



Newsletter: 17 September

"Play is the highest expression of human development in childhood, for it alone is the free expression of what is in a child's soul." Friedrich Froebel.

Welcome to a new school year at The Abbey School!

We are delighted to share the first issue of The Abbey's Stay and Play toddler group newsletter of the new school year. Over the summer, the Nursery building has been bustling with builders who have transformed our space into a wonderful new Early Years Centre. We have been so excited to show you around and for your little learners to explore and discover a variety of activities to encourage you and your child to engage with new friends and the staff here at The Abbey. Each session will have a theme for you to investigate together.

Our theme this month is: 'Who We Are'

Using mirrors with young children is a great way to encourage them to look and notice. They love to study their reflections when they sing, dance and play. With a younger toddler, 'peepo' games with mirrors are engaging and allow recognition of facial features. Talking about family traditions and events is an important element of thinking about who we are and using photos is an ideal way to begin this conversation.

The Stay and Play team is looking forward to meeting and getting to know you over the coming months. Each month, our 'Stay and Play to go' section of the newsletter will give you lots of new ideas for activities to try at home, even if you miss a session.

To begin the year, a familiar sensory activity at Stay and Play; our favourite basic playdough recipe. No need to cook and the possibilities of colours and scents are endless!



Stay and Play 'to go'

Basic Playdough

- 2 cups plain flour (all purpose)
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup salt
- 2 tablespoons cream of tartar
- Up to 1.5 cups boiling water
(adding increments until it feels just right)

- food colouring (optional)
- few drops glycerin (optional - adds more shine!)



Song Time

'Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes'

Action: touch each body part as you sing.

Heads, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes,
Heads, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes
And eyes and ears and mouth and nose,

Heads, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes.

Repeat verse, missing out 'heads'.
Repeat verse until all body parts are using the action only.



Upcoming Stay and Play dates:

15 October 2021
12 November 2021
10 December 2021

Please visit www.theabbey.co.uk/events for more information.

If you require any further information about The Abbey School, please contact our admissions department on admissions@theabbey.co.uk