



BUMPS TO BABIES AND BABY SUPPORT GROUPS

Just a reminder to all expectant parents, if you want to come along, have a cuppa and a chat with other expectant parents or want a bit of advice or support – the group runs every Wednesday morning 9.30am - 10.30am

Or if you have a young baby and want some advice around feeding, playing or general development including weight gain (weighing available) or just fancy a chat with another adult – come along between 11.00am – 12.00pm on a Wednesday.

For more information Dawn 574539 ex 412
These groups also include support from Local Health Visitors.



FUNDRAISING FUN WITH PARENTS FORUM!

This term parents have been busy planning and preparing for the 2011 Christmas Fair. Sessions have been used to make various craft items to sell, which have included Stockings and Christmas Cards.

The funds raised will go towards Supporting Families in Canterbury (Bradford) Community Interest Company. This is a Committee that has been set up by parents and professionals to raise funds for family activities in the local area. The funds will also continue to support the extra's needed in the centre, eg children's christmas presents.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for their hard work on this project.

We are looking forward to 2012 and the start of Cook & Eat sessions at the Ministry of Food. Anyone interested in joining Parents Forum should contact Karen or Fiona.



Black History Celebrations

To celebrate Black History week, we invited an African Drummer to the Centre. The children had a great time and enjoyed learning about the drums and how to make different sounds with them. They then put on a small performance for their parents and carers.



CANTERBURY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2012

Canterbury Nursery School and Centre for Children & Families



Here at the Children's Centre we are running Socatots sessions every Friday 2-3 pm. Parents and children aged 2-5 have been attending. The sessions involve parent's and their children playing together and children learning new tricks with a football.

Attending SOCATOTS classes has enormous benefits for young children and their parents, some of which are listed below:

- Improvement of balance and co-ordination, as well as posture
- Development of cognitive skills
- Increased self confidence
- Improved social skills
- Enhanced muscle and bone development
- More body awareness and understanding of the benefits of exercise

If you would like more information regarding the sessions please contact Ali Asghar



Firework Party!

Following Halloween, the centre decided to hold an alternative to bonfire night by having a firework display. The event was a good team effort with everyone pitching in to make sure that families enjoyed the festivities in a safe environment. We were thrilled with the turn out – over 125 people came to enjoy the fireworks, hot dogs & refreshments.





CARERS SUPPORT GROUP

The Group continues to run on a Wednesday between 1pm and 3pm. The Group gives parents who have children with additional needs the chance to meet other parents and share experiences. This term we have welcomed two new members.

Over the summer, the group enjoyed a visit to the farm which was funded by money donated by Anne Clarke, a past member of staff. The Group have also received a donation from a family member of one of the parents that attends the sessions. The parents who attend the Group have also been hard at work fundraising in a local pub and they will be enjoying a Christmas Party out of the money raised.

A BIG THANK YOU FOR ALL OF THEIR HARDWORK AND KINDNESS IN RAISING THE MONEY



Creating a Community Vision!

Parents attending the Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities Parenting Course has been working on creating their ideal community. Involving their children, they put on their creative hats and made posters outlining what they would like to see for their family's future.

Parents stated that they would like to:

- See people living together in a multi cultural community in peace and harmony.
- Live happily without fear of intimidation.
- To be able to take children for walks in the local parks.
- To see young people involved in improving services.
- To enable everyone to have their voice heard in the local area.

The parents have lots of ideas about what they would like to see in the area and their vision will be shared with other community members and professionals as part of a wider consultation.

For more information contact Karen or Fiona.

Eid Celebrations

The children celebrated Eid this year by playing games with balloons, dancing to Asian music and ate party food!



Literacy and Numeracy – Bradford College

Bradford College continue to deliver both Literacy and Numeracy, levels 1 and 2 here at the Centre. A number of parents will complete their level 2 by the end of January.

There are still places available for any parents who would like to join. For more information contact Sue Wilkinson.



CHILDREN IN NEED

On Friday, 18th November, to raise money for Children in Need, children, parents and staff came to Nursery dressed in "spotty" clothes. The children took part in a sponsored walk around Horton Park and there was also a cake stall running throughout the day.



A grand total of £415.79 was raised, £69.13 from the cake stall and £346.66 from sponsorship money. A big thank you to all who took part and also a special thank you to the fathers who ensured that the route for the walk was safe on the day!



FAMILY LEARNING

This year's Family Learning has been going really well. We have more than 24 parents regularly attending either in the morning session or in the afternoon session. They have been doing really well with Makaton sign and general support for their children's literacy development as well as their own. This has been great for them as a lot of the parents are doing OCN accreditation alongside making their story sacks. Keep up the good work!



In this edition of our newsletter it's question time for one of our Early Years Support Workers, Julie Frankland!



What is your role within the Centre?

I am an Early Years Support worker here at the Centre. My role is to provide support, both indoors and outdoors to the Room Co-ordinator and Practitioner. I assist in the setting up of provision and the supervision of the children.

What is the best and worst part of your job?

The best part of my job is being part of a team that helps children learn and develop, giving them a better start in life. That is priceless.

What would be your dream job?

My dream job is to be a Wine Taster in Tuscany (hehe)

Favourite holiday destination?

Whitby

Favourite all time film?

Bram Stoker's – Dracula

Which pub or restaurant would you recommend?

Punjab at Listerhills

How do you spend your free time?

Attending Motorbike Racing Events and Rallies!

Early Years Teaching Centre

The seven Nursery Schools in Bradford joined together to apply to become a Early Years Teaching Centre as part of a project funded by the Government and led by the Pen Green Research Centre in Northamptonshire.

There were over 100 applications from all over the country and Bradford Nursery Schools were one of the 16 applications selected for the project. The project lasts for two years from April 2011 and we will be providing training for a range of early year's settings in order to improve practice. We will need to show how our training has made a difference and led to improved outcomes for children.

We are very proud to have been selected to be part of the project and are looking forward to the challenges that involvement in the project will bring.