

Spring Term 2026 Update

Main News

Local Schools

If your child is starting school in September this year, please let us know which school they will attend once their placement has been confirmed.

National Offer Day when school decisions are made available is 16th April 2026. Appeals closing date is 26 May 2026 and mini admissions round to consider changes is 20th May 2026.

Please see links to all the local catchment schools:

Feltwell: <https://www.edmunddemoundeford.co.uk/>

Hockwold: <https://licenihockwold.attrust.org.uk>

Weeting: <https://www.weeting.norfolk.sch.uk/page/?title=Weeting&pid=6>

Methwold: <https://www.methwold-pri.norfolk.sch.uk/page/?title=Duchy+of+Lancaster&pid=3>

Mundford: <http://www.churchsidefederation.norfolk.sch.uk/mundford/>

Medicine, Illness and When to Stay at Home

Children who have been given medicine like Calpol, Ibuprofen, cough medicine etc should not attend Playgroup. If your child is not well enough to attend without this kind of medication, please do not send them in. Our complete Illness Table can be found here: <https://www.feltwellplaygroup.com/info>
Please also take a look at the quick overview 'Should My Child Attend Today' at the end of the Newsletter.

Attendance (new EYFS guidelines)

In line with the new EYFS guidelines, we will record why a child is absent from Playgroup when not attending. Attendance is not mandatory in early years, so please do not worry if you want to keep your child at home. Please let us know via email or phone if/when your child will be absent and why. Our new 'Child Attendance' policy can be found on our website.

Sessions from September 2026

To the families that will still be with us in September, if you would like to make any changes to your child's sessions from September 2026, please let us know as soon as you can, as spaces are filling up quickly and not many are left to allocate. We have transferred the existing hours from this year over to the new school year, so if you don't want to change anything, you are already set up.

Children

Names on Lunch Boxes and Water Bottles

Please make sure to clearly put names on lunch boxes and water bottle as it takes time trying to match water bottles to the correct child during lunch time. We want to avoid children drinking out of someone else's bottle! It would be very helpful if names would be on the OUTSIDE of the lunch boxes. Writing it on with Sharpie is absolutely fine. Thank you!

Show & Tell

We love seeing the children bringing in their show & tells every morning. Please make sure the show & tell is small enough to put in your child's bag and is non-valuable (no jewellery etc).

Bag for spares and extras

Would you please make sure your child arrives with a bag with a spare set of clothes (including socks) that are labelled. This will also allow us to have somewhere to put items from home or to be sent home.

Early and Late Collections

If needed we can accommodate an earlier collection for your child in the afternoon. We are aware we have some families that need to do the school run in Hockwold. To make this possible we allow the child to be collected from Playgroup at 2:30pm. Please note the collection time is either 2:30pm or 3pm and nothing in between.

Please note in line with our policies, if you are late picking up your child by more than 5 minutes (therefore after 11:35am, 12:35pm or 3:05pm), we will charge a late fee. Our drop off times are 9am to 9:10am, and 12:30pm to 12:40pm. If you arrive after these times, your child will not be able to attend these sessions.

Accessories

Please ensure your child does not wear any accessories to Playgroup. This is to avoid choking and breaking of the item.

Dates

Spring Term Dates

1st Half Term:

First Day: Tuesday, 6th January 2026

Last Day: Friday, 13th February 2026

2nd Half Term:

First Day: Monday, 23rd February 2026

Last Day: Friday, 27th March 2026

Committee Meeting

Our next Committee & Staff Meeting is Wednesday, 21st January 2026 at 6:45pm

Parents

Parking

It has come to our attention that some parents park across our neighbour's drives when dropping off or collecting their children. We have had complaints about this and kindly ask you not to park in front of any dropped curbs, even if it is only for a few minutes.

Watching Children Play Outside

If you arrive early to collect your child, would you please stand out of view, so as not to distract the children. Although they love to see you, it can be disruptive and lead to them stopping play to stand at the fence/gate. It can also be upsetting for them to come back inside, once they realise you are here.

