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Dear Families,

PLAY BITE No. 10: What is a 'Voluntary Organisation'?

An independent, self-governing body of people who have joined together voluntarily to take action for the benefit of the community. Our voluntary Management Committee is made up of parents whose children use the setting, currently there are eight people on our committee. Voluntary organisations may employ paid staff or volunteers, but must be established otherwise than for financial gain. Any profits that AGOSC make are put back in to the organisation e.g. spent on decoration or equipment.

Next time: What does a Management Committee do?

STAFF NEWS

We have welcomed two new members of staff to our team lately:

- *Rebecca Phillips* has been recruited as a Supply Playworker to provide staff cover, she will also be working at other after-school clubs in the local area. Rebecca will be at AGOSC every Tuesday afternoon and on additional days when needed.
- *Morgan Dyer* has joined us as a Playworker. She will be working most afternoons alongside starting a degree in Working with Children, Young people and their Families.

Sadly we will be saying goodbye to Lotty Talbutt at the end of the summer holidays. Lotty has been with us for more than five years and we will all miss her greatly. She is moving to Cardiff with her husband (who has moved for his job), but promises to visit us when she can.

CAMP

In October AGOSC are going on our first camp. On Friday 8th October we will be heading to Barton Camp (www.bartoncamp.co.uk) for a weekend of swimming, sports, den-building, bbq's and general fun! The camp will be open to registered



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children aged 8 years and over, booking forms and further information are included if you are interested in coming.

GARDEN

As I'm sure you will have noticed, our front garden has had a make-over! Using some of our Awards for All funding we have had bin storage sheds built and a big bed for growing vegetables put in. At the moment we are growing potatoes, carrots, beans, salad, tomatoes, strawberries, cauliflower and squash. The children are enjoying watering the plants everyday – using our water-butt – and have already harvested strawberries and lettuce (which was made into delicious cheese and salad pittas).

DAILY FEEDBACK

In response to some comments on the questionnaires we have been receiving we'd like to tell you how we offer feedback to parents/carers when they collect their children from after-school club and holiday playscheme.

Currently staff try to give each parent/carer some feedback every afternoon but we know that this is not always possible (e.g. because the member of staff who greets you has not been in your child's group that day or several children are collected at the same time and staff are busy manning the door). We are working to improve this as we understand how valuable it is for you to know how your child has been and what they have been doing.

So that you know what activities are taking place each afternoon our weekly plan is always on the notice board (opposite the front door) and staff update this daily with free play activities that have taken place (bottom row).

If your child has had an accident or incident during their time with us a member of staff will always inform you and discuss it. There will usually be a written report for you to read and sign in these cases.

We would like to welcome you to call, email or visit us whenever you need or wish to if you would like to discuss your child's time at AGOSC in more detail. Staff are always here until 9am in the mornings and at 3pm in the afternoons or you can make an appointment outside of those times. If this does not answer your questions or you do not feel that it is satisfactory then please contact us and we will be happy to discuss it with you.

CLOAKROOMS

It has been fed back to us that some parents find it rather challenging to find their children's belongings when they collect them at after school club. It seems that the problem is mostly with the infant cloakroom (by the front door). Staff are very aware that the area often gets messy and we regularly have tidy-up times with the children and reward them when they put their things away properly. However, there is no escaping the fact that 20 children's coats, lunchboxes and book bags will not stay tidy for long! To help we now have a box on the windowsill for book bags and we



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have split the rack into year groups so that Reception put their lunchboxes on the top shelf, Year 1 on the middle and Year 2 on the bottom. This should mean that there is, at least, a smaller area for you to have to look through. Any further suggestions on how we could improve on the situation would be gratefully received.

MAY HOLIDAY PLAYScheme

Our theme of Careers was very successful. The children took part in lots of varied activities and workshops including; writing ideal menus, cheese tasting, designing towns on maps, building a model city, playing drama games, putting on a sketch show, using a sewing machine and customising clothing.

SUMMER HOLIDAY PLAYScheme

Enclosed you will find a booking form for the fast approaching Summer Holiday Playscheme. Our theme this year, inspired by our Awards for All funding for Gardening and Healthy Eating, is 'Eating Well, Moving More, Living Longer'. Below are more details about what will be going on:

- We will be offering an exciting and adventurous range of sports workshops, all of which are provided at no extra cost to you. Some of the sports sessions are only for children aged 8 and over, on these occasions 2 members of AGOSC staff will accompany the group to the venue in a mini-bus. When the under 8's remain at the Caretaker's House we have organised on site workshops for them that are just as much fun! Please note, children need to arrive **by 9am** on the sports workshop days.
- There are several cookery workshops; these are being led by Rachel Davies. Children will make a variety of dishes and will be picking vegetables from our garden to use in their recipes.
- We are having three trips on the Downs with the Avon Gorge Wildlife Project (www.avongorge.org.uk). These will be morning activities but we will be out for the whole day as we have planned other activities for the afternoons. We are also having a special trip in the final week to Crealy (www.crealy.co.uk/devon). These four trips are the only days that the increased fee will be applicable. On trip days the coach leaves at 9.30am so please ensure that your children are here **by 9.15am** at the latest.
- There will also be a fantastic variety of art, cookery and gardening activities and indoor/outdoor games.



