

we have had a difficult time in the nursery over the last six months or so due to some long bouts of staff sickness. This left us very stretched and without the help of some of our excellent dedicated volunteers we would have failed in our aim. Heartfelt thanks go to all of them, we really do appreciate all your help.

Another highlight of the nursery was the acquisition of a new computer after Carole successfully secured some funding. The children can once again enjoy some one to one work using the latest technology.

2010 Events Calendar

Future events and dates for your dairy

Santa's Helpers at Blooms Garden Centre, Hardwicke Gloucester every weekend from 13 November — If you would like to volunteer to help us raise funds by helping Santa please call Carole or alternatively please take your children or grandchildren along and visit the grotto.

Collecting at Sainsbury's Barnwood
Friday 3rd & Saturday 4th December 2010.

Christmas party days will be held for the families at The Family Haven on Tuesday 21st and Thursday 23rd December. We have a magician coming to entertain the children. A lovely Christmas lunch will be provided and finishing off with a visit from Father Christmas.

Volunteers will be required for Sainsbury's and the party days. If you are able to help please contact Anthea Graham by email on anthea@richardgraham.org

Christmas 2010

Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat.....

Please put a penny in The Family Haven's Hat

If you haven't got a penny.....an hour of time will do..

If you haven't got an hour.....

Then GOD BLESS YOU.....

Seriously though we appreciate all the help you have given us during the year at The Family Haven, whether you volunteer your time, or have donated unwanted items, gifts and money.

Everyone can help us especially at this time of giving and hope for the future by providing a small gift or box of chocolates for the parents or a small toy for the children. Festive food is always appreciated as we provide Christmas parties for both parents and children.

Welcome



A warm welcome to our new trustee Robin Buchanan, who joins us as the trustee with responsibility for our Friends.

It's not too late to become a 'FRIEND'

We have started to build up our group of 'Friends'. We now have 44 committed members who give a generous annual membership fee and support us in some of our fundraising endeavours.

The aim of the friends is to support the trustees and staff in providing the services of The Family Haven. This support is given through their regular subscriptions, their publicising of our activities and when possible, offers of voluntary help.

We are still hoping to attract more supporters and would be very grateful if you know of anyone who may be interested in joining us. If you do please ask them to contact us either by telephone on 01452 422971 or 01452 528692, alternatively they could email us on carole@thefamilyhaven.com

helping vulnerable families to a brighter future

NEW STAFF MEMBER



Laura our deputy nursery leader left us in September after six years. Laura came to us straight from college and proved to be a great asset, working her way up to deputy. She is now working as crèche leader at the Isis project. We wish her well. I'm pleased to say we have been very fortunate to find an excellent replacement. Helen Addis joined us in the middle of October and comes with bags of experience recently as nursery manager of a nursery in Cumbria. We look forward to a long and happy association with Helen in the years to come.

The Family Haven benefits from T20



1st team players from Gloucestershire County Cricket Club visited The Family Haven to launch the joint fundraising initiative at T20 Gloucester.

The Family Haven was thrilled to be chosen as the club's charity for T20 Gloucester. The exposure given to The Family Haven by the club at the event was considerable and as a result we were able to raise a total of £917.56. Our sincere thanks must go out to friends and trustees, the cricket club, its officials, staff and supporters for this wonderful contribution to our funds.

GCCC Chief Executive, Tom Richardson said "We are delighted that taking T20 cricket on the road has provided this opportunity to help raise funds for a local charity." We are keeping our fingers crossed that Gloucester County Cricket Club and T20 returns to Gloucester in 2011.



Harvest Festival Donations

Once again we were very lucky to receive many harvest donations which came in the form of fresh, tinned and dried produce as well as some monetary donations. We would sincerely like to thank all groups and individuals who so kindly donated. The produce we receive is always welcome and enables us to replenish our stocks to help see us through to

November 2010

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penguins. Their antics entertained us for ages.

Some of the families stayed in Birdland, whilst others had a little look around the picturesque setting of Bourton. Some of the families visited Brum at the motor museum, whilst others wandered down by the riverside. Everyone agreed that they had enjoyed their day out and would like to come back again for another visit.

Every July as a treat we take the children who are about to start school on a train trip. This year nursery took them to Lydney Park in the Forest of Dean. There was plenty for them to play on in the park and they also got to feed the ducks. They had a picnic lunch and had an ice-cream before getting back on the train for the journey home.

In August we went on our annual outing to Weston. Once again The Mother's Union were kind enough to pay for the hire of the coach. It wasn't the sunniest of days but at least the weather kept dry. The coach was filled to capacity as it always is on Weston trips. We were hoping that the pier would have been open but alas that was not the case.

Nevertheless there is always plenty to do and enjoy in Weston. Some of the children went on donkey rides; others went to the fair and most spent some time on the beach. When the children arrived back on the coach some were covered in sand others in candyfloss but all wearing huge smiles. Another successful trip to the seaside.

Birdland— Bourton-on-the- Water



Train Trip to Lydney Park.



Weston Super Mare Trip



to spare after an excellent bowling attack inspired by the BBC Captain Steve Brodie.

Our sincere thanks must go to the Gloucester City Winget Cricket Club for allowing the game to be played on the Spa ground and for the effort made in getting the wicket playable after torrential rain and also to the members of the BBC team some of whom travelled many miles. Special thanks must also go to Laura's Mum who made us an amazing assortment of delicious cakes and scones which were enjoyed by all during the tea interval.



The Sixth Wife - Gloucester Cathedral Chapter House



On Friday 24 September we presented The Sixth Wife, a one woman show by Alison Neil in the Chapter House at Gloucester Cathedral. Alison played Catherine Parr and relates the story of her life on the eve of her husband, King Henry VIII death. It was a performance enjoyed by over 100 people some of whom had not attended a Family Haven event before and it proved successful not only as a fundraiser but by attracting new supporters and friends for The Family Haven.

Visit To Highgrove

On Monday 27th September a coach full of eager garden lovers departed from Spa Road to Tetbury to visit the gardens of HRH The Prince of Wales. This fundraising trip proved to be very popular, so much so that we could have filled the 25 allocated spaces three times over.

It was a dreary day and drizzled for most of the time. However the weather did not detract from the truly amazing gardens which were on view and the knowledge obtained from the experienced guide who walked with us for almost two hours. Everyone had their favorite area of the Princes garden and there was much discussion on the journey home regarding a date for a second visit in the spring.

Nursery grows their own

The children (with a little help from the staff) had a very successful year growing their own vegetables. Onions, potatoes and beans were enjoyed by all. We had a particularly good crop of tomatoes and beetroot but sadly the carrots, pumpkins and butternut squash did

