



## St Martin's Toddler Group January / February 2019

I hope you all had a great Christmas and wish you a very happy New Year. Welcome to our new friends who are just starting at toddlers and look forward to finding out more about you and your child. Please tell your friends about the group. Our numbers have gone down slightly, due to a number of children leaving to start pre school. So, if you know of anyone who looks after children under 5yrs old or who is expecting a baby soon, let them know about our wonderful Group.

**Our theme over the next few weeks: Epiphany and Numbers.** This will be incorporated in our crafts and singing at the end of the session.

**The Twelfth Night (Epiphany) 6<sup>th</sup> January,** marks a visit to the baby Jesus by three Kings, or Wise Men. In the West, Christians began celebrating Epiphany, associating it with the visit of the Wise Men to Jesus. The three men - named Melchior, Caspar and Balthazar - followed the star of Bethlehem to meet the baby Jesus, they offered symbolic gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. We will be making a crown and will be a 'King' for the morning.

**The NSPCC National Number Day -Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February.** On this day you can dress up in an item of clothing with a number on eg. top, cap, socks, jumper, it's up to you and optional. We will be practising number songs with actions and have number crafts. If you don't know your numbers when you arrive, you will by the time you leave!!! If you would like to make a donation to the NSPCC, a collection box will be available on the reception desk. NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children). For further information, see their website: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-we-do>

General housekeeping:

- ✓ Please bring in one piece of fresh fruit with you each morning. This will be cut up and shared with all the children at snack time.
- ✓ Please ensure you are sitting with your child at the snack table, teaching them how to behave and what do to. When they have finished they can put their bowl and cup into the washing up bowl, located to the right of the kitchen door, ready for washing up.
- ✓ All food and drink should be taken sitting at the table. Walking around with a mouthful of food can cause choking and sticky fingers will need wiping, to keep our toys and floors clean.
- ✓ Adults should keep to the snack area for hot drinks, to avoid accidents
- ✓ One last thing - if you are on your mobile, you are not looking after your child. Please, if you have to make an urgent telephone call whilst at the Group, take your child out of the room with you to make the call.

**Dates to note:**

- 8 January - Making a crown, fit for a King
- 5 February, Dressing up with numbers
- 12 February - Making Valentines Day cards, for a special person in your life
- 19 February - No group - half term, returning 26 February
- 26 February - Celebrate St David's Day

**Birthdays:**

If it is your child's birthday, please let the volunteer on the reception desk know, so we can arrange a card for your child and sing to them at circle time.

**Sad goodbye:**

Lastly we say a sad goodbye to Joy who has been one of our wonder tea ladies for the last few years. Joy is moving house shortly, to be closer to her family. We wish you all the best Joy.

**Please be patient**, as the volunteers take on new roles within the setting.

**Winter weather conditions:**

We will always do our best to open the Group, whatever the weather. However, we do have to ensure volunteers and parents/carers can access the venue safely. If we have snow or icy conditions, the Group may not open. We will send you an email to let you know. So, check your email messages, to avoid any confusion or inconvenience.

If you have recently changed your contact details, please let me know, so I can update your details that are held for you.

**Contact details:**

Toddler Group Leader - Sarah 07952 524819

Email: [stmartinstoddlers@gmail.com](mailto:stmartinstoddlers@gmail.com)

Website: [www.stmartinchelsfield.co.uk](http://www.stmartinchelsfield.co.uk)

Reverend John Tranter - 01689 825749

Family Worship every Sunday @ 10am, all welcome.

For baptisms, weddings and other appointments, please contact:-

Reverend John Tranter Tel: 01689 825749