

Children's Centre News

Newsletter for St Lawrence's Children's Centre, Heslington Road, York, YO10 5BW



Keep in Touch!

Just to let you all know that St Lawrence's Children's Centre has a new phone number 01904 555251.

Ring us to find out about groups and services at your local children's centre!

Children's Centre Celebration Event

A very successful Children's Centre Celebration Event was held in the city centre at the beginning of February. Nearly 1000 people from a wide range of backgrounds attended the event which had free children's activities as well as information about children's centres and partner organisations such as Family Information Service.

Parents and carers who participated in the consultation were given the chance to enter a prize draw. The three winners, Martin Alexander, Holly Kilner and Martin Smith, received a Story Sack containing books and toys.



2011 is the National Year of Communication!



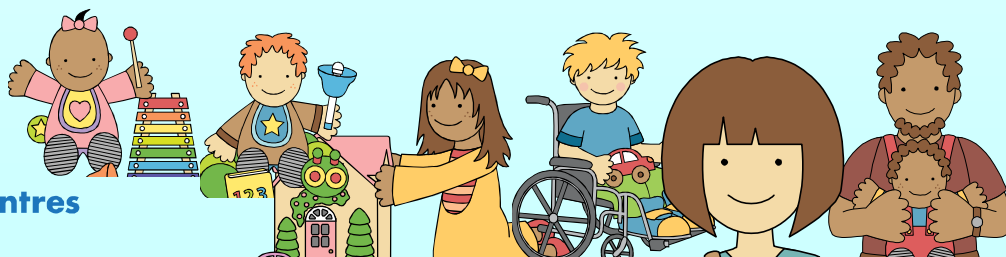
Help your child's talking and listen at home with these top tips:

Make a collection of different toy creatures e.g. a duck, a snake, an alien- say the sound it might make as you play together e.g. quack-quack, ssssssss, yuk-yuk- encourage your child to copy you.

Play-a-tune – and follow me! Make or buy some simple shakers, drums and beaters – play a simple tune and ask your child to copy. Have fun!

Use puppets and toys to make up stories or retell known ones. Record your child telling the story and playback to them.

Ask your children's centre staff for a leaflet with more top tips.





Come Cook With Us!

Come Cook With Us has been a great success with both Mums and Dads making healthy dishes for their tea and going away feeling confident about cooking.

As one of the parents said, "When cooking at home, don't be scared to give it a go and try something new."

Because of its success, the group will be running again in May for 6 weeks.

So why not Come Cook With Us and enjoy not only improving your cooking skills but sharing recipes, top tips for fussy eaters and learning how to create a balanced diet.

This group has limited places. If you want to book a place or if you require more information please call Angela on 01904 555251.

Bumps and beyond

Formerly known as under 1's, this group is now, after consultation with both past and present users, running on Friday afternoons at St Lawrence's Children's Centre in the Snug, between 1.00-2.30pm. The group welcomes expectant parents and families with a child under the age of 1. A health worker will bring the scales, if requested, to weigh your baby.

The group has limited places so please call Joanna on 01904 555251 to book your place or to get more information.

Come along and join the toy bus!

The toy bus is a mobile library service where you can borrow good quality toys, games, books and play equipment. It is also a place where advice and information can be found about play, toys and other children's centre activities.

Play is enjoyable and helps children to develop. Sharing the play experience with your child encourages and helps to form a close relationship. The friendly and welcoming toy bus staff are available to give any help and advice you might need regarding your child's development. They can assist you in choosing suitable toys and resources to help this development.

For more information visit our new look website at www.yorkchildrenscentres.org.uk/toybus, call us on 01904 551754 or email us at toybus@york.gov.uk.

For more information about St Lawrence's Children's Centre please contact the team on 01904 555251 or visit the centre website at www.yorkchildrenscentres.org.uk

If you would like to receive future newsletters by email please pass your details to a member of the Children's Centre team. A new online subscription service will be set up shortly.