

Gloucester Freemasons show their support



We have been very fortunate to receive lots of support from our local Freemasons this year. Their Freemasons Fund managed by Gloucestershire Community Foundation (who have also supported our parenting programme this year) funded our new fridges, one for the nursery and one for the kitchen. We had domestic fridges which weren't maintaining temperature with all the open/closing (Debbie forgot to check the height before ordering so they are a huge 6ft instead of the old 5ft!). Our laundry is essential for our daily needs – towels, aprons, tea towels, clothes that get wet or messy, and more and so a grant to fund a new Bosch washing machine and two tumble dryers has been much appreciated. Our



families often use the laundry as well, although less frequently than in the old days when temporary accommodation rarely included them. The Freemasons also give the High Sheriff a sum of money to award and our outgoing High Sheriff, and our patron, Roger Head chose us to receive it.

We really appreciate being able to work with local organisations who help us support our families. Thank you to you all.



Up Coming Events

Volunteers Needed!

We have a few events we'll be attending this year and we need some help. Can you spare a couple of hours? If so, please contact Debbie at debbie@thefamilyhaven.com or on 01452 528692. Thank you.

Saturday 25th June – bag packing at Asda, Bruton Way 10am-2pm

Time slots: 10-12 or 12-2

Saturday 3rd September – walk in Gloucester Day Parade 1.45pm-3pm

Sunday 25th September – stall at Painswick Feast 11am-6pm

Time slots: 11-1, 12-2, 1-3, 2-4, 3-5, 4-6

Also someone who is happy to open up and someone happy to close down

Saturday 19th November – stall at Victorian Market in Gloucester gate streets 10am-5pm

Time slots: 10-12, 11-1, 12-2, 1-3, 2-4, 3-5

Saturday December (probably 10th, date tbc) – stall at Gloucester Cathedral Christmas Market 10am-4pm

Debbie Nevin

Fundraiser

01452 528692

debbie@thefamilyhaven.com

Like our **facebook** page

www.facebook.com/thefamilyhaven.gloucester

Follow @TheFamilyHaven

Sainsbury's Vouchers



Help our kids to eat well, move well and live well by donating your Sainsbury's #ActiveKids vouchers to us by the end of June. Thank you.

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>



THE FAMILY HAVEN

Helping vulnerable families to a brighter future for 25 years

Lorraine Barrett, Centre Manager receives award from our High Sheriff Roger Head



All Staff and families at The Family Haven are very proud of our Centre Manager Lorraine Barrett. Lorraine received a very well deserved award from our High Sheriff Roger Head in recognition of her services to our Community. Lorraine has been with The Family Haven for over 24 years.

Everyday First Aid Course for our parents

A representative from the British Red Cross delivered the course specifically looking at first aid for children and babies. They covered how to deal with a child who is unconscious and how to check to see if they are still breathing. They then learnt how to respond to a situation where a child is unconscious and not breathing, they were given dolls to practice CPR. They then learnt how to deal with a child who is choking, they were taught how to give 'back blows'. The parents were surprised how hard they needed to deliver the blows. The final section involved getting in pairs and organising pictures in order of how to deal with set situations, these included a deep cut to the arm, a bump on the head and a burn. The parents enjoyed the workshop and agreed that they felt more confident to deal with any accidents. They all received a certificate and quick reference sheets of 'what to do in an Emergency' to take home. **10 parents benefitted from this workshop.**



Newsletter

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Patron: Roger Head

Honorary President:
Anne Cadbury OBE, JP, DL

Chairman:
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Deputy Chair:
Vacant

