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### **Chirpy Chicks Playgroup February Newsletter**

***A scribble is not just a scribble - it's a word, a name, a story, a masterpiece (Anon)***

#### **February Theme**

Following on from last month's theme of weather and food this month we're looking at **Shopping**. We will be talking about the different shops we go to, how we get there and safety when out and about. A roleplay shop will be set up in playgroup where children can have fun playing and learning being shopkeepers and customers. We will be writing shopping lists, organizing the shop shelves, making items for sale and creating our own shop display. We will be following the 'Voice of the Child' in this activity and taking their lead on the type of shops they want to set up. Listening to young children is an integral part of understanding what they are feeling and what it is they need from their early years' experience. It's key to providing environments that allow them to express themselves in whatever form suits them.

#### **Pre-school progress reports**

We are starting these next week and your child's key worker will arrange a day and time to suit after the session.

#### **Pre-pre settling in reports**

The pre-pre journals will be handed out over the next week with a settling in report for the children who started from Halloween to Christmas. Children who have just started will have a settling in report completed after the half term break in February.

#### **(CAPS) Curriculum & Programme Support Quiz night**

Chirpy Chicks works with an Independent Early Years Support Service called CAPS. They have a wealth of experience in assisting groups like ours across County Down and further afield, advising on curriculum improvements, themes, planning and more. The playgroups they support also come together as a network to share ideas and best practice and the networking committee are hosting a fundraising quiz night in **Ards Bowling Club on Friday 24th Feb**. Details are on the attached flyer and let us know if you would like to attend so everyone can arrange to meet up for a fun night.

#### **Dates for your diary**

16 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Mid-term break Playgroup closed (Thurs & Fri)
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Staff training day Playgroup closed
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	CAPS Quiz night (Ards Bowling Club)
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	Finish for Easter Holidays
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Playgroup re-opens

**Thank you for your ongoing support – The Chirpy Chicks Team**

*Chirpy Chicks Playgroup Ltd is a not-for-profit social enterprise (NI638389) providing preschool education and empowering children to take on the world with curiosity, confidence, and positivity.*