

Newsletter October 2015

Hello!

Well where has the summer gone?! I cannot believe how time has flown by..... And I hope all our children have settled back well at school after that lengthy summer break.

This year's summer play schemes were full of the usual fun & a great time was had by all. You only have to look at all the photos we've collected to see that! Lots of smiley faces & lots of exciting activities. The evaluation forms were exceptionally positive and I'm busy collating them for our 6 monthly contract monitoring submission.

Talking of photos – we're looking to include some of these new photos on our website & to use in presentations in the future to raise awareness of all that we do. I can talk at length about all that we do but photographs themselves are so much better. Caroline will be notifying & seeking permission from individual parents specifically about this.

We're also branching out in to the wider world of social media. It's all a bit new for us but bear with us. I'm certainly a dinosaur in this department..... Follow us on



Facebook and



Twitter (@malvernfamilies). It's a great way to

communicate with people & within the 1st week of being on Facebook 2 new families got in touch with us who had never heard of us before. As we develop this it's going to be a great way to keep in touch with all our families and share information between us.

Included in this newsletter you'll also find lots of what I hope may be useful information. I'm very keen to share all that we find out with all of our families.

Thank you for all your continued support. Maria Munday, Business Manager

October Holiday Clubs

As some of you are no doubt aware we are trialing running our Malvern Oct half term 11-19yrs play scheme days over at Regency High School. We are transporting the children over there via minibus with our own staff.

We have received a number of really positive responses. We have also received concerns from a couple of parents on this & we will be evaluating how it goes after half term before we decide what to do in Feb half term next year.

Please be reassured we do value and listen to everyone's feedback.

SPACES

We still have a couple of spaces at the Fort Royal Holiday Club on Thursday 29 & Friday 30 October so do get in touch if you are interested in these.

1) Regency Holiday Club	
Worcester	£20
October Holiday Club	Regency Club
10am-3pm	
Monday 26 October	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuesday 27 October	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wednesday 28 October	<input type="checkbox"/>

2) Malvern Holiday Club (transport to Regency)	
Transport from Malvern	£20
October Holiday Club	Regency Club
9.30am-3.30pm	
Monday 26 October	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuesday 27 October	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wednesday 28 October	<input type="checkbox"/>

Malvern	
October Holiday Club	£20
10am-3pm	Poolbrook
Monday 26 October	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tuesday 27 October	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wednesday 28 October	<input type="checkbox"/>

Worcester	
October Holiday Club	£20
10am-3pm	Fort Royal
Thursday 29 October	<input type="checkbox"/>
Friday 30 October	<input type="checkbox"/>





We would like to invite everyone to our **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** being held on
Monday 23 November 2015
@ 6.30pm
& kindly hosted by our local TSB branch at
51 Church Street,
Malvern
WR14 2AA.
Please come along.
Refreshments served.



On **Thursday 12 November 2015** we have a Charity Auction taking place at 8pm at Malvern St James School, Malvern. Tickets details & further information to follow very shortly. We are busy collecting lots to auction off at the moment. If either yourself or anyone you know has anything to contribute please do get in touch. The more Lots we have the more money we will raise!

Charity Sky Dive

I'm also very lucky to have a group of staff who have volunteered to do a Skydive for us and I'm hoping to get this off the ground as it were in the spring. Get in touch if you'd like to join in with this or you know someone else who might!

The more the merrier!

MUD RUNNER

NOTHING TOUGHER

On 18 October 2015 we have Team MSF running the Mudrunner; made up of 10 members of staff, friends & parents.

I admire every one of them for agreeing to do this for us & wish them all the very best of luck on the day.



To donate to any of them you can do so to them individually via our page at www.justgiving.com

Malvern Special Families is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity in England and Wales • Charity no. 1143655 • Company no. 07413040



I'd also like to add a **special thank you** to a couple of people. Firstly to Kay Miller, Sally Dixon & Rhys for all their help at the Co-Op fundraising morning. We certainly had a laugh while at the same time collecting £304. A special thank you to Rhys. He was an absolute star & was instrumental in all those donations coming in!

