

Farewell



It is with great sadness that we have to say goodbye to Hazel Shelley, who has given 24 years committed service to The Family Haven. After all her hard work, she now deserves to take life a bit easier, so she is moving to a part time job to enable her to spend time with her first grandchild.

Hazel was the first qualified member of staff, way back, when The Haven was in its infancy and first looking to have a professional nursery. She saw us through many changes including a fire at Wellington Street, the move to Spa Road and the change of name from The Haven Trust to The Family Haven. Over the years her role has changed from nursery nurse to deputy nursery supervisor to nursery supervisor and latterly senior nursery nurse. To say that she is part of the furniture is an understatement but suffice to say, we will need to blow the dust off her before she leaves.

Seriously though we all want to say a huge **Thank you** and wish her the very best in the future.

Up coming Events and Fundraising

Supermarkets

Thanks to all who shop at **Waitrose** and chose us for their green tokens in January. We received a cheque for £304, which is wonderful. We are currently counting our **Sainsbury's** Active Kids vouchers ready to place an order mid-June. Thank you to everyone who has collected them for us. We have enough so far to order some Jumbo Magnifiers, a Rainbow parachute, and some teaspoons (they always seem to go walkabout!). We're hoping **Asda** on Bruton Way will have us as one of the nominees for their green tokens soon – keep an eye out when you're next in store. Later this year we're expecting **Morrisons** will hold their Let's Grow scheme again so we can get more seeds and tools for the garden. The money and items we are able to get from these supermarket schemes really do help us to equip the nursery and day centre.

Save the date

We have a couple of other events coming up later in the year where we plan to have a stall probably selling children's toys and will need 2-3 people in similar time slots. Please do let us know if you are available to help out.

Saturday 19th September - 9am - 5pm - Rugby World Cup

Saturday 21st November - 9am - 5pm - Victorian Market

If you'd like to volunteer on a more regular basis, our new cook Eva needs help in the kitchen 10-12 Tues-Fri.

London Marathon

Our supporter Kerry Newell ran the London Marathon in 4 hours 3 minutes, and raised over £2000 for us. Thank you, Kerry.

If you're planning to participate in a sponsored event and would like help setting up an online fundraising page, please do contact us.

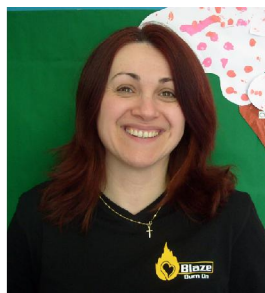
Thank you for your continued support.

Debbie Nevin, Fundraiser

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Staff & Trustees



Eva Barbely joins us as our new Cook & Healthy Eating Project Supervisor

Welcome to our new Trustee



Pat Gifford is the Associate Minister of St James and Christ Church. Pat enjoys the diversity of our community having always been actively involved in it. Prior to coming into ministry she worked as a Liaison Officer with the Children and Young People's Department of the Local Authority.

Become A Friend

Why become a Friend? As a Friend of The Family Haven you will be supporting the trustees and staff in helping provide the services our families so desperately need. Your regular subscriptions and offers of voluntary help are invaluable and support us in delivering our aims.

Call 01452 422971 for an application form or download it from <http://bit.ly/YtnESd>



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THE FAMILY HAVEN

Helping vulnerable families to a brighter future for 25 years

Rugby star and chef Phil Vickery MBE unveils the plaque for the Family Haven's garden opening along with Gloucester MP Richard Graham.

Newsletter

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Vacancy—if you are interested in becoming a Trustee we have a vacancy, please contact us.

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Wooden Spoon stirs up smiles at Family Haven in Gloucester

Children gave their new playground a gigantic thumbs-up when guests arrived for the official opening. There were smiles galore as they clambered over the eggshell roadway and splashed about in the puddle pond. The new £14,000 outdoor play area at The Family Haven day centre in Spa

Road, Gloucester was funded by the Gloucestershire branch of the Wooden Spoon charity. Unveiling the plaque was rugby star and chef Phil Vickery MBE, along with Gloucester MP Richard Graham. "This sums up what giving is all about: giving families and children aspiration and a sense of pride in the place they come from," said Phil. Nursery Manager at the centre, Helen Jackson, was ecstatic. "The kids are so excited – this is like gold dust!" she said. "When Wooden Spoon told us they were going to give us the money I was close to tears. We're so grateful, we can't put it into words. "The children who come here deserve a fantastic place to play and that's what we've got."



Chair of the Family Haven's trustees, Nick Bury, thanked other supporters wholeheartedly for helping out: Wickes who donated tools, Screw-fix who gave money for tools, Nicks & Co Timber which helped with fencing, volunteer handyman Gary Forsythe, and trustee Brian Riches who oversaw the project. There was also a special mention for the team from Ecclesiastical who did a brilliant job of designing and painting a mural. Members of the Wooden Spoon charity were delighted with the outcome. Chair of the Gloucestershire branch Tim Heal said: "This fits entirely with our remit to help disadvantaged children. It's brilliant. We have an expression in the Spoon – stirring smiles. That's what we've got today."



Our families enjoy a trip to Cotswold Farm Park

Some of our Nursery staff and families had a fantastic day out on the 2nd April at the Cotswold Farm Park. The 14 adults and 22 children boarded the coach at 10:00 from the Family Haven. Everyone had a fun day. The children had a great time feeding and petting some of the animals.



Pictures of The Family Haven Garden Opening March 6th 2015



Our families Lounge receives makeover thanks to the Freemason's Funds

The Trustees, staff and especially the families who attend The Family Haven would like to say a big thank you to the Freemason's Fund for the grant which went towards the makeover of our family lounge. It is the first time in our history that we have had all matching furniture and accessories. Our families were delighted with the results and are keeping the area clean and tidy. It is amazing how the fresh look has lifted everyone's spirits.

Before



After



English Lessons

A first for us was the introduction of some English classes for parents who do not have English as a first language. The English classes started when one of our parent's asked if we knew someone who could teach her English especially reading and writing. The parent comes from a large family in Africa where she was not allowed to attend school because she was needed at home. Esther (a volunteer) comes in once a week to teach a small group of parents who want to improve both their spoken and written English. It is proving to be a real hit and we have noticed the improvement particularly in the clients' confidence. Since the English classes started we now have 4 parents who have started the classes which have been going for the past 8 months.

