



Special Matters  
Staffordshire  
Moorlands

Newsletter January 11  
Support Group for Parents

**'Disney On Ice'**

**'Spring Party'**

**'JJ Play' Sessions**

**and more...**

## **Happy New Year to you all!**

Hope you had a great Christmas break and the children had a great time. Happy new year and the year has well and truly started, at least the weather is better and we don't have to struggle through the snow. We have been able to get some more funding from Aiming High for activities. So please have a read of the newsletter and please book on the activities that you and your family are interested in.

Please contact me if you would like to add anything into the next newsletter which will be out in April.

For my information please contact me on 07966 053040 or email

faith.asplin@staffordshire.gov.uk. Remember to look at the website [www.specialmatters.co.uk](http://www.specialmatters.co.uk)

*Faith*

## **Context**

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We have been successful in our bid in Aiming High funding for the next 3 months. We have been able to book some ticket to go and see Disney on Ice in Birmingham at the NEC. **WOW** what a opportunity. To meet Mickey, Minnie, Goofy, Pluto and many more of the Disney Characters. This will be an Adventure and a magical moment for your family.



Please can you phone the office by 4th February. 01298 687162 to book your place. When you are contacting the office please can you let them know if you need a wheelchair space on the coach and at the NEC. Due to the anticipated demand for this activity. Confirmation of places will be sent out by letter before 18<sup>th</sup> February.

This trip will be on the **24th February** the show start at **3.00pm** at the NEC. We will be having coaches going from Leek High School, Leek, or a coach will also be going from Caudwell Children in Stoke. If you would like a coach place please can you let the office know when you book in.





# Family Information & Fun Day



A Sure Start Children's Centre



Socotots



## Tuesday 18th January 10am to 3pm at Brough Park Leisure Centre



Performances  
at 10am,  
12noon & 1pm

Activities and demonstrations for  
parents/carers with 0-5 year olds

An Action Packed Day

Find out about Family  
Services for 0-19 year olds  
and children's activities in your area



Charlie the Clown  
magic show at 11am  
& 2pm

Families who attend on the day will be entitled to  
enter a **FREE** competition and receive a family  
photograph

Please contact Leek & Rural Children's Centre for  
more details: Tel: Warslow 01298 687162/3



the knot unites



# SPRING PARTY

We asked the parents at our support groups and on our questionnaire what they would like to see happening in the Aiming High Activities. One of the suggestions was a Spring Party.



On the 19th March 2011 we have hired The Fulmer Centre at Leek High School for the afternoon for have a **PARTY, Hey !!!** We have got Face Painting, A Clown, DJ/music workshops and Sublime Science plus more...



The DJ runs workshops which are that are mobile, **creative, fun**, educationally music based and developed to involve and introduce people of all educational needs to all styles of music via the art of DJing, Producing and Mixng. Sublime Science has a workshop where that children can make their own sweets and slime.



Please come along and have lots of fun and laughter with your family. There is no need to book just turn up on the day.



**19th March 2011  
1.30pm - 5.30pm  
Fulmar Centre,  
Leek High School**



## 'Reach for it' Severe Impairment

community  
games

## Family Fun Day For Disabled Children and their families

community  
games

**Sunday 20th February 2011**

**10am-3pm**

**Leek High School, Leek**

The day  
will focus on the following  
type of activities:

- Boccia
- Rebound Therapy
- Parachute Games
- Balloon Games
- New Age Kurling
- Polybat
- Table Cricket
- Wheelchair Football
- Crafts
- Soft Play



The day focuses on less functional ability. Ideal for powerchair users or children that need to be supported on a one-to-one basis. It is expected that Parents/Carers will support their children. Siblings welcome.

We are also running a  
Family Fun Day  
In March for  
less severe impairments

**Contact: Mark Fosbrook**

**(01785) 619398 or**

**[mfosbrook@staffordbc.gov.uk](mailto:mfosbrook@staffordbc.gov.uk)**

**for a booking form**



# JJ'S SENSORY PLAY CENTRE

We have two day where we are going to JJ's Sensory Play Centre in March. JJ's Sensory Play Centre is in Macclesfield and is a unique, soft padded multi-sensory environment. The equipment is designed



for special needs children. We have the pleasure of having JJ's exclusively to ourselves so you can relax and enjoy the sensory equipment and soft play. The equipment

includes a ball pool, water bed in the chill out room, the light tunnel and much more. If you have not got transport please let the office know when you are booking in.



Please phone the office to book your place by 24th February.

**Monday 28th March**  
**12.30pm - 2.30pm**

including lunch box for children  
if required or supply your own snack

**Saturday 5th March**  
**1.15pm - 3.15pm**

including lunch box for children  
if required  
Or supply your own snack



# SUPPORT GROUPS

The next daytime support is on the 25th January 2011 at the Meadow School starting at 10.00am. We have Janet Markwell from Parent Partnership Service, to come along to have a chat about their services and if anybody would like to talk about the statement process. We have changed the day to Tuesday morning to see if Tuesday would be better for some people. Please come along to have a cuppa and chat with other parents, it's a great atmosphere.

