

Stoke Baby and Toddler Group



Annual report to the Parish Council 2024 - 25

We have had yet another successful year, with the older children moving on to Nursery and Schooling as ever, but many new faces joining us, including siblings.

Numbers continue to vary weekly, but now rarely fall below 18 per week and sometimes up to 28 little ones, along with parents, grandparents and carers.

It has been lovely to meet some new grown-ups as well as the children: it is important to remember that the group is for them too and seems to be very useful for new families moving into the village.

We are so grateful to our helpers again this year, notably Sue and Jan and also Vienna who has joined our ranks to provide extra energy and who has more recently been supporting the craft activities.

This Christmas we were again very lucky to have another visit from Father Christmas and all the children were given a present and treat. We have also had visits from the PCSO, Father Anthony and from the School Nursery.

We continue to cover running expenses (less hall rental), but are very aware of price increases of fruit and craft material. We obtain toys etc from Car Boot sales and local Buy/Swap sales – and by donation - which works, but not always easy to find in good condition.

Our commitment to keep prices as low as we can remains important to us, as we aim to be as inclusive as possible. We believe that £1.50 per family including refreshment represents good value, but we make it clear that this is only payable if the family can afford it.

Once again, we remain extremely grateful to the PC, who have supported us by covering the Hall rental for the year. Without this support, we simply could not continue.

Many thanks, once again for your support.

Unfortunately, for personal reasons, Karen and Tim and also Lucinda will be leaving the group in April 2025. We are extremely grateful to the new faces who are stepping up to run the group and will supply the names / contact details separately.

Karen Pearce – Chair, Tim Pearce – Secretary, Lucinda de Gregorio - Treasurer