



Windmill Children's Centre News

A SureStart Children's Centre serving Adeyfield, Highfield and St.Pauls

Family Fun Day a great success

We would just like to say a big **Thank You** to all the families that came and supported our first Family Fun day on Saturday 30th May. It was a great success and over 566 people came through the gates. They enjoyed seeing the animals in the petting zoo, taking part in family sports events, Yoga Bugs, Dinky Dancers, and craft stalls. As well as meeting local police and fire officers. Look out next year as this is going to be an annual event.

Second Outreach Worker

Due to the success of the Children's Centre's work we are currently in the process of employing a second Outreach Worker who will hopefully be in post by the end of July.

Summer Holiday opening times

The Children's Centre will be open during the summer holidays, with our weekly sessions running as normal. If you wish to drop in to the centre out of these session times during the holidays please call the office to check we are open as there may be reduced hours due to staff holidays.

Summer Activities

August's newsletter will contain August and September's activities which will be sent out before the schools break up for the summer holidays.



What does our Outreach Worker do?

Our Outreach Worker Karen runs fun activity sessions such as Stay & Play, First Steps, Messy Play, and a new one to look out for in July is Rhyme Time with craft activities.

Karen can also offer 1 to 1 support to families; these sessions can cover any subject from setting routines, boundaries and behaviour management., helping signpost to services for additional support and helping parents on all aspects of parenting.

If you feel you would like to talk to Karen in confidence for support and advice about issues you are facing, please give her a ring on 07824 56 55 45

Windmill Children's Centre
Broadfield Road
Hemel Hempstead
HP2 4DW
07909 555 299
01442 426303
Manager. windmill@hertschildrenscentres.org.uk

www.hertschildrenscentres.org.uk/windmill

Issue 15— July 09



Manager - Caroline



Outreach worker-Karen

Free pre-school & nursery places for 3 & 4year olds

Hertfordshire is part of a government scheme to provide more free places at nursery and pre-school and make it more flexible.

Nurseries and pre-schools that have joined the scheme can offer up to 15 hours a week free, 38 weeks per year. If the nursery or pre-school have not joined the scheme, they can still offer 5 sessions a week, 2.5 hours a session.

More settings are joining all the time, including some childminders, so if in doubt, ask if they have joined the scheme or are planning to do so.

When can my child get a free place?

Start dates depend on when your child was born:

1 Apr-31 Aug - Child can start in Sept after their 3rd birthday.

1 Sept-31 Dec - Child can start in Jan after their 3rd birthday.

1 Jan-31 Mar - Child can start in Apr after their 3rd birthday.

What should I do now?

Contact the pre-school or nursery you like and ask them:

1-Do you offer free places?

2-If yes, do you offer the extra free time-15 hours a

week?

3-Can I choose how to spread these hours over the week?

4-Can you offer me more than the free hours if I need it and how much would that cost?

5-How do I apply?

Also check that the pre-school or nursery is the right one for your child by visiting and talking to the headteacher.

For more info, ring the Family Information Service on 01438-737502 or 01923-471502 or email fis@hertsc.gov.uk

SureStart



What is Coming up at Windmill Children's Centre?

All Windmill Children's Centre activities must be booked

- **Wednesday July 1st** — **Dinky Dancers** - 1.30-2.30pm. Come and watch your child's first dance moves! £2.50 per child and £1.50 for additional siblings.
- **Thursday July 2nd, 16th & 30th** — **Under Ones/Parents to be Group** - 9.30-11.00am Come along with your babies or bumps to meet other parents at the same stage. **FREE** Fortnightly now alternates with Baby wonderland session.
- **Thursdays in July** — **Well Baby Clinic** - 11.00-12.30pm. Come with your well babies to have weight checks and see your local health visitors. This is a weekly session
- **Fridays in July** - **First Steps Group** - 11.45-1.00pm. For toddlers aged between 1 and 2. A natural follow on to our Bumps and Under 1 sessions. Come along and enjoy seeing your child engage with other children of the same age group. **FREE**
- **Friday July 3rd** - **Indulgence Evening** at Hammond School - 7.00-10.00pm. £3-00 in advance, £3-50 on the door. Book via 07980-200032 or email Jackie@jindulgenceevents.co.uk
- **Friday July 3rd & 10th** - 2.00-3.30pm **Baby Massage** The last 2 sessions of the 4 week course. Suitable for babies pre crawling!
- **Monday July 6th** - 9.00-11.00am. Drop in sessions run by **The Sunflower Centre** for people suffering from domestic violence. Run by an Independent Domestic Violence Officer offering emotional and practical support for victims of domestic abuse which includes emotional, physical, verbal and/or financial abuse.

- **Monday July 6th** — 1.00-2.30pm. **Stay & Play** at the Windmill Children's Centre. Come to this **FREE** session and play with our toys.
- **Tuesdays** - 1.30-2.45pm. **Parent Support Group** The course continues for 6 more weeks having started on 23rd June. A free crèche is available by prior arrangement. During the 8 weeks the course will cover things such as being a parent, feeding, sleeping, behaviour (including temper tantrums and aggression, crying and sibling rivalry) and separation. You can join at any point.
- **Thursday July 9th** - 9.00-11.00am **Muddle Free Maths workshop**, for parents of children from Reception to Year 6. Taster session to help understand how your child is taught Maths. Held in Broadfield School, please book via the Children's Centre if you do not attend Broadfield School.
- **Thursday July 9th & 23rd** — 10.00-10.45am **HartBeeps Baby Wonderland Music**, singing and activity session aimed at the **under 1s**. £2.50 per child and £1.50 for additional siblings
- **Friday July 10th & 24th** — 10.15-11.00am **HartBeeps Music**, singing and activity session. This ever popular activity costs £2.50 per child and £1.50 for additional siblings
- **Monday July 13th** — 10-11.30am **Messy Play** Come along to this free fun session and make messy art. Better still, you don't need to worry about the mess!! And it's **FREE!!!**

- **Tuesday July 14th** - 10.00-11.00am. **Rhyme Time Activities** Crafts with a nursery rhyme theme which bring the rhymes to life. **FREE** session
- The **Educational Psychologist** will be at Windmill Children's Centre on **Wednesday July 15th** between 1-3.00pm, covering your child's education or development and aimed at the age group 0-19. These are one to one, half hour sessions and need to be booked in advance by calling the Centre.
- **Wednesday July 15th** - 9.00-11.00am. **Keeping Up With The Children** for parents of children in Reception to Year 6. Taster session to help you understand how Literacy is taught in schools. Held at Windmill Children's Centre. Book via the Children's Centre if you do not attend Broadfield School.
- **Friday July 17th** - 9.00-11.00am. **Childminder & Toddler Group** for Childminders in our area and the children they care for.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



We still need volunteers to help with our activity sessions. You would be involved in helping with setting up and tidying away, as well as assisting during the actual sessions.

If you would like to get involved in this rewarding and fun opportunity, please give us a call or pop in to see us.

An enhanced CRB check will be required. Forms are available from the Children's Centre office.

