

SPRINGBOARD NEWS

Supporting children with additional needs aged 0-5 and their families in North Somerset
Registered Charity 1025787

Established 1986 2011 Silver Anniversary!

Feb 2010

Dates for your diary:

Fri 12 Feb—last day Term 3

Weds 17 Feb— Holiday Stay & Play @ Weston

Thurs 18 Feb—Holiday Stay & Play @ Clevedon

Mon 22 Feb—Term 4 start and **Volunteers Induction Training starts at Weston**

Weds 24 March—
CLOSED STAFF INSET DAY

Thurs 1 April—last day Term 4

Weds 7 & 14 April—
Holiday Stay & Play @ Weston

Thurs 8 & 15 April
Holiday Stay & Play @ Clevedon

Weds 21 April—
Volunteers Induction Training starts at Clevedon

Fri 21 May—CLOSED STAFF INSET DAY

Fri 28 May—last day Term 5



A SNOWY START TO THE NEW YEAR

Springboard, like everyone else has had an interesting start to the new term and 2010. Closures during the first week of term has disrupted us all and it's been a slow start to getting back to our usual routine. We hope that you have all been keeping well and safe. Should adverse weather return we suggest that where possible, everyone should check our website for the latest information. Our website address is:

www.springboardweb.org.uk

On a positive note, the snow has been great fun at times and a chance for the children to enjoy themselves. Please ensure that your child has suitable clothing and footwear (with name labels) to make the best use of the outdoor play areas and gardens.



Can't make your child's Springboard session?

PLEASE let us know asap if you are not coming in

as we can then let volunteers know if we don't need them and save their journey. **Clevedon number is 01275 341113 and Weston & South Weston 01934 426165**

....IN OTHER NEWS:

Parent Partnership Week in November was a great success with a tremendous effort by all the Springboard staff to offer a wide range of fun activities. Bacon butties, cakes, SPLAT's, trips, music, stories, computers, 'meet the parents' evenings and several visitors— were just some of what was on offer. We hope that all parents/carers had the opportunity to do something a bit different and enjoy some playroom time with their child. Thank you to all of the Springboard staff, volunteers, parents/carers and children for making it such a fun week. As you know we also use the week as an opportunity to gather feedback from parents/carers to help us plan for the future and to give positive feedback to our funders and the Springboard trustees.

Questionnaire: in July 2009 we gave a questionnaire to all Springboard parents/carers. The results are very interesting and inspiring and now available for everyone to see in a folder in the parents rooms, and a display with a few key comments. A copy is also available at South Weston as well. Thank you to all parents/carers who took the time to complete it.

Aims and Objectives: Springboard's aims and objectives were drawn up over 20 years ago and now the Trustees wish to amend them to reflect what we are achieving today. If you are interested in joining in this discussion there will be an opportunity to do so very soon.

Clevedon: 2a Princes Road, Clevedon BS21 7SZ 01275 341113 info@springboardweb.org.uk

Weston: Ashcombe Children's Centre, Stepping Stone Walk, WsM BS23 3SN 01934 426165 wsm@springboardweb.org.uk

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Early Communication Skills Workshops—these very useful sessions are being run by Grace Hewson and are an opportunity for any parent/carer to discuss any issues and to gain practical information on how to help their child with early language and communication. Grace is also hoping to involve a speech and language therapist in the sessions. Any parent/carer who is interested can take up a place, so see the notice-boards for more information and bookings.

National Autistic Society (NAS) North Somerset Branch—Events for 2010:

Support Group Meetings— these informal meetings are an opportunity for parents and professionals to get together and to share information.

Clevedon Support Group—meets at Springboard Clevedon 10-12

Thurs 28 Jan; 25 Feb; 25 March; 27 May; 24 June; 22 July; 23 Sept

Weston Support Group—meets at Lynx Centre, Lynx Crescent, Winterstoke Rd, Wsm 7-9pm

Weds 13 Jan; 10 Feb; 10 March; 14 May; 9 June; 14 July; 11 Aug; 8 Sept.

Wallace and Gromit Special Cinema showing—Sat 13 March—Curzon Cinema

Clevedon. Come and see 'The Wrong Trousers' and 'A Close Shave. Fun for all the family. For more information and to book contact Liz, NAS Branch Officer or take a look at their very useful website. 01934 628287 www.nas-northsomerset.co.uk

Stay & Play News: Weston—sessions every Weds morning 10-12, inc Feb half term.

Weds 3 Feb—Ed and his Toy Library will be at Ashcombe 9-11

Clevedon—session held every Thurs afternoon 1.15-3.15, inc Feb half term

Down's Syndrome Association Coffee Morning — this parent led support group meet on the **LAST TUESDAY** of every month at The Firs Resource Centre (next to Drove Road Centre) in WSM 9.30—12. Everyone will get a warm welcome from Becky (01934 833762) or Annabel (01934 832077).

Makaton Workshops – A full list of dates of various courses are available. Please ask for a copy or see the notice-boards or the Springboard website.

Springboard room for hire—are you anyone you know looking for a small meeting room in Clevedon? If so, then ask Yvonne about the Grace Room.

INFORMATION FOR VOLUNTEERS

Springboard is fortunate to have support from many volunteers who help us in the playrooms. In order to support you in return we are running two induction courses, one at Weston starting on **22 Feb** and one in Clevedon starting on **21 April**. These sessions are aimed specifically at volunteers who have recently joined us but are also open to any volunteers who would like a refresher. More details soon. There is also an opportunity for volunteers to join the Springboard staff at an inset day on **Weds 24 March**. The subject will be the value of play and it should be a very enjoyable day and an opportunity to catch up with each other. Once again, more details soon.

Thank to all our volunteers, including our Board of Trustees and Friends of Springboard for their magnificent fundraising support.



In memory of Jock Loudon. For those of us who remember Jock, husband of Kath, who is one of our ex-Springboard parents and a great Friends supporter. You may wish to see a memorial plaque which was unveiled in the garden at our Clevedon Centre, on 22nd October 2009. It commemorates the generous donations made by Jock's family and friends, which is helping to fund the garden project at Clevedon. Our sincerest thanks go to Kath and family.