And secondly to Tim Broomhall, Steph's (Deputy Play Leader) Dad. Tim saved the day running to our aid & jump starting a minibus during the summer play scheme so that all the children could get out on their trip. That act of kindness was much appreciated!



Community Fundraising - Thank you!

An update as to what's been happening & what we have planned!

So far this year from April we've raised £2106 from all our efforts and those of our partners. These have included:

Our charity Concert in June at Christ Church Malvern - £782 raised
£100 donation from Malvern Hills District Council after they held a dress down day at work
Beacon To Beacon walk by staff from White Stuff Worcester sponsorship money
David Hughes donated his leaving collection from his teaching job to us
TSB Malvern Branch fundraising in their branch for us - £100 & on going
Bake sale/tombola/raffle/book sale at Co-Op Malvern Link - £304 raised
Weight Watchers Malvern group donations

With match funding from Basepoint Evesham this brings our running total raised so far this year to a fantastic **£4212**. A really big thank you to everyone who was involved in these activities.

Community fundraising is vital to us. We only receive 57% of our running costs from Worcester County Council; the rest we have to find year on year from other charitable sources.

contact a family
for families with disabled children

Free information Workshop for Parents

Coping and Support



Families caring for a child with additional needs or disability are invited to book places for a welcoming and informative session exploring the issues around stress for parents of children with disability or additional needs.

The session will consider how stress impacts on the family and how we can manage stress in our daily lives. The aim is to give parents the tools to recognise the triggers of stress and look at different ways of

13th October 2016

At: Sandwell Community Information & Participation Service Ltd
Ground Floor, Christ Church Birmingham Street Oldbury
West Midlands B69 4DY

The session starts at 10.00am until 12.30pm

Includes free refreshments

To book a place or for further information please contact:

The Midlands office, phone 0121 415 4534

Email: westmids.office@cafamty.org.uk



Contact a Family provides support, advice and information for families with disabled children, no matter what their condition or disability.

Worcester

Activities & Events

FREE Ataalc Parents Information Event, with free lunch and refreshments.

Thursday 8th October 10.00 – 12.30pm

At Perdiswell Young People's Leisure Club, Perdiswell Park, Worcester WR3 7SN

Help your child by learning more about speech and language difficulties and meeting other local parents.

To book your free place contact Tony Curtis on 01223 244964 or email tonyc@afasieotland.org.uk

What Makes You Different Makes You Beautiful

Special Needs Support Network

New Centre, Open day!

THURSDAY
29th
October



51 Howsell Road, Malvern, WR14 1TH

What Makes You Different Makes You Beautiful has been up and running for 2 years, providing relaxed coffee mornings for parents and carers of children with special needs. The group also provides informative workshops for parents and exciting and inclusive events for their children.

A good support group can be invaluable, helping parents to take time to connect and laugh with others and free themselves from the usual worries. Talking things through can help a parent or carer feel less overwhelmed — and that's not just good for them, but for their whole family.

Now with the addition of the new centre we are aiming to provide a stress-free atmosphere and even more help to families in need of support.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT KIM ON 07796528026

EMAIL: wmydmyb@yahoo.co.uk

'Understanding Pathological Demand Avoidance Syndrome: the facts and the fiction'

Dr. Hilary Dyer

Monday 12th October
@ 12 noon - 2pm
51 Lower Howsell Road



Dr. Hilary Dyer

Pathological Demand Avoidance Syndrome (PDA) has recently attracted some much-needed media attention through the 'Born Naughty?' Channel 4 television series. This presentation by a leading UK expert in PDA is an opportunity to find out more about this perplexing condition which arises as part of the Autism Spectrum condition.

