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## ${\it WELCOME\ TO...}$



Sparks was set up in response to support the needs of families of Stoberry Park School in 2000. The breakfast and after school club is open to all children from the school during term time, and across most school holidays and Inset Days. In the September term Sparks is open for the new EYFS children from 1.15pm until the parents are able to collect them. This gives them the opportunity to settle in quietly before starting school full time. We also suggest that they might like to attend a couple of sessions during the summer holiday club, again to familiarize themselves with the surroundings, and also the staff. Our Sparks staff all have First Aid qualifications, are DBS checked and also undertake regular training courses.

We are open to children from 7.30am to 9.00am and 3.15pm - 5.30pm Monday to Friday. All children are taken into their classrooms by staff for the beginning of the school day and in the afternoons children are collected by one member of staff at an agreed location within the school and EYFS children are collected from their classes.

We trust that you will be happy at Sparks, and if you ever have any worries or concerns, please do talk to any member of Stoberry Park School staff.

SPARKS HOLIDAY CLUB is also open from 8.45am - 3.15pm during school holidays on the dates below:



- · Some Inset days
- Every half term (except Bank Holidays)
- One week at Easter (dependent on where Easter falls in the holiday)
- First 3 / 4 weeks of the summer holiday depending on when school closes. Sparks is closed for the last two weeks of the summer holiday for maintenance and cleaning.
- Sparks is also closed over the Christmas and New Year holiday.



During the holiday club the children have the freedom to choose their own activities, as well as taking part in the creative play theme days that we organise for them, for example Circus, Beach party, Fun food ideas, Animal Day, Superheroes, Pirate Day, Book Day, Science Day, Olympics, Rainbow Day etc. Cooking is always a favourite and utilising the beautiful outside spaces that we have

within school - this could be doing some planting, painting, making dens or sporting activities. Parents can choose days and times for their children to attend by signing up on Scopay, and we suggest that children come in clothes that are appropriate for outside play and also bring boots if it is wet.

Our aim is to provide a wide range of learning activities to cater for all ages. There is always a craft table, very often with themes to fit in with the seasons, festivals and theme days, but children are also welcome to create anything that inspires them. There is also a range of construction kits and small world play available, but children are positively encouraged to choose anything that appeals to them. We also have a quiet corner for children who would just like to read for a while and a technology area with internet, but with very strict parental controls set and also we monitor the amount of time that they are allowed to spend on technology, rather than playing outside or in the other creative areas.

Stoberry Park School is lucky to be set in magnificent grounds, and we aim to go outside as much as possible. The children are encouraged to play on the grass, in the wooded area and on the playgrounds, always with adults there to ensure their safety. We firmly believe that play is an essential part of children's physical and emotional development and also that children who have a Growth Mindset are more likely to learn from mistakes, be motivated to succeed, take challenges head on, put forth more effort, take risks, seek advice and learn faster. It may or may not have an end product, but it is always of value to the child.

"Play is the highest form of research."
Albert Finstein

"Love challenges, be intrigued by mistakes, enjoy effort and keep on learning." Carol Dweck

Kind regards, Mrs Hawkins

