

Dear all! Welcome to the summer term of **Bongalong**. We hope you and your babies/children are enjoying the sessions so far this term. A newsletter comes out each term, giving practical information as well as the ways the session content is supporting your child/ren's development.

Comments Please!

Do please let us know how you are finding the sessions this term by filling in a comments slip at your session. Please add your name and phone number if you want, as it is sometimes useful to have a chat.

www.bongalong.co.uk

The Bongalong website will go live at the end of June. Please take a look!

Membership cards

You will all be receiving a membership card in the near future, with your membership number on it, as well as contact details - stick it on your fridge or in your purse!

Don't forget you can order **CDs** and **instruments** from us, as well as children's Bongalong **T-shirts** and weather signs! Please ask for more information.

Payments

Please consider paying by bank transfer for next term. However, we will continue to accept cheques and cash as well for the time being.

We've been dancing throughout the term - we've made shapes with our bodies in the Ship Shape Song, played games with ribbons, shapes and instrument pictures, and will be doing some folk dancing later in the term. As well as allowing children to express themselves through movement, **our games have promoted listening skills, and reinforced colour awareness**. Even for the youngest babies, it's never too early to talk to them about what they see around them, encouraging language development. We have also been busy eating in Rumble Rock - children have enjoyed finding the foods and talking about what they like eating. The song also explored the different **moods and feelings** we all experience. **Familiar songs have played an important part in the sessions too** - we have had fun counting with the cymbal and bottles in **5 Green Bottles**, and have been exploring on our **Bear Hunt**, which many of you will know from Michael Rosen's book - giving children the chance to explore unfamiliar or scary situations in a safe environment. We will also be singing about a princess in a tower later on in the term. The weather has played a more prominent role as we have made music for windy, rainy and stormy weather. This gave us all a chance to explore some of our more unusual instruments, as well as developing listening skills and giving children further opportunity to investigate the world around them. The **Bongalong** has made another appearance this term and we've had a chance to think of what it might look like - **extending descriptive language and stimulating our imaginations!**

You can use music in so many different ways - to stimulate, to sooth or calm. Dancing and singing are fun ways to spend time with our children - **use them as often as you can!** Remember you can always ask me to email you the term's song words if you would like help to remember them - or make up new words yourself with your child.

NEW SESSION LEADER

Many of you will have seen my advert on the noticeboard for a new session leader.

Being a session leader is incredibly rewarding and lots of fun! It offers the chance to work locally and fits around your children's term and school/nursery times. You do not need to be able to commit yourself to a full day's work at this stage. You will need a good singing voice, energy and a sense of fun!

If you are interested, please contact **Asha** on **07811 460282** or asha.bongalong@googlemail.com

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter and for all your support this term. Booking forms for the autumn term will be out soon. We do hope you continue with us and tell your friends about us too. Any queries please contact Asha on: **07811 460282** or asha.bongalong@googlemail.com