Mobile Phones, Photographs & Videos

For safeguarding reasons please DO NOT use your mobile phone whilst on the Playgroup premises, this includes the playground areas, unless you have been given permission by the Manager.

Your co-operation is much appreciated. Whilst we appreciate you sometimes wanting to take pictures of your child/ren, we would request that you take them once you have left the premises so that you don't accidentally photograph another child.

Approaching Staff Outside

While we understand that some parents are friends with members of staff, we kindly ask you to find out about your child at Playgroup only during staff working hours and only via our phone number, email or Tapestry. Staff are not permitted to discuss any progress or development outside their working hours or on their personal devices.

Paying Fees

Please remember that fees must be paid in advance of sessions attended. As per the policy, fees are now expected to be paid at least a half-term in advance. However, in some circumstances, it can be arranged for fees to be paid weekly. If your child is absent (half fees are payable in this instance) then any money remaining from what has been paid in advance will be credited to your account.

Thank you for your patience

We would like to thank all families for standing so patiently on the playground in the mornings. Please remember not to allow your children to play on the equipment while you wait and not to cross the barrier.

Support

Staff & Committee

Please find below the list of staff and committee from Feltwell Playgroup:

Staff

June ~ Manager & SENCO
Carolyn ~ Deputy Manager
Emily ~ Early Years Practitioner
Emma ~ Early Years Practitioner
Kerry ~ Early Years Practitioner
Kirsty ~ Early Years Practitioner
Lily ~ Early Years Practitioner
Rebecca ~ Early Years Practitioner
Merle - Administrator & Ofsted Individual

Committee

Jon ~ Chairman
Anne ~ Treasurer
Merle ~ Secretary
Joe ~ Trustee
Chris ~ Trustee

Any Questions

If there are any questions you may have or if there is anything you would like to talk about (child related or not), please know that we are always here for you. You can speak to any member of staff or send an email or WhatsApp message, if you prefer. We will try our best to help and support you in any way. Please be assured that any conversation will be kept confidential.

Email: playgroup.feltwell@gmail.com

Phone: 07582371984

Playgroup at Tesco Brandon

We are in the customer vote for 'Tesco Stronger Starts'. It's a scheme which gives community projects like us grants of up to £1,500. Tesco customers will now vote in Brandon from mid January to the end of March 2026 to decide how much funding we get, so please support us next time you shop at Tesco by selecting Feltwell Playgroup with the blue tokens you get when paying.

EasyFundraising when online shopping (no additional cost to you)

We've registered with easyfundraising and we need your help at no cost to you at all!.easyfundraising is a great website where you can help Feltwell Playgroup raise funds simply by doing your everyday online shopping with over 4,000 big name retailers like Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden, and M&S..Every time you shop, we receive a small donation to say 'thank you' and it's completely free too!

We want to raise as much as possible so please sign up and help us at:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/feltwellplaygroup/>

Tapestry

We like sharing your child's learning and experiences at Playgroup with you and we hope that you enjoy receiving these regular updates via Tapestry. If you have any questions about using your child's online learning journal on Tapestry please speak to your child's keyworker or send us an email. We love learning about what your children do at home, too. Tapestry can also be used for this or, of course, you can always fill in a High 5 slip with your child's achievement or news for them to bring in and share with us!

Should My Child Attend Today?

PLEASE STAY HOME

- Temperature above 37.5c
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea
- Rashes, spots or contagious conditions
- Sticky, red, runny or sore eyes
- Needs Calpol (or equivalent to get through the day)
- Dry consistent or barking cough

PLEASE DISCUSS BEFORE DROPPING AND BE ON CALL TO COLLECT IF NEEDED

- Sporadic Cough
- Runny nose, which is green/yellow
- New Medicine prescribed
- Fever free 24 hours
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea free for 48 hours
- Unable to join in all activities

OK TO COME AND PLAY TODAY

- Mild cough
- Runny clear nose
- Can join in all activities

