

Spring 2023

Dear Parents, carers and family members

PLEASE CAN YOU HELP US?

ST JOHN'S
NURSERY
PLAYGROUPS

St John's Methodist Church  Mere School

This term at St John's Nursery Playgroup we will be looking at 'jobs in our community'. We have selected a few jobs initially to use as a focus for our planning, but we would like the children to have as many experiences of 'jobs' as we can provide.



We will be exploring the **building trade**. Are you a builder, decorator, carpenter, painter, plasterer, plumber or in any other related profession such as architect or interior designer. If so, would you or someone you know, be willing to come and talk to the children about your job. Bringing in 'tools of your trade' - maybe even showing the children how to cut, plane or drill holes in wood. Perhaps you have a few clean plastic pipes, wood offcuts or guttering, some small bricks, a few part rolls of wallpaper, some spare (safe) real tools to show or for the children to use.

Musicians is always a popular occupation or hobby. In the past Margaret Rhodes, our music co-ordinator, has been able to ask fellow musicians to come in, but we would also really like to hear what you can play or instruments which you could show the children. We have seen a didgeridoo, a finger piano, homemade drum in the past as well as more traditional instruments such as violin, trumpet, cello, recorders, harp, guitar, trombone etc. So don't be shy, the children love the opportunity to hear a short tune and look at/listen to the different instruments

We are looking at **chefs, cooks, bakers, caterers**. Do you have any items which could go on display or maybe something the children could use? Do you have any kitchen/cooking equipment such as kitchen scales which you no longer need? If you are in any of the above roles, could you talk to the children about it? Hygiene, preparation of food, special tools used could be shown to the children. Maybe you would be willing to help us to make soup, pizza or bread rolls during a session? Do you have menus, posters from restaurants?



We will be exploring the role of the **police** force and fire service. Again, do you know anyone who could come in and talk to the children. Do you have any posters, pictures, uniform items which the children could have on display? Notepads with police logo and any other items to enhance our roleplay area. We will incorporate road safety, having registered with 'Brake' for resources.



We covered the jobs within the **post office** when we prepared letters for Santa. We walked in several groups using our 'walkodile' to post letters which the children had written. Do you work in the post office or as a postal worker? Could we come for a visit in the sorting office? Are you a post or parcel delivery person? Would you be willing to come in and talk to the children about your job? Do you have or could you get some



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posters, leaflets, envelopes etc to enhance the role play area which this week will be a post office?



We are turning our home corner into a **pet shop**. We would like lots of pets visiting during this week! Obviously they would have to be safe with the children. Do you know or have a dog who you think could cope with up to 40 children in the room? Bird, tortoise, guinea pig, hamster, rabbit, cat, snake (preferably not a child eating snake!), other reptile? Do you know someone who might come and talk to the children about caring for pets (RSPCA, vet, pet shop owner, Royal Vet college student)? Do you have play cages or small pet carrier which the children could play with in the 'pet shop'? Please could you email/WhatsApp a photo of your pet. We would like to display these for the children to look at. Does your child have a furry toy animal which they could bring to the role play vets (please mark with child's name).

We will explore the **Health Service**. If you are (or know of) a nurse, dental nurse or doctor, health visitor please come to talk to the children about their job. We have lots of children's nurse's uniforms but it would be nice to see or put on display a 'proper' uniform. We would be really keen to see some of the tools of the trade (though not too many scalpels and drills please). Do you have any pictures or posters or would you be able to find some for us? Do you have an x-ray picture? Books or stickers (ie 'been good at the doctor/nurse/dentist')?



We will be walking down Darkes Lane to look at the many different types of shops, restaurants, hair dressers, estate agents etc so we can expand the children's language. **DO you work in one of these shops? Would you be able to show the children around?** We intend to continue the theme throughout the term, so if you have any ideas or would like to come and tell the children about your job, please let us know. office worker, in the armed forces, shop assistant, beautician, banker, farmer, optician, musician, beautician, toy maker, fire fighter, cleaner, gardener, printer - what do you do?