You will have a chance to find out about:

- What PDA is, and its relationship to ASD
- What the defining criteria are for PDA
- How it differs from other conditions (CD, ODD)
- My recent case studies which inform our knowledge of PDA
- Strategies which are known to work with PDA
- Strategies that don't with PDA – and why they don't

Dr Hilary Dyer, FRSA, AFBPS, is a Specialist Consultant Educational Psychologist working for over a decade in private practice across the country. Based near Worcester her specialist expertise is in assessing, diagnosing, and researching children and young people with Pathological Demand Avoidance Syndrome. For more information please visit her website at www.drhilarydyer.co.uk



The SEND Journey

A Parent's guide to Who's who and What's what

Information Sessions for Parents/Carers/Families: Autumn 2015

- Are you unsure about the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) system?
- Do you have a child with Special Educational Needs (SEN) or Disability?
- Do you know who's who?
- Do you know who can help?
- Do you want to know more?

Worcestershire County Council and SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS - formally known as Parent Partnership) are joining together to offer some short information sessions (just one hour long) for parent carers about the SEND system.

These information sessions are aimed at parent/carers of children and young people with additional needs.

They are designed to give you an overview of the SEND system.

You are welcome to attend any of the FREE sessions – to find out more about the SEND journey.

Booking is essential as places are limited, all sessions are free and drinks are provided.

Please call: 01905 768153 (24hr voicemail) or email: sendiass@worcestershires.gov.uk and let us know which session you intend to come along to. If you leave a message we will contact you to confirm your place(s). Please DO NOT contact the venues to book

Date	District	Daytime	Evening
Wednesday 14 th October 2015	Malvern Hills	10-11am ARCOS, Hatherton Lodge Avenue Malvern WR14 3AG	6-7pm ARCOS, Hatherton Lodge Avenue Malvern WR14 3AG
Thursday 15 th October 2015	Worcester City	12:45-1:45pm KGV Community Centre Ash Avenue Worcester WR4 9TL	6:00-7:00pm Horizon Centre Midland Road Worcester WR5 1DS

If you can't make any of the sessions, but would like to know more please contact:

SEND Information, Advice and Support Service:

Helpline: 01905 768153 (24 hour answer service) Email: sendiass@worcestershires.gov.uk

Write to: SENDIASS Young people's Support Services, Tolladine Road, Worcester, WR4 9NB

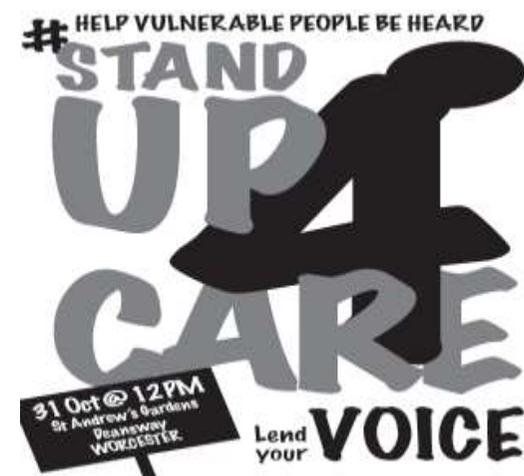
Office opening hours Monday - Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm

Website: www.SENDworcestershires.co.uk

If you would like more information about future events or would like to help shape how SEND looks in Worcestershire please contact:

Michele Davies - Worcestershire County Council's Parent Engagement Advisor

Email: mdavies3@worcestershires.gov.uk Telephone/text: 07595 091200



#StandUp4Care

Worcestershire County Council's budget has been cut by over £50million in the last two years and social care has been hit hard. Cuts to the Public Health budget announced recently will further significantly reduce services and support for people suffering domestic abuse, homelessness and drug or alcohol addiction.

The *StandUp4Care* Campaign aims to raise awareness of what cuts to public services mean for real people and to call for a public debate on the financing of services and support for our most disadvantaged and vulnerable citizens.

If you believe that changes to social care for adults, young people, children and families are causing difficulties for the most vulnerable and those least able to speak out for themselves, please show you care by giving the *StandUp4Care* campaign your fullest support.

Join the March and Rally

12 noon on Saturday 31 October 2015

Meet at St Andrew's Gardens – next to Heart of Worcestershire College on Deansway.