



Supporting children and young people with special needs, and their families

Issue 2, December 2015



Hello!

Where on earth have the months gone? I can't believe the last newsletter was back in August! We've had a fab term back at Jacob's Ladder and have had three new children that have joined us at after school club. Now the afternoons are darker we've been going to soft play and visiting a new activity centre which we love! The bouncy castle and ball machine go down very well with our children. The only issue we have is persuading the children to leave! In the last couple of weeks the excitement of Christmas has been growing. We put up our Christmas tree and the children all helped to decorate it, we made festive paper-chains to hang along the corridors, and we've done lots of Christmas baking!

As many of you now know, there has also been some big news for me. My husband Paul and I are expecting a baby in May 2016 which is very exciting! As I'm sure you will all understand there will be some small changes at Jacob's Ladder next year. However, we know how important our services are to our children and families, and rest assured Jacob's Ladder will continue to run! We will keep you updated with plans.

Wishing you all a fabulous Christmas!

Kirsty x



MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and a happy and healthy 2016!

We will be closed over the Christmas holidays and will be back the week beginning 4th January.

Our Jacob's Ladder heros....

As we go into the new year I thought now would be the perfect chance to say an absolutely massive thank you to our team of incredible volunteers. Every week our volunteers give up their own time to come to Jacob's Ladder to help provide the best possible play experiences for our children and young people. They give so much time, energy, patience and enthusiasm, and ensure that without doubt our children enjoy themselves, are safe, understood and relaxed.



They put up with getting very messy, being dressed up, singing endless songs, playing outside no matter what the weather, crawling through tunnels and ball pits and so much more! Each and every one of them is wonderful and we couldn't do what we do without them. So...

Jo, Tom and Paul (our deputy managers), Alison, Amy, Emily, Chloe, Hollee, Maisie, Summer, Shannon and Laura...

...you are all stars.

Thank you!



We are always on the lookout for more volunteers to join us, and we are in desperate need of volunteers to start with us in September 2016. If you would like to get involved, or know someone who might, then please get in touch by emailing jacobs-ladder@outlook.com or calling 0788 444 6863.

Fundraising news...

Christmas is always a busy time in terms of fundraising. Here's what we've been up to...

- ★ We had stalls at both Wilton Village Christmas Fair and Trowbridge Christmas Fair, raising a combined total of £365
- ★ We ran our very first Jacob's Ladder Christmas fair which was a huge success. We had a scrummy cake sale, tombolas, face-painting, a decorate a tree competition, a chocolate lucky dip and of course our 'guess the name of the Bunny' competition. The fair raised a brilliant £340
- ★ The fairs and sales of Christmas cards has brought our Christmas fundraising total to just over £1,100!
- ★ Thank you to everyone who bought cards and decorations, and a special thank you to our wonderful volunteers for helping out

Lottery...

★ We continue to run our small society lottery each month. Buy a number for £5 and be in with a chance of winning the month's lottery pot! From your £5, £1 will go into the lottery pot while £4 will go directly to Jacob's Ladder to help provide projects for our children and young people. If you'd like to play please email jacobs-ladder@outlook.com, or text 0788 444 6863 with a number between 0 and 50. You can keep the same number if you'd like to play every month or change each month. The draw takes place on the 25th of each month.

Books needed!

Lots of our children adore reading and looking at books. We currently have a very limited selection though and are in need of more! If you have any of the following that your child no longer reads and you want to donate them to a good home, then please get in touch:

- Counting books
- Charlie and Lola books
- Julia Donaldson books
- Books with number songs in
- The Bear Hunt (we love this but need a new copy!)
- There was an old lady who swallowed a fly
- Any other books that are popular with your own children!

