

# SCHEMENEWS

Newsletter for volunteers,  
families, funders and  
friends of Home-Start  
Warrington

Spring 2016

Charity Number 1116515 Company Number 05563277



# Home Start

Support and friendship  
for families



## Mother's Day Event

We held another Mother's Day event this year. Again this was a great success and was well attended by our Mum's and Home-Start Volunteers. The Staff and Trustees waited on and served afternoon tea, while the children played with a variety of activities. All Mums and

Volunteers received a gift and there was also a raffle with lots of exciting prizes. A big thank you to all who donated the food and made the event a great success.



## Volunteer Support Groups

Our Volunteers recently attended a group on 17<sup>th</sup> March. This was facilitated by Diana Grylls, one of our Home Visit Volunteers who informed the group about Attachment & Bonding. The group was well attended and enjoyed by the volunteers and staff alike.

The next group is on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May – Volunteers, please book on to find out more about Credit Union.

## Volunteer's Resource Library

We now have a resource library available to all our volunteers, for use with the families that you support. We have a stock of books relating to child development, coping strategies, cooking and meal planning and various self-help guides. Pop in and take a look, you are free to take on loan!



**Donations  
are Greatly  
Appreciated!**

## Donations

Once again, we are very grateful for all funds donated to us and other miscellaneous income.

The Volunteer Expenses donated back in to the scheme since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 - **£2,321.17**

Staff travel expenses donated back to the scheme - £83.72

Other donations, since our last Newsletter include:-

Kirsty James' event £20

Penketh Methodist Church £302.40

East Fundraising £54.50

Mother's Day Raffle £49.62

Just (Text) Giving £1

The Big Give £28.80

BT my Donate £19.74

Vouchers donated from Marks & Spencer, Tesco, and food goods from B & M

Many thanks!

## Read along with Home-Start

16 of our volunteers have been involved in the exciting 'Read on With Home-Start' project. This brought Home-Start, Livewire, Bookstart and Sure Start Children's Centre together to encourage families to share stories and rhymes together and increase communication levels in the home.

Booktrust's Natasha Baker and Miranda Greenwood, the Family Reading Coordinator provided training to show volunteers how to gently develop parents/carers confidence in introducing books and rhymes to their children. Volunteers also received a set of books and resources to gift to their families including puppets, crayons, stickers and a rhyme CD. The volunteers who took part loved the training and said how much they had gained from it; *'I think it was wonderful training about reading. I learned so much and really do feel excited about using it with my family.'*

So far 23 parents and 33 children have taken part in the project and enjoyed the resources and benefits that reading and singing have;

*'My family love having the books and keep them in the basket in the lounge so she can get them whenever she wants!'*

Volunteers have also been encouraging their families to access their local Children's Centre and libraries and borrow books from there. We have seen lots of positive impact with the families involved and the feedback shows families feeling more confident and motivated to share stories and rhymes and children's attention and listening improving as a result.

*'I can't believe how Sophia is engaging with the books now. Before she just would throw them but now she brings them to me to read with her!'*



**Sophia and Mum**

## Social Media

Please help us to promote our new Facebook page. We want to increase our likes and share our information, so please like us and share us and get us to 300 likes!

<https://www.facebook.com/HSWarrington>

Also, we're on twitter too - Join us!

[https://twitter.com/HomeStart\\_Warr](https://twitter.com/HomeStart_Warr)

## Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire's Visit

On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016, Kate & Chris met with David Briggs, the Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire. David was accompanied on his visit by Zoe Sheppard, CEO of Cheshire Community Foundation, as David is a Trustee of our funder, and he had expressed an interest in finding out more about us and the work that we do. The meeting went very well, with David and Zoe visiting the family home of one of our supported Mums, along with her Volunteer Diane.



## Golden Gates Housing Funding



We have recently been awarded £1,000 by Golden Gates Housing, to enable us to continue to provide our one to one family counselling service. This is made available to any family that we are currently working with, who is also a resident of this housing scheme and who would like to access this service.

## English Half Marathon 2016

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> September heralds the eighth English Half Marathon in Warrington. This will be the seventh year that we have been involved, and over the years, we have had a few regular runners, with special thanks to Nick Bent and Dave Scully. Last year we also had support from Watson's Solicitors who ran either the 10k or the Half. We are always looking for more supporters, so if you or any of your family and friends are considering entering, or your company would like to enter a team, please give us a call, as we would love to increase our funds.



## Families Together

Families Together is a 4 week parenting course with a nurturing theme. The course helps parents build their confidence and become more aware of what they are good at. It also encourages parents to be more aware of how their parenting styles impact on their children. The course is run with a small number of parents and there is lots of group discussion. The courses are funded by Sure Start Children's Centre.



## Recycling For Us!

If you have any spare mobiles, or ink cartridges - we can turn them into cash. Please let us know if you can support us, call 01925 652320. We can always pick up in Warrington if you cannot get them to our office in Orford.

## Congratulations to Rachel

Congratulations to Rachel, our Outreach Worker, who has recently passed an NVQ Level 2 in the Children and Young People's Workforce. Rachel enjoyed the course and is considering moving on to the Level 3. Well done Rachel. We are all very proud of you.