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SUMMER HOLIDAY PLAYScheme ACTIVITY PLAN

Theme: Eating Well, Moving More, Living Longer

w/c 19 th July	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
AM Session	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	The Big Toddle
PM Session					Cookery: Fruit Kebabs & Dips

w/c 26 th July	Mon TRIP DAY	Tues	Weds am workshop	Thurs am workshop	Fri am workshop
AM Session	A.G.W.P. 'Wildflower Treasure Hunt'	Cookery Workshop: Fire cooking	Cheddar Grove Activity Morning	A.P.S.C. Under 8's -Bikeability Over 8's Canoeing *	Under 8's - M.A.S.C. Over 8's -Sailing*
PM Session	Park, Camera Obscura and Giants Cave	Fimo Flower Jewellery Line Tag and Chain Tag	Seed Collages Chair Racing	Topiary Flower Photo Quiz	Cookery: Funky Salads Make a Wormery

w/c	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
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2nd August	am workshop		Bike Fun Day	am workshop	am workshop
AM Session	Under 8's - A.P.S.C. Over 8's -Mountain Biking	Spanish Flower Pots World Music Games	Decorating Bikes + Scooters Bike Obstacle Course	A.P.S.C. Under 8's -Escape Over 8's Orienteering	Under 8's -Tallulah Swirls Puppet Show Over 8's - The Core Climbing
PM Session	Hanging Baskets Grandma's Footsteps and What's the time Mr Wolf?	Crab Football Outdoor Collages	Inner Tube Wristbands Scooter Relay Races	Cookery: Bruschettas Vegetable Print Pictures	Cookery workshop: Cakes

w/c 9th August	Mon Mini Olympics	Tues TRIP DAY	Weds am workshop	Thurs am and pm workshops	Fri
AM Session	Designing Flags Wacky Races	A.G.W.P. 'Nature Detectives'	A.P.S.C. Under 8's - Escape Over 8's - Climbing	Cookery workshop: Bread and Pizza	Mini Gardens Hide + Seek Tag and Stuck in the Mud
PM Session	Sports Carousel Trophy + Medal Making	Bristol Zoo	Cookery: Roasted Vegetable Quiche Sports Word searches and Crosswords	Under 8's The Big Bug Bag Show M.A.S.C. Over 8's -Bouldering *	Sports Display Nature Bookmarks

w/c 16 th August	Mon	Tues	Weds am workshop	Thurs am and pm workshop	Fri pm workshop
AM Session	Papier Mache Sports Modelling French Cricket	Fruit Pastel drawings Cookery: Fresh fruit tarts	A.P.S.C. Under 8's -Escape Over 8's - Caving *	Cookery workshop: Sauces	Flower Pot decorating Pea Races
PM Session	Model Painting Tails	Rounders Leaf Printing	Weird and Wonderful Vegetable Tasting Sports Quiz	Under 8's - Over 8's -Dance @Fishponds	Bristol South Swimming Pool <i>(please bring swimwear, a towel and a hairbrush)</i>

w/c 23 rd August	Mon am workshop	Tues workshop	Weds TRIP DAY	Thurs am workshop	Fri
AM Session	Under 8's - UV Dens A.P.S.C. Over 8's -Rafting *	Dance or Cookery Workshop: Fire cooking	A.G.W.P. 'Feathered Friends'	A.P.S.C. Under 8's -Escape Over 8's - Abseiling	Tissue Paper Flowers or Pebble Animals Hopscotch
PM Session	Cookery: Fruit Smoothies Sock Wrestling	Dance (or, Dodge ball and Sports Pictionary)	Sports and Den Building on the Downs	Make a Garden Gnome Heads Down Thumbs Up and Sleeping Lions	Garden Display Assault Course



w/c 30 th August	Mon	Tues TRIP DAY	Weds Fairground Day	Thurs	Fri
AM Session	Bank Holiday	Crealy	Apple Bobbing Toffee Apples Make a Coconut Shy & Splat The Rat	SCHOOL	SCHOOL
PM Session			Masquerade Masks Fairground games carousel		

Key:

A.G.W.P. – Avon Gorge Wildlife Project

A.P.S.C. – Ashton Park Sports Centre

M.A.S.C. – Merchant’s Academy Sports Centre

* - Please bring a change of clothes

am/pm workshop – Morning/afternoon only workshop

Encs: Receipts

Summer Playscheme Booking Form

Camp information and booking form (only families with children over 8 years)



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