**Leek Support Group**  
**25th January**  
**15th February**  
**22nd March**  
**10.00am - 12.00pm**  
**Meadow School**

**Cheadle Support Group**  
**10th January**  
**14th February**  
**21st March**  
**7.30pm - 9.30pm**  
**Cheadle Children Centre**

## **BIDDULPH RELAUNCH FAMILY MATTERS**

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January was the RELAUNCH of the Staffordshire Moorlands Children's Centre's coffee morning for parents and carers of children with additional needs. This relaunch was the joining of two previous groups held at the centre North Staffs Carers Association support group and Family Matters.

On this said date professionals and parents/carers got together to celebrate the RELAUNCH; we experienced a demo and introductions from Steve Parker who is the emotional well being co-ordinator for NSCA, attendees could also see from the Centre's Toy Library the vast amount of equipment they have in stock for families to access.

Staff at the children's centre along with the support from the North Staffs Carers Association plan to run this coffee morning at The Staffordshire Moorlands Children Centre once a month

(first Thursday) from 10 – 11.30am, parents / carers of children with additional needs can access the group for a chill and chat over coffee or to gain more professional advice/support. Children are also welcome at the group and a friendly face will be there to welcome you.

Kelly Grice  
Family Activity Worker

**Staffordshire Moorlands  
Children Centre  
Thursday 3rd February  
10—11.30am**

## **ALTON TOWERS - SANTA LUNCH**

On the 28th November we enjoyed a visit to Santa lunch at Alton Tower. The night before it snowed but it made the day even more magical. The families had a three course meal which was very yummy. After they finished their meal they headed up to the theme park where they would meet Santa and his reindeers. They walked through the trees with an elf to show the way to Santa's Grotto. The children sat on Santa lap and talk to Santa and they spoke of have you written a letter to Santa, he said I will read that later on.



After they finished at Santa's grotto they went on some rides and sat in the reindeer sleigh. Then went off to see the sea life centre then back to the Hotel to watch the puppet show also they had time to go into Splash Landing and play a round of Golf.



Then the families went off home feeling very tired but exciting and happy at the end of the day.

# SCHOOL FOR PARENTS

## Early Intervention for you and your child!

**Horton Lodge School and Springfield Special School are now working together. Sessions based on Horton Lodge's successful School For Parents will now also be available at Springfield School.**

### School For Parents

**Location:** Horton Lodge School,  
Rudyard, Leek

**Days:** Wednesdays & Thursdays

**Times:** 10am-12noon  
1.15pm-3pm

**Contact:** 01538 306214  
Ruth Zimmerman or Sharon  
Robertson

### School For Parents

**Location:** Springfield School,  
Leek

**Day:** Tuesdays  
**Time:** 10am-12noon

**Contact:** 01538 383558  
Ruth Zimmerman

### **Our aims and Objectives for the sessions:**

Adapted learning for children with Physical and Learning Difficulties

Aimed at Pre-School children from 3 months onwards

Working together with parents

A fun learning environment with songs and rhymes

A chance to meet other parents

A support for the whole family

Health Professional input

Learn how to assist your child

Play is important for us all

Promoting independence , communication and independence

We are looking forward to meeting some new faces very soon!

**If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Sharon Robertson or Ruth Zimmerman on the numbers above!**

# Dates for your Diary

## Support Groups

We are having the support groups in Leek and Cheadle. Cheadle in the Cheadle Children Centre, meeting at 7.30pm, Leek is a daytime one at the Meadows Special School starting 10.00am. Please come and join us, it would be great to see you there to have a cuppa and a chat.

### Cheadle - Children Centre

10th January  
4th February  
21st March

### Leek - Meadows

25th January  
15th February  
22nd March

## Activity Days/Meeting

15th January - Peter Pan New Vic Theatre  
18th January - Family Information and Fun Day  
20th February - Reach for it  
24th February - Disney on Ice  
5th March - JJ's Play  
19th March - Spring Party  
28th March - JJ's Play

## Contact Information

Faith Asplin: 07966 053040  
Jenny Hurst: 07815 999079  
Office: 01298 687162

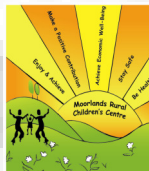
Office address:

Special Matters  
Moorlands Rural Children's Centre  
c/o Manifold Primary School  
Leek Road  
Warslow  
Nr Buxton  
Derbyshire  
SK17 0JP

E-mail - [faith.asplin@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:faith.asplin@staffordshire.gov.uk)  
Website - [www.specialmatters.co.uk](http://www.specialmatters.co.uk)



Special Matters  
Staffordshire  
Moorlands



**A Sure Start Children's Centre**



Working together with the  
Community & Learning Partnerships