

SPRINGBOARD NEWS

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

Registered Charity 1025787

Established 1986

www.springboardweb.org.uk

June 2009

CLEVEDON OFSTED SUCCESS!

Diary dates:

Mondays 1, 8, 15 & 22

June -Parent Workshops at Clevedon 7.30-9.30

Sat 6 June—Tin collection at Co-Op Portishead

Weds 24 June—Springboard trip to Court Farm.

Sun 28 June—Friends of SB Strawberry Line sponsored walk/cycle

Thurs 9 July -CLOSED STAFF INSET DAY

Sun 12 July—Friends of SB '20 gives plenty' summer BBQ, Ashcombe CC, Weston

Fri 24 July— Party for Leavers Clevedon and Weston—more details soon

Fri 24 July—last day of Term 6

Summer Holiday

Stay & Plays:

Weston & SW:

Weds 29 July, 5, 12, 19, 26 Aug 10am-12noon

Clevedon:

Thurs 13, 20 & 27 Aug 1pm-3pm

Outstanding—that is the official verdict of the recent inspection by Ofsted of Springboard Clevedon. The inspection, which took place over two days in March, looks in detail at the care and education of the children. But it also takes into account many other aspects such as health and safety, leadership and management and partnership with parents. In all areas Springboard was judged as outstanding, which is an amazing achievement for everyone involved at Clevedon.

"Excellent relationships are established with parents and there is a daily exchange of information with their child's key person"

Many thanks and congratulations to Grace and Liz and their team of hard working staff and volunteers. You have really done us proud.

"outcomes for children's welfare, learning and development are exceptional "

The full report if available in the parents room at Clevedon or can be viewed online at www.ofsted.gov.uk and follow the links. The report is also available on the Springboard website www.springboardweb.org.uk

"High regard is given to multi agency cooperation and communication with parents and carers is exceptional to ensure individual needs are met."

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/ CARERS

Downs 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).

North Somerset Mencap AGM—Fri 26

June 11.30-2.30 with buffet lunch at the Clevedon Community Centre (next door to Springboard). The main speaker is Alison Stone, who is the planning and development officer for the North Somerset Team for people with learning disabilities. See their website www.northsomersetmencap.co.uk for lots of very useful information.

Supportive Parents—local support group dates are Mendip Green School, Worle on Tues 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. 16 June and 15 Sept and at The Folk Hall, High Street, Portishead on Thurs 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. 9 July 2009.

www.supportiveparents.co.uk

NAS North Somerset branch— meet in the north at Springboard on **Thurs 25 June & 23 July 10am-12**. In the south they meet at the Lynx Centre, Winterstoke Road on **Weds 10 June, 8 July, 12 Aug, 9 Sept, 14 Oct, 11 Nov and 9 Dec 7pm-9pm**. For more details email northsomerset@nas.org.uk or see the website www.nas-northsomerset.co.uk

The Firs Parents Support Group Mon 8 June & 13 July 9.30-12—all welcome

Bournestream—this beautiful play and picnic site for children with special needs is safe, spacious and secure open to any family. It costs £10 to join for a year and is just off Junction 14 M5. Contact Jinny Rawlings 01531 820693 or see their website www.bournestream.org.uk

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

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

SPRINGBOARD TRUSTEES NEWS

As Springboard is a charity and a company limited by guarantee we are governed by a Board of Trustees, the equivalent of a school governing body. At our recent AGM nine members were elected to the full Board, made up of parents and supporters. All trustees attend full board meetings about 5 times per year as well as three sub committees which are made up as follows:

- **Finance & Premises**— members are Chair, **Sarah Iles**, an ex-Springboard parent; Treasurer is **Keith Long**, who has a wealth of financial experience and has a long standing connection to us as his wife Myra has been a volunteer with Springboard for many years; **Shelley Wadey**, who has considerable financial experience and is mum of Thomas who attends Clevedon.
- **Personnel**—members are **David Dennis**, former secondary school headteacher, Ashcombe School chair of governors and a local magistrate and **Sue Goulding**, an ex-Springboard parent and ex-Weston volunteer.
- **Service Delivery and Development**— members are Vice-Chair **Katy Littlewood-Hillsdon**, mum of Evie and Martha who attend Weston; Volunteer Rep **Janet Cryer**, a volunteer at Clevedon for many years and a member of 'Friends'; **Jane Stewart**, a local paediatrician and long standing Springboard supporter.

In addition to the above continuing trustees, we will also be joined by **Wendy Lovell**, an ex-Springboard parent and current Weston volunteer. Caroline Stitfall, a long-standing trustee, recently resigned. We wish to thank Caroline for her commitment to Springboard over many years and wish her well for the future.

The Board meetings are regularly attended by four/five staff members who carry out the actions agreed by the trustees. If you wish to get in touch with the board of trustees please do so by contacting the Springboard Clevedon office. (Tel 01275 341113; email info@springboardweb.org.uk; in writing to 2a Princes Road, Clevedon BS21 7SZ)

Springboard is very fortunate to have such experienced and committed Trustees who help us to steer a way through the many ups and downs of running a large voluntary organisation.

Parent Reps—Shelley at Clevedon and Katy at Weston (also for south weston) are very happy to chat informally with any parents/carers who have any concerns with any aspect of Springboard and are open to ideas, suggestions and feedback.

...INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS cont...

North Somerset Council's Family Support Team Summer Wonder Playschemes— these are for any child with additional needs and are run in the north and south of the area. Dates are likely to be as follows:

North (based in Nailsea) 28 July—3 Aug

South (based in Weston) 18 Aug—29 Aug

For more information contact Gill Stokes or Charlotte Shelton 01934 632538

DON'T FORGET—North Somerset's Family Support Team also run family fun afternoons at Kingston Seymour Playground as well. Take a look at the children's directory at www.n-somerset.gov.uk or ring 01934 426300 for lots of holiday and activities information for all children and families.

ALSO—look out for activities and events at your local Children's Centre, which are popping up all over the area!

Staff news:

Weston playroom— Sarah and Gemma joined us just before Christmas as Support Assistants.

Inclusion Service—some changes have been made to the management of this service to help improve communication and workload. This means that Jacky Turpin is leading the Weston part of the service until July.

Clevedon playroom— In January we were also joined by Abigail Perkins who is training in childcare as part of our Supported Employment Project and her Support Worker Tracey Maidment.

AU REVOIR's—At the end of July, Grace Hewson and Diane Scarborough are both stepping down from their current posts as Clevedon Playleader and Deputy Manager respectively. Happily for us, they will be returning in September in a part-time capacity. We will having a pressie collection for them and cards will be circulating if anyone wishes to make a contribution or send them a message.