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Gerald Holyhead

Trustees:
Doreen McLellan
Anthea Graham
Brian Riches
Pat Gifford
Louise Williams

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

The Family Haven
A company limited by Guarantee
Registered Charity No 1088622

31 Spa Road, Gloucester GL1 1UY
Telephone: 01452 422971

E-mail:
info@thefamilyhaven.com

Our families enjoy a trip to All Things Wild

We took our first ever trip to **All Things Wild** adventure park. As soon as we entered the park the children were so excited, as this was somewhere completely new to them all. We were shown into a private room where friendly staff gave us a talk about the animals and keeping them and us safe. There were plenty of outdoor activities for all the ages of children to enjoy; Go-kart's, dinosaur trail, and lots of different animals for us to look at, talk about and be introduced to. The park is very big with lots to see and kept our families busy all day. Inside there were amazing areas to play and explore. In one room children were able to sit and listen to a talk on reptiles, and some were able to hold or touch them, a great experience. The children all enjoyed the indoor beach area, and playing on the tractors. The staff were clearly, experienced and dedicated to the nature park, they were very helpful and informative. They even offered our group a large indoor room for our lunches, with plenty of space for all to sit and eat comfortably. It was a great day and everyone said they enjoyed themselves.

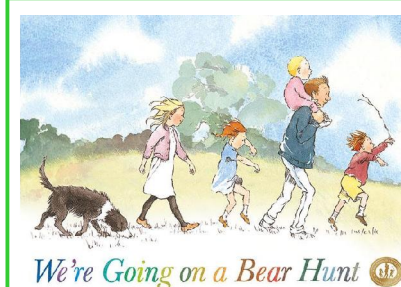


Easter

The children all joined in with activities for their individual age and stage of ability. The nursery has changed how we celebrate Easter as we find having specific 'party' days wasn't the best way to celebrate and discover the beginning of spring. Each key group have developed their own programme of events for the celebrations. They are able to plan and engage on a more particular base which meets the needs of all of the children, on all days. The children have had lots of fun making and baking Easter gifts and especially enjoyed crunching cereals to make Easter nests. The Easter bunnies came to visit and we spent a long time giving them cuddles, watching them hop and talking about what they were doing. We were very excited and this has really helped a lot of us to develop our confidence. We loved our Easter egg hunt and playing games such as egg & spoon race and pin the tail on the bunny (not the real ones of course). We found these very funny.



Everyman Theatre Trip



Six of the Pre-school children were lucky enough to go to the Theatre and experience the thrill of watching one of their favourite stories come to life. We went to see 'We're Going On a Bear Hunt'. The children were so energised when we arrived; looking at the building with its huge ceilings and ornate decorations. They all went quiet and with excited eyes, waited in silence as the lights dimmed and the actors came on stage. The children all had a fantastic time, joining in with the familiar words and rhymes. Being able to watch the children was an absolute delight. The unexpected adventures are always the best!

Chinese New Year

The nursery celebrated Chinese New Year. The children have been finding out about the Chinese Year of the Dragon by watching celebrations and stories on the computer. They have also been role playing with Chinese food and woks, making Monkey masks and dancing to Chinese music.



World Book Day



The staff and children participated in the World Book Day activities. Dressing up clothes were provided for the children in the nursery, as some parents find it challenging to cater for these occasions. The children looked through and talked about their favourite books. The children enjoyed being part of imaginative play when they were outside and in the soft play room, the children were very engaged all day, it was amazing to see the difference that being 'someone else' can make to a child.



Another successful year 2015 / 2016



Well here we are again, reporting on another successful year for The Family Haven. It has been a year that has seen an increase in numbers both in the nursery and the day centre. On average we have had 63 parent and 75 child attendances per week. This is an increase of 12.5% parents and 25% children; the larger increase in children is partly due to the make up of our families e.g. more families with multiple children. As we are governed by Ofsted staff/child ratios in the nursery this has resulted in more babies staying with their parents in the sitting room. We do however try our best to give all the parents a break at some time during the week. So what other success did we achieve this year? 17 parents were able to do full-time/part-time work, 6 parents took part in voluntary work, 21 parents accessed training, 7 families managed to secure more suitable accommodation, 78.5% of eligible children attended pre-school placements and out of 15 families with social service involvement 7 cases were closed and no children were taken into care. More details will be available in our Annual Review