

Homemade Sweets and Homemade Bath Bombs

The Christmas sweets (marzipan Christmas puddings and honeycomb truffles) were very popular and very successful. We suggested that the parents use them as Christmas presents but I don't think many of them made it that far, the temptation to eat them was too great.



The bath bombs were less successful; in fact they were a flop. We followed the instructions carefully but the outcome was a bit of a disaster. The parents were a little disappointed but still had great fun taking part. If you know how to make them, we would love you to do a session to show us how.



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>



Farewell



We would like to say good bye to trustee Stephen Bowen. The Family Haven Staff would like to say a big thank you for the hard work and dedication Stephen has given to The Family Haven.

Sainsbury's Vouchers



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

Generous support from Gloucester Services

We would like to thank the staff of Gloucester Services for supporting us with their carrier bag levies for October – December 2016 that raised a total £1339.86, plus the staff Christmas Jumper day and fundraising £459.20 – making a fantastic total of £1799.06. Thank you all, your support means we can continue to provide our services to families in need – parenting, personal development, healthy eating, nursery provision and more.

Like our **facebook** page

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THE FAMILY HAVEN

Helping vulnerable families to a brighter future for over 25 years

A big Thank You to #Everest24HourChallenge



On Saturday 26th November 2016, myself & 6 other BH Boot Campers, Dave Evans, Ricky Wring, Lee Mutlow, Philip Fox, Steve Smith, Ryan Bater ran/walked and crawled up Robinswood Hill 44 times, the equivalent height of Mount Everest (8,088 Metres High) #Everest24HourChallenge.

The team for #Everest24HourChallenge raised £2118 for the Family Haven to buy gifts, presents and make Christmas for everyone at the charity a special time, as well as donating toys. Santander corporate banking matched this making a total of £4236 altogether raised by the event. It took the team about 3-4 weeks to recover from the Everest challenge. They suffered from torn ligaments/tendons, swollen joints, bruises, and there was plenty of limping. But it was all worth it in the end. The people down at The Family Haven do an incredible job!

I just want to say a massive thank you to everyone who donated, shared and supported us, there are too many to mention but you know who you are!

Also massive thank you to the fellow crazy boot campers who agreed to do the challenge with me, WITHOUT any hesitation!

So big respect to Lee Mutlow, Ricky Wring, Steve Smith, Philip Fox, Ryan Bater, and Dave Evans. I have huge respect for you guys!

Brendan Halliday

Brendan Halliday Boot Camps

You can find Brendan online at <http://www.bhpersonaltraining.com/> or on Facebook as Brendan Halliday Boot Camp



Newsletter

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Brian Riches
Pat Gifford
Rachel Cheshire

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

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The Family Haven trip to Roves Farm Park

On Friday 28th October 2016 the children and their families embarked on a trip to Roves Farm near Swindon. The sun was shining and everyone was in high spirits. We arrived at approximately 11am and once all the families had been given their wrist bands which gave access to the farm, most of them headed for the indoor play area. The children loved this area with its tunnels and slides. There was also a soft play area where the younger children could play safely and an enclosed area which had ride along vehicles. At 12:00 the families were invited to go on a tractor ride to see the animals around the farm and also to find Halloween characters hidden along the way. The families really enjoyed this and some of the eagle eyed amongst them found all characters. The families then returned to the indoor play area to reserved tables to have their lunch. The children played some more after lunch and a few played in the outdoor area and looked at the rabbits and chickens. All too soon it was time for the families to leave and they boarded the bus at 2:15pm and arrived back at The Family Haven at 3:45pm tired, but happy.



Halloween at The Family Haven



In the pre-school room the children have had an exciting time celebrating Halloween. Throughout the week they have been listening to stories such as Winnie the Witch and Room on the Broom and taking part in spooky activities such as making spiders webs from drizzled glue and glitter and spiders from junk modelling materials. They have also enjoyed getting dressed up. The celebrations culminated with a Halloween Party on Thursday 28th with the children getting their faces painted, decorating pumpkins and eating party food kindly donated by Ecclesiastical Staff. Chazz (our chef) and the children made pumpkins from peppers and satsumas for a healthy snack.

In the baby and toddler room the babies and toddlers had a lovely time rolling balls into paint to make spider's webs and exploring ice with bats and bugs frozen inside. They enjoyed decorating biscuits and messy play. The children listened to spooky stories and sang Incy Wincey Spider. The room was decorated for the party and the children got dressed up and had their faces painted.



Christmas Card Making

The parents had a great time joining in with the art/craft sessions building up to Christmas. They produced some truly amazing Christmas cards, some very elaborate and others more simple but effective. It is very interesting to see how focused some of the parents can be whilst others just have fun and produce as many cards as possible in the allotted time.



Christmas Time at the Family Haven 2016

Our two Christmas parties were both a great success. Nineteen parents and twenty one children attended the first one and fourteen parents and nineteen children attended the second one. The parents had great fun trying their luck on our raffle (two identical ones for the two days), whilst the children did a variety of different Christmas themed activities in the nursery. Doreen (Trustee) came in to help with the babies over lunchtime so that the parents could eat in peace. Chazz, with the help of her mum produced a Christmas feast fit for royalty and by the look of the empty plates returning to the kitchen it was thoroughly enjoyed by the parents and children alike. To finish off the day we were lucky enough to have a visit from Santa who came laden with gifts for all the children. Two very tiring but satisfying days, well done to all the staff who made it possible and thanks to everyone who donated gifts.



We are currently seeking a new Chair of Trustees

Would you like to make a big difference to the lives of vulnerable families with pre-school children in Gloucestershire? We are seeking a Chair of Trustees to provide leadership and guidance for the work of the Trustees and to act as an ambassador for the charity in the public sphere. The role involves providing leadership to the charity, its Trustees and its staff, ensuring that the charity has maximum impact for its beneficiaries. It also involves being a spokesperson and representative for the charity and the Trustees. For details see our website thefamilyhaven.com/how-you-can-help/be-a-trustee or contact Lorraine by email lorraine@thefamilyhaven.com or by phone on 01452422971