

Baby & Toddler group

Report for Annual Parish

This year I decided to ask group participants for their thoughts to go to the parish council rather than making any assumptions! Here are the responses. Hopefully the council will be pleased to see what a difference they have made to young families by making the venue available and affordable!

Best wishes

Zoe

I've been attending for over 6 years and it's always been such a welcoming, warm and safe place to come especially in those early days as a new mum where life is such a blur!

A lovely group where you can just sit quietly with a coffee after a sleepless night (or two, or three!) whilst the little ones have a great time or a super friendly group of parents to have a nice chat with too.

The range of toys and crafts are always great and both of my children have loved going each week.

I was just saying today that it's such a special group as you always feel there is someone there who could hold your baby if you had to run to the toilet with a potty training toddler or who would happily watch your toddler whilst you were feeding / changing your baby.

It's no exaggeration to say it's felt like a lifeline at certain points especially on days when having very young children can make you feel quite isolated. Thank you to everyone who has made this group happen over the years!

I moved to Frampton 2.5 years ago with a one year old, not knowing anyone in the area. I joined the toddler group and immediately felt so welcome. Not only are there so many toys to keep the children entertained, there is always an engaging craft for the children (and adults!) to get stuck into. One of my favourite things about the group is that the children all sit down together for snack time, and again for songs at the end, which is great practise for when the children go off to preschool. It also allows the parents the opportunity to have a good chat over a cuppa whilst the children are kept occupied with a biscuit! I have brought my son to the group since he was a newborn and it has been so lovely to form friendships with parents with children of a similar age. My mat leave wouldn't have been the same without this group!

The baby & toddler group is a real life line for us as a family. From having my first baby in lockdown who pretended to be asleep for the entire first group and then wouldn't leave my side for months to having a confident happy toddler enjoying the company of other children and grown ups. Having fun playing with all of the toys and sitting doing all different types of crafts with support. Enjoying a treat at snack time. He's come such a long way and we owe a lot of that to the baby & toddler group.

Then having my second child who has attended the group with me and my eldest since he was only a couple of weeks old. He enjoyed all of the cuddles and I got a chance to spend some one to one time with my eldest. Now he loves all the toys and especially the singing and playing instruments.

Personally I have felt so supported by the group leaders and other mums. Always someone there to give advice or just to listen. The group has given us the opportunity to meet so many local mums and it is so nice seeing familiar faces at the local parks and stopping for a chat whilst out on village walks.

The baby & toddler group means so much to us and we are so grateful to have a local group that we can walk to in the heart of the village where we can go every week.

Zoe Drew
May 2023