



# Children's Centre at The Mall (Luton)



## Drop-In Newsletter upto December 2009

- A safe, stimulating area, separate from the main day care area, for mums, dads and other carers with children under 5 years old to meet
- Parents and carers remain with children whilst they play.
- Children's centre staff are on hand to offer a listening ear or act as a source of information as well as direct children's play
- Hot drinks are available for carers and refreshments for the children
- Lunch is usually eaten at 11.45am (parents are asked to provide lunch)
- Facilities are available to change children and heat feeds
- £1 Per family per visit

- Monday - Fridays 10.00am - 2.30pm (Term Time)
- Monday - Fridays 11.00am - 2.30pm (school holidays)

### Parenting Course.

There is a parenting course currently running and the dates are 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 11<sup>th</sup> November, 18<sup>th</sup> November, 25<sup>th</sup> November, 1<sup>st</sup> December and 9<sup>th</sup> December.

On these dates the drop in will not be open til 12.00pm.

There will be further courses in the future, if you missed this course please speak to Jeanette.

### Drop in Xmas Trip

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December

(centre will be closed on this day)

going to Milton Keynes, coaches leaving at 9.30am approx and returning at approx 2.00pm

Trip involves a grotto visit at half hour intervals, will be given appointments and a ride on the little train, all paid for.

Dads go free

Speak to Sharon, drop in supervisor, about availability as extra transport is being arranged.

### Diary Dates

Every Tuesday Charlie the Music Man visits drop in at 1pm, this proves very popular with all the children even babies.

As from 23<sup>rd</sup> November Debt advice will be available again

3<sup>rd</sup> December Health Visitor comes to drop in, available for anyone to speak to and get advice, visits once a month.

January 2010 the New Drop in centre will be opening

Planning permission has been received for new drop in centre, two shop floors near Robby's cafe to be open before christmas and we will have a Children's Information Services office, times to be arranged.

## Nursery News

For the xmas trip the nursery will be visiting Sleeping Beauty pantomime at the Luton Town Library on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December.

From Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November to 29<sup>th</sup> November it is Road Safety Week, look out for free reflective straps this week.

The New outdoor play area on the roof will be opening very soon.

- Any volunteers to help paint storage boxes for the roof top play area will be very appreciated, please see Pam.

There will be a Christmas Raffle, adult and children's prizes at £1 per strip to be drawn on 15<sup>th</sup> December.

Chatterboxes are now being used within the setting. These are boxes filled with items relating to a specific topic such as a birthday chatterbox or a story based chatterbox etc. These boxes go home with children with the aim of producing "chatter" extending part of a national scheme ECAT (every child's a talker), this will soon be an article in the Nursery World featuring US. Parents, please ask you're child's key person if you wish to borrow a chatterbox and take it home.

## Committee

**Children's Centre at The Mall (Luton) is a registered charity. Our trustee committee is made up of parents and users of our services who are elected annually. Without this committee the children's centre would be able to stay open so it is a very important part of the centre.**

**The committee as it is at present:-**

**CHAIR – Angela Roberts**

**SECRETARY – Lisa Barton**

**TREASURER – Brian McFarland**

**Member – Fiona Hannigan**

**Member – Darren Evans**

**Member – Dawn Nyandemoh**

**Member – Ewa Partyka**

**Member – Fay Morris**

**Member – Nicola Lomax**

**Member – KellyAnn McCarthy**

**Member – Amanda Jones**

**The committee's role is to support the management team at the children's centre from behind the scenes with certain areas of work, for example:-**

- **Recruiting**
- **Appraisals**
- **Policies and Procedures**
- **Fundraising**
- **We as the committee are the parent's voice and value any suggestions or queries that you may have so please speak to us and we will discuss these with Pam or Julie.**
- **NEW GENERAL MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME SO PLEASE ENQUIRE IF INTERESTED**



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