

SCHEMENEWS

Newsletter for Families and Volunteers June 2018

Home Start



The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

We are delighted to announce that Home-Start Staffordshire Moorlands is one of the winners of this year's **Queen's Award for Voluntary Service**. This is the highest award given to volunteer groups across the UK. The scheme has won the award because of the outstanding contribution that our volunteers have made to our local community in the Staffordshire Moorlands. Representatives Heather Dunn (Home-Visiting Volunteer) and Doris Barratt (Volunteer Trustee) received invitations to a Royal Garden Party and had a wonderful afternoon, with their husbands, at Buckingham Palace on 31st May; they said it was somewhat surreal, but wonderful! Thanks to funding from **BBC Children in Need** and **The Henry Smith Charity** we are extremely pleased to be able to run a summer trip for families again this summer. If you are currently supported by Home-Start Staffordshire Moorlands, you should find a booking form for the trip to Peak Wildlife Park enclosed with this newsletter. All the details about the trip are with the booking form. If you'd like to come on the trip, please complete the form fully and return it to us as soon as possible (but **no later than Friday, 29th June**). If you're currently supported by Home-Start and you don't have a booking form,

please contact the office (phone 01538 387231 or email us at Info@homestartsm.org.uk) and we'll pop one in the post to you. If, for any reason, you can't return the form to us, but you *would* like to come on the trip, please contact us and let us know before 29th June.

Places this year are limited, due to funding constraints - places will be reserved on a first-come-first-served basis.

Goodbye Tracey

We were really sad at the end of May to be saying goodbye to Tracey Rice, who has been working as a Family Support Worker since April 2017. Tracey has done a fantastic job over the past year, supporting a number of families referred to the scheme, and has been a real asset to the organisation. Although we will all miss Tracey a great deal as a co-worker, we are extremely pleased that she has offered to stay on as a home-visiting volunteer.

Did you know ...

Home-Start Staffordshire Moorlands accepts self-referrals, so families can contact us directly if they would like to find out about getting support from one of our home-visiting volunteers. As long as funding and suitable volunteers / staff are available, we offer flexible support to **any** parent living in the Staffordshire Moorlands' District with at least one child under the age of five.

We are also able to direct families with children aged between 5 and 19 for early intervention family support through our partners at Visyon (as long as the family is not currently 'open' to social care or the Local Support Team).

Support and friendship for families

Home-Start
Staffordshire Moorlands

Diary

Thursday 9th August
**Summer Trip to
Peak Wildlife Park ~**

Summer trip for families currently supported by Home-Start Staffordshire Moorlands to Peak Wildlife Park. If you'd like to come on the trip, please complete a booking form and return it to the Home-Start office no later than the deadline of **Friday 29th June**. If we don't hear from you by this date, it is very unlikely that you will get a place on the trip, so please be quick to send your form back!

Leaving Messages on the Office Answer Phone

To enable us to deal with messages quickly and efficiently, if you leave a message on the office answer phone, please speak as slowly and clearly as you possibly can and make sure that you leave your full name and a contact telephone number so that we can get back to you. Many thanks.



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Next newsletter: July 2018

Home-Start Staffordshire Moorlands
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Staffordshire
County Council



Supported by
**BBC
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no. SC039921

Fundraising

To volunteer to help with fundraising events, please email Info@homestartsm.org.uk or call the Home-Start office on 01538 387231 ...



Scheme Funding

All fundraising ideas and offers of help are very much welcome - please get in touch by giving us a call (01538 387231) or emailing us at Info@homestartsm.org.uk.

Current Fundraising

Shopping at the Co-op

Become a member of the Co-op and nominate Home-Start Staffordshire Moorlands as your chosen charity (we are one of Leek's nominated causes in the Local Community Fund). Visit www.coop.co.uk/membership/local-community-fund or phone 0800 050 1601. When you shop, remember to show your membership card to help raise money for us.

On-line Donations & Fundraising

We have an on-line facility for people wishing to make on-line donations to the scheme at **MyDonate**. Donations can be made by credit or debit card and can be gift-aided. Visit MyDonate at <https://mydonate.bt.com/charity/charitySearch.html> and search for **Home-Start Staffordshire Moorlands**.

Anyone wishing to organise a sponsored event to raise money for the scheme can set up their own fundraising page with MyDonate (who only deduct 15p per donation to cover the transaction costs). We can help you set this up if you wish.

On-line Shopping Easyfundraising.org.uk

If you shop on-line, please consider visiting your retailers via easyfundraising.org.uk and raise funds for Home-Start at the same time - it doesn't take long and if lots of people do it, this can be a really good fundraiser for us. It doesn't cost you a penny.

How it works:

Start at easyfundraising - Go to easyfundraising.org.uk first and then find the website you're looking for - you can use the easyfundraising toolbar.

Make a purchase - Click from the easyfundraising website through to the store's website to make your purchase

Get a donation - After you have made your purchase, the store will make a donation to us as a thank you for shopping with them.

Future Fundraising

We have put in an application to the Tesco Bags of Help fund. It is likely that we will be allocated a slot during the next six months or so in Meir and Longton Tesco stores, so keep your eyes open and let your friends and family know too. The more votes we have at Tesco's, the more money we will raise for family support.

Recent Fundraising

We recently received a payment of **£26.50** from the sale of excess donated clothing and a further payment of **£22.43** from easyfundraising.org.uk.

Recent Donations

We received the following, additional donations in March and April:

£20.00 from J Parker, **£3.53** from a collection box and **£62.80** from volunteers donating money back from their expense claims.

We would like to pass on a huge thanks to the above individuals & organisations for their generosity and support of the scheme.

Email? If you currently receive a paper copy of this newsletter in the post, but you're happy to receive newsletters by email from now on, just drop us an email at Info@homestartsm.org.uk to let us know.

Family Recipe

Frozen Fruity Yoghurt Bites

From eatsamazing.co.uk



This is a lovely healthy recipe that even a toddler could make. The recipe can be adjusted to suit your tastes and needs - swap fresh fruit for alternatives of your choice (strawberries or blackberries would work nicely) or try dried fruits. Switch to soya yoghurt (or similar) if you'd like to make it dairy free. Natural yoghurt is a healthy option because it has no added sugar, but you could use any yoghurt.

Ingredients

- 200g yoghurt of your choice
- Handful of fresh raspberries
- Handful of fresh blueberries

Method

- Lay out approximately 12 cupcake cases or silicone muffin cups on a small baking sheet or tray (this will need to fit into your freezer, so check it for size before you start).
- Using a spoon, dollop some yoghurt into the bottom of each cake case until all the yoghurt has gone. Pop a few pieces of fruit into each cup, pressing them down into the yoghurt with the tip of your finger, maybe making funny faces?
- Place the cups (still on the baking tray) into the freezer and leave them to freeze for a couple of hours until set solid. Once frozen, remove them from the cases and serve (or bag up and pop straight back in the freezer to eat later).

Eat the yoghurt bites straight out of the freezer as a healthy snack or dessert. Or pack them in a lunchbox - the yoghurt will melt enough to eat with a spoon by lunchtime but it will still be lovely and cool and make a tasty and healthy dessert (make sure you use a leak-proof tub though!).