

Venture Art Class

Two workers from 'Venture' came to do an art therapy workshop with our parents. They made beautiful night lights using glass kiln jars. All the parents were keen to join in and they were thrilled with the results.



Cotswold Way Walk

Thanks to everyone who supported our joining Rotary @Kingsholm for their Cotswold Way in a Day walk on Sunday 3rd June 2018. Our team walked from Dowdeswell Reservoir to Winchcombe - the longest leg of 11.5 miles. John (our chair of trustees), my friend Susannah and I (Debbie) all completed the walk and raised over £400 between us, and there is still some Gift Aid to claim. It was a lovely day, warm and sunny. Luckily much of the walk was through woods so there was shade and we kept well hydrated. We stopped for lunch and ice cream at Cleeve Hill Golf Club. Some of the hills were very challenging, especially as I hadn't done any training (oops!). There were lots of bugs pestering us over the common and up Cleeve Hill. We ended the walk at the Plaisterer's Arms in Winchcombe for a much needed cold drink before driving home. A great day was had by all, and I was surprised on only having one small blister the next day and no aching muscles.



We're looking forward to doing another leg next summer and will keep you posted in case you'd like to join us. **Debbie Nevin**



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>



Weekly Pony Rides

Thanks to Les Mills Fund for Children. Once a week we take a few of the children to St James City Farm & Riding School. The children love it and are always excited to go. Some of the children are a little nervous at first. But they soon find their confidence.



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Newsletter

July 2018

Celebrating 30 years of The Family Haven



This year, to celebrate our 30th birthday, we've decided to get a makeover.

Our new logo has been designed by the lovely Dawn Stiles. She wanted to give something back and so has generously given us our bright new look for free.

Dawn spent 20 years working in marketing agencies, specialising in the Charity & not for-profit sector, where she gained first hand insight into the incredible work that charities do and an understanding of the skills that are needed to make fundraising and communications campaigns a success.

She now works as a freelance designer and artworker with smaller charities in the Gloucestershire area. With a genuine passion for the industry and the people that work so hard to make the world a better place.

Her services include Brochures & Newsletters, Posters, Door drops & Mail packs, Exhibition stands, Flyers & Leaflets, Press ads & Web ads, Events, Billboard posters & Adshels, logo design. Working closely with copy writers and print buyers to offer a full service if required.

Dawn is also working with us to produce a new leaflet and an advert to place in local press. If you would like copies of the leaflet to share with your family, friends, colleagues, or community please contact Debbie.

Dawn can be contacted on email: Dawnie.stiles@gmail.com
Telephone: 077 177 97 088

Nursery Leavers trip to Cannop Ponds in the Forest of Dean

Thursday 26th July 2018 —The children have been so excited and looking forward to going to see the woods and ponds. We explained they could jump and splash to their hearts content. We didn't quite expect to the extent they did! When the children had played enough in the water it was time to get dry and warm with clean clothes on. This is another challenge for our children as is with all children. The knowledge that there was a yummy picnic after they were dressed spurred them on in record time. The children were ravenous! After eating we decided we would visit Perrygrove Railway. This was such a fun place to take our children. Each child was able to hold their own ticket before boarding the train. We stayed on the train for the whole journey through the woodland, passing the tree top adventure playground until we reached the top of Foxy Hollow, which is a big sheltered playground.



Helping vulnerable families
to a brighter future
since 1988

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Our Royal Party



Staff getting ready for our royal party.

It was the royal wedding on Saturday 19th May 2018 (Prince Harry and Meghan Markle). To make the children aware of this celebration we decided as a team it would be a lovely idea to have a royal party. The team prepared for this event for a few weeks by planning ideas for each individual age group and decided it would be better to have the party in the garden and be all together because usually we would do our activities separately. We would like say thank you to Ecclesiastical staff who donated the cakes.

We prepared for this party most of the week from the staff going to the shops to buy the food/decorations to our chef making the food for the party and our staff planning different activities to keep them occupied throughout the

day. The party worked really well – the weather was lovely so we were fortunate enough to have the party outside. There were enough activities that were planned and there was something for all age ranges and preferences as we are aware of our key children's likes/dislikes we based our activities on what would keep them interested i.e. we know that some of our children don't like wet messy play but like dry messy play. We were outside for the whole day, the children enjoyed all of their activities and had a picnic lunch. We even had a special visit from Miss Gloucestershire International who came to come and meet the children.



Miss Gloucestershire with 2 of the children



Nursery's Royal Table

Nursery children gets a surprise visit

The children had a surprise visit on Friday 20th July when a beautiful white Unicorn came walking through our side gate. Some children were very excited and a couple of the children were just a little scared at first but they did not take long to enjoy the experience. Even some of the staff were just as excited. We would like to say a big THANK YOU to St James City Farm & Riding School for putting big smiles on the children, staff members and a few of the parents faces.



Eid Party 2018

This year we decided to hold an Eid party as many of our children celebrate this festival within their families and communities. As this is such a special time for many of our children we wanted to celebrate it with them.

The party day

Throughout the morning of our Eid party the children enjoyed many activities relating to Eid traditions. We decorated a table cloth with glittery moon and stars which we later used at lunch time. We also decorated hand shaped biscuits with icing tubes to re-create henna patterns. The parents and children of our Muslim families wore their traditional African dress whilst staff members and nursery children borrowed outfits to join in with the fun. The garden was filled with bright colours and patterns.



The weather was glorious so we were able to enjoy our lunch outside. All of the food was provided by our parents. They had spent a long time preparing meals from their culture and those which were personal family favorites. All of the staff, parents and children ate together in the garden. The parents were very excited to share their favourite recipes, along with stories of how they were made or why they are special to them. One mum shared that she had made her families celebration meal. Everyone was very excited to try all of the delicious smelling food and we were all very full afterwards!

We had brought our African drums into the garden for the children to explore and the afternoon quickly became one full of singing and dancing. Some of the mums and children played the drums whilst others danced to the beat. There was a great atmosphere of excitement and celebration and many of the children really expressed themselves through this movement. Some of the mums also sang traditional chants and songs with one another. One of the mums shared a celebration song that she had been taught on her wedding day.



Throughout the afternoon we also chased gold and silver balloons around the garden and created more henna patterns with big splodges of glitter glue. The children loved squeezing them out onto the paper. By snack time we were all very tired from the excitement and the children sat down with their parents to enjoy a special Eid cake.

Everyone agreed that the Eid party was a wonderful day. It was lovely to be able to join in with the special celebration of so many of our families. It provided good links between the children's home community and nursery environment. It also sparked many conversations about different celebrations across all of the setting's many religions and cultures. It gave us all an insight into each other's special times and extend the children's understanding of the world. Throughout the day there was a great feeling of togetherness and joy. We can not wait for next year!

