

# Sydenham Road Under Fives Newsletter



**Sydenham Road  
Under Fives**

Registered Charity Number: 1045367

February 2011

## Message from chair

Although 2011 is now well under way, a big welcome back to all our users.

Our kitchen refurbishment and access improvements, paid for by a grant from Bristol City Council, are now nearing final completion. The new kitchen facilities look great and playgroup users are enjoying the benefit of a ramp and accessible toilet. Our thanks go to the Steering Group who have worked so hard in helping to make it all happen.

Please continue to support the work of SRUF this year by attending our fundraising events – look out for more details in this newsletter.

**Alison Farrar, Chair**

## Fundraising

Since the last newsletter we have raised the following amounts:

**November Table Top Sale: £300** - Thanks to all those who made cakes, helped on the day or just came along to support the event on the day.

**Sale of invitation books: £44**

The next fund raising event for this year is a **Table Top Sale on 12<sup>th</sup> March from 2-4pm**. To take advantage of this opportunity to have a spring clean and raise some cash from your unwanted items, **contact Liz on 0117 3009271 or [liz.jordan@hotmail.com](mailto:liz.jordan@hotmail.com)** to book a spot.

The sale is a good place to pick up good quality, second hand clothes and toys, and for the children we've got craft activities, lucky dip and face painting. Refreshments including homemade cakes will be available.

Entrance 50p.

On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March we will be holding a '**Chilli and Cheese**' night at the Shakespeare Pub in Totterdown. Tickets will be £5 for a great night out where you can enjoy eating delicious chilli and listening to cheesy music whilst socialising with other parents from Pre-school and toddlers.

As well as the day to day running of the group, the money we raise through fund raising also goes back into the group. For instance last term Pre-school bought new play mats and rugs with some of the money raised.

## Raise cash for SRUF by donating your unwanted clothes

Please let us have any unwanted adult's and children's clothes, shoes, hats, belts, bags, soft toys, curtain and bedding (not duvets or pillows). We will receive £500 per tonne or 50p per kg which will be a great boost for our fundraising. Please start collecting now and you can bring your items to Playgroup/Toddlers between Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March and Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March.

## Collecting vouchers

We are collecting nestle box tops, Sainsburys and Tesco vouchers. Tesco will be giving out vouchers from 28<sup>th</sup> Feb - 8<sup>th</sup> May. The Tesco collection box will be out at preschool so please remember to put your vouchers in there. Also, there should be a small collection box at toddlers.

## Donations

Playgroup would like to put together some baskets with items that the children could investigate and that could be used to encourage discussion / guessing what the item might be used for. Some ideas might include 'historical' items such as cast iron irons, scrubbing boards, washing tongs, bed warmers, chamber pots, vinyl records - 'interesting' items that it might be difficult to guess what they are used for (they might need a label attached to explain) such as eyelash curlers, small garden tools like dibbers, diy tools like spirit levels, kitchen equipment like hand whisks or tea leaf holders.... anything that you might have around the house that could spark the children's (and our) imagination! Bring your items into pre-school and hand to any member of staff.

## Parent helpers at Preschool

We would like to remind parent helpers not to bring siblings on their parent helper day please. Also if anyone arrives early to collect their child, the staff would be grateful if they are able to help tidy/set down etc. If you are early, feel free to ring the buzzer – you are welcome to come on in and help!

## Free Sports Equipment

Help us get free sports equipment by registering your details at [www.havenfunfitness.com](http://www.havenfunfitness.com)

## Committee News

We are very pleased to welcome Mel Grohmann as Vice chair and Anna Wilks as secretary – whose appointments now mean we have a full committee!

## Music with Mummy/ Jolly Babies – New venue and new classes starting soon

As some of you may have noticed, the Star & Dove unexpectedly closed at New Year, leaving the Music with Mummy and Jolly Babies classes that Hannah Kirby runs, without a venue for Tuesday mornings. Luckily, The Oxford pub were very keen to host and so the groups have moved there. Tea/ coffee and cake are still available and bacon sandwiches are also on offer, as well as the lively music and singing sessions. The classes have been so popular, that Hannah will be starting new groups on a Monday morning soon. Classes are also available on Fridays at Redcatch Community Centre. If you're interested in joining either Jolly Babies (pre walkers) or Music with Mummy, give Hannah a call on 0117 377 8167, email her on [musicwithhannah@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:musicwithhannah@hotmail.co.uk) or visit [www.musicwithmummybristol.co.uk](http://www.musicwithmummybristol.co.uk) to find out more.

## Baby bites

Kids bored of your cooking? Looking for some inspiration in the kitchen? Look no further. Baby Bites is running cookery workshops suitable for parents with 0-5 year olds. Learn 4 delicious new recipes, talk about nutrition, healthy eating, tips to get meals on the table fast and meet other mums and dads. Children are welcome to join you, they are the chief tasters on the day!

Workshops from £20 pp, inclusive of all organic ingredients and leave with a week's worth of food for your little one. Or if what you really need a break from the kitchen then take a look at our new Home Delivery range. The menu features family favourites such as Spaghetti Bolognese and more exotic dishes such as Fruity Lamb Tagine. Over 90% of the ingredients used are organic, the meat is locally sourced and fish is wild and from MSC certified sources (Marine Stewardship Council). There are no additives, sugar or salt in any of the dishes.

If you'd like to sample these culinary delights introductory packs are available from £7.50. Tel:07531 237 527  
Email: [info@babybites.co.uk](mailto:info@babybites.co.uk) Website [www.babybites.co.uk](http://www.babybites.co.uk)

## Dates for your Diary

### February

Tuesday 8th – In-service day (Planning and assessment) **Preschool only**

Friday 18th – Last day of Term 3

Monday 28th – Term 4 begins

### March

Saturday 12th – Table Top Sale fundraising event (2pm – 4pm)

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> - Chilli and Cheese night at the Shakespeare

Tuesday 29th – In-Service day (Bristol Standard) **Preschool only**

### April

Friday 8th – Last day of Term 4

Tuesday 26th – Term 5 begins

Friday 29th – Bank Holiday – Royal Wedding

### May

Ladies Indulgence Evening – Date to be confirmed

Friday 27th – Last day Term 5

**Stop Press** – apologies for the closure of Toddlers and Playgroup on Monday 7th Feb. This was due to a problem with a gas pipe, which had safety implications and meant the building had no heating. All is now resolved, but we're sorry for any inconvenience caused.

Thanks to the nice people at **A Cappella café and pizzeria** on the Wells Road for once again sponsoring this edition of the newsletter.