

## *Home-Start Wirral Autumn Newsletter*

Autumn 2017

### **Home-Start Wirral AGM...**

**Thank you to everyone that managed to attend our Annual General Meeting this year. We love this event as it gives families and volunteers the chance to share their journey at Home-Start Wirral with others. It was an emotional event; all of the stories shared were heartfelt and moving. There were plenty of tears & tissues!**

**We invited a number of different agencies along to share our story with them and the feedback received from them was amazing.... we really appreciate everyone who was brave enough to speak on the day.**

**An extra thanks to everyone at Mayer Hall for hosting the event.**



### **Funding News....**

**We were lucky enough to have recently been donated £15,000 by the Freemasons, and £9,980 from Morrisons. These generous grants will enable us to support to a larger number of families across the Wirral.**

**A massive thank you to the Freemasons and Morrisons!**

## Volunteer Christmas Get Together.....



As a thank you for the amazing work done over the last year we would like to invite all of our volunteers to join us for a catch up!

Join us on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December from 6pm onwards at  
The Birch Tree, Prenton Road West, CH42 9PY  
Or alternatively  
Join us at the Home-Start Wirral Hub  
Monday 18th December 1pm-3pm

Please RSVP by calling  
0151 608 8288  
or email us on: [admin@homestartwirral.co.uk](mailto:admin@homestartwirral.co.uk)



## 50-50 Club.....

*What is the Home-Start Wirral 50-50 Club?*  
It is a lottery!

The beneficiaries are Home-Start Wirral and the 50-50 Club members.  
Membership costs £12 per number per year.

50% goes direct to Home-Start Wirral and 50% is the monthly prize fund  
All numbers are entered each month and one number is drawn each month.

The more numbers we sell, the more funds we raise for Home-Start Wirral  
And the bigger the prize pot!!

You can buy as many numbers as you want  
To sign up, please ask at the Hub, the charity shop 48 Upton Road, Claughton Village  
CH41 0DF  
Alternatively you can ring us on 0151 608-8288  
or email us at  
[5050@homestartwirral.co.uk](mailto:5050@homestartwirral.co.uk)



Please see below the training sessions available for volunteers and families.  
If you would like to attend please get in touch:

0151 608 8288

[jessicagaskell@hometartwirral.co.uk](mailto:jessicagaskell@hometartwirral.co.uk)

**Child Bereavement Training with Debra O'Brien**

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 1pm-2pm  
Home-Start Wirral Hub, Woodchurch Lane

**Domestic Abuse Training with Maria Morgan**

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November 6pm-8.30pm  
Home-Start Wirral Hub, Woodchurch Lane

**Mental Health Awareness & Understanding Emotions**

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 6pm-8pm  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 10am-12pm  
Home-Start Wirral Hub, Woodchurch Lane

**The Importance of Play**

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 09:30-2:30pm  
Carr Bridge Community Centre, Carr Bridge Road,  
Woodchurch CH49 8EU

or

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 09:30-2:30pm  
Home-Start Wirral Hub Woodchurch Lane

**Safeguarding Refresher**

Full day session: Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 9:30-2:30pm  
Carr Bridge Community Centre, Carr Bridge Road, Woodchurch  
or

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 09:30am-11:30am  
Home-Start Wirral Hub, Woodchurch

## Our Volunteer Champion



Hello Volunteers!!

Welcome to this section of our latest Newsletter. As always, it's been a busy time over the last few months with lots of developments.

Back in January the HSW staff and Board of Trustees had an 'Away Day' at St. James Centre in Birkenhead. This was a chance of everyone (under the guidance of an external, specialist consultant) to consider ways we could diversify our sources of finance in order to provide a more stable income for our charity. As you may remember from previous Newsletters, it has been a very difficult time as our traditional funders are all under pressure themselves. Unfortunately, on top of reducing income we are facing increasing needs for our services.

The outcome of the Away Day was that we needed to identify new, potential sources of income in order to carry on the good work with the families we support. In light of the excellent progress achieved by Sara Forfar and her team of volunteers in our charity shop in Claughton, it seemed an obvious choice to try to open another shop. Finding a suitable (and affordable) venue, however, proved difficult. After much investigation into possible sites, I'm delighted that we are now 'up and running' in our new shop in Neston. Thanks to all the staff and volunteers who made it possible to open to the public on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> September. I called in to see Sara on the first day and was really impressed with the premises. Fingers crossed that this will be as successful as our first shop!!

On a personal note, although I am still both a volunteer and trustee of HSW, I'