



Caretakers House, Ashton Gate Road, Bristol, BS3 1SZ

Tel: 0117 983 3426

Email: [admin@agosc.com](mailto:admin@agosc.com)

Website: [www.agosc.com](http://www.agosc.com)

4 July 2016

Dear Families,

### **Play Bite No 30: What do the Board of Trustees do?**

The AGOSC board of trustees, which is made up of parents who use the club, have ultimate responsibility for directing the activity of the club, ensuring it is well run, and delivering our expected outcomes. The board are all volunteers and are elected at our Annual General Meeting (AGM). They meet approximately once a term.

The board provides leadership to the organisation by:

- Setting the strategic direction to guide and direct the activities of the organisation;
- Ensuring the effective management of the organisation and its activities; and
- Monitoring the activities of the organisation to ensure they are in keeping with our founding principles, objects and values.

### **2016-17 BOOKINGS AND WAITING LISTS**

We have now welcomed 60 new families and processed registrations for over 250 families so it is not surprising that there are long waiting lists for Breakfast Club and After School Club on most days (Fridays are never busy). We are recruiting a new playworker for After School Club on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays and have increased capacity on those days to 120 (from the original 112, which was up from 104 this year). We cannot do this at Breakfast Club because we have reached the physical capacity of the Old Chapel Park site.

There is always a huge amount of change in the bookings over the summer because families cancel places when their plans become clearer (or their employer finalizes their work schedule). We process these changes as quickly as we can but you can help us by letting us know if you:

- No longer need a place you already have (but be certain — if you give it up, it's difficult to get back...)
- receive a place that you no longer need
- don't need to be on a waiting list any more.

We will contact you as soon as your child gets a place but you can also ask Anne ([admin@agosc.com](mailto:admin@agosc.com)) where you are on the waiting list. (Anne usually works Mondays and Wednesdays so she may not return your email for a few days.)

### **SUMMER HOLIDAY PLAYScheme**



### **\*Book Holiday Playschemes Online\***

All families who register for the 2016-17 school year will be able to book the Summer Holiday Playscheme and following playschemes online. If you haven't yet done this, please ask Anne ([admin@agosc.com](mailto:admin@agosc.com)) for a "welcome email" with all the login information. **You can only make a booking for the Summer Holiday Playscheme if you have completed and returned a 2016-17 registration form.**

Please note that you can change your bookings up until the Thursday of the preceding week. After that, the booking is frozen and you will be charged even if you inform us that your child is not attending.

This summer's theme for the holidays is Brazil and the Olympics. All the activities we provide will be within this theme allowing the children to learn a little about Brazil, its people and culture and try out some different sports.

We have planned trips to Blaise Castle, Avon Valley, the Docks and a boat trip and Ashton Court. We have a sports workshop, a rainforest survival workshop, a carnival drumming and dancing workshop as well as a children's entertainer, a bouncy castle and the children will complete AGOSC's own Race for Life.

#### **Summer Holiday Playscheme – Important Information:**

- Our departure time for all trips (including local parks) will be 9.45am. Please ensure your children arrive at the Caretaker's House by 9.30am at the latest on trip days.
- The return time for trips will be 5pm at the latest. If we are delayed for any reason we will contact you by telephone with a revised time.
- Children may bring a maximum of £2.50 with them on trip days. Spending money should be given straight to a member of staff when you drop your child off in the morning.
- Children need to bring a packed lunch with them every day. We will be giving children two snacks per day, water is always available. Breakfast is not provided during playschemes.
- Please ensure your children are equipped with suitable clothing when they come to playscheme. This will usually include a sun hat, a rain coat, trainers and clothes that are allowed to get a bit messy!
- Please ensure that your children are wearing sun cream or pack sun cream on hot days.
- Playscheme opens at 7.45am and closes at 6pm.

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Thank you to everyone who attended our AGM on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June. It was great that so many people came along to see the children's work and watch them in their animal parade. The children and staff worked very hard to create such brilliant masks and outfits and it was a great celebration of what has been a successful year at AGOSC. Minutes from the meeting are available on our website.



We were very pleased that all of the current trustees were re-elected and are sure that this will mean another year of growth and stability for the setting.

### **MAY HOLIDAY PLAYScheme**

We had a fantastic Playscheme in May raising money for Child.org. Thanks to Playworker Alex for organising the week and to all of you who donated. We loved Ben's World Jungle workshop. The children, and some staff, really enjoyed the music and dancing. We also enjoyed an Art workshop where the children created string prints. Plus, the children got to take part in activities such as pizza and lemonade making, mask and outfit designs and a fashion show. The children liked splat the playworker, maybe a little too much whereas the staff enjoyed a few moments of peace with the sponsored silence.

### **CHILDREN'S TRANSITIONS**

Over the past few weeks, we have been preparing the Year 2 children for their move to Old Chapel Park next year. We have been taking small groups of 8 over each day to spend around 30 minutes there. This enables them to have a tour, ask any questions and see what it is like to make the change less daunting. We are happy to say that this has been a great success and the feedback from the children has been very positive.

### **TERM 1 LUNCH CLUB**

We will not be running Lunch Club in Term 1 until Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September; this is due to reception day care and to help everyone feel settled in their new year and class. We will email the plan for Term 1 to parents of Year 1 and 2 children in early September.

### **YOU SAID WE DID**

On each of our newsletters we share with you how we have responded to feedback from either a child or parent/carer. Your thoughts and opinions are very important to us and we welcome any comments.

**You said:** The children have asked to do more Pond dipping.

**We did:** We have put Pond dipping on our activity plan and are allowing small groups to do so under adult supervision. We have also brought some little pots for the children to collect bugs, newts, snails etc they find in the pond.