amazon will donate a portion of your eligible mobile app purchases to us.How it works:1. Open the Amazon app on your phone2. Select the main menu (=) & tap on "AmazonSmile" within Programmes & Features3. Select Coalway Early Years as your charity4. Follow the on-screen instructions to activate AmazonSmile in the mobile app [smile.amazon.co.uk: You shop. Amazon gives.](https://smile.amazon.co.uk/gp/chpf/homepage/ref%3Dsmi_chpf_redirect?ie=UTF8&ein=900365-0&ref_=smi_ext_ch_900365-0_cl)See the source image |
| **Dates for the Diary****Friday 28th May 2021- Last day of Term****Monday 7th June 2021- Start of Summer B Term**Autumn 2020 diary dates | Hamilton Academy |