

Mat Time

During Mat Time we listen to stories, sing songs and take part in group activities and games. This is an important time for your child and will help prepare them for pre-school and school. **Please take the opportunity to sit down and enjoy this time with your child**, encouraging them to listen and take part in the activities. We expect that children will not be playing with toys during this time and that adults will also be attentive. If your child is having difficulty in participating (as is likely to happen at some point!), please take them away from the mat until they can rejoin us, so other children are not distracted.

Leaders

If you have any questions or problems, feel free to talk to the co-ordinator, **xxxxxx**, or one of the team – **xxxxxx** or **xxxxxx**.

Contact xxxxxx: 04xxxxxxxx, or email xxxxxx@xxxxxx

Looking forward to sharing music & playtime with you!



About music & playtime

We at xxxxxx Presbyterian Church, xxxxxx have established **music & playtime** to meet the needs of families with young children in our congregation and local community. It is a predominantly music-based program, providing an opportunity for children and their carers to interact and have fun together with craft, music, singing, actions and rhymes. This is a church activity, run by Christians, and will include some Bible-based content each week. However, we welcome attendance from people of all faiths, and our hope is that everyone who comes along will have fun and make friends.

Program

9:30 – 9:50	Arrival, craft (or other quiet activities)
9:50 – 10:20	Mat time - music, singing, games and stories
10:20 – 11:00ish	Morning tea, free play

The preschool years are precious for both children and their carers, and a regular time to play and learn together is a vital part of developing a close relationship. Also, both children and their carers need a chance to meet with peers and make friends. **music & playtime** aims to provide this in a safe, caring environment.

Registration, Fees and Attendance

At your first visit to **music & playtime** you will be asked to **fill in a registration form**. Please complete this form for insurance purposes, and so we can contact you if necessary. The cost is **\$40 per family per term**, paid at the start of each term. This money is used to cover the costs of craft activities, morning tea supplies and providing and replacing toys and equipment.

We anticipate that by registering you are **committing yourself to attending regularly**. To assist us with planning, please let us know if you are unable to attend. We will have to limit participation in this activity to 20 families each term. If you do not attend for a period without explanation, we may offer your place to another family. Allowances may be made for special circumstances at the discretion of the organising team.

Morning Tea

We will provide some healthy food options for morning tea each week (eg fruit, crackers, cheese) so please encourage your child to sit with the other children to eat. For all our children's safety, please tell us of any allergies which the group may need to be aware of. Morning tea is also provided for parents and carers, and it is helpful if you are able to contribute to this on a voluntary roster basis.

Themes

Each term has an overall theme, with a specific sub-theme each week. Mat Time and craft activities will reflect these themes.

Craft

An organised craft activity is available each week. If your child is interested, **please take the time to sit down with them** and complete this as it requires adult supervision. Craft for children of this age group encourages exploring with their senses, so we encourage you to allow them freedom to try experiences and not to force them to achieve a specific outcome. You are free to take the craft home with you, although in some cases we may ask you if we can display it on the walls for a while, or it may be collated for you to take home at the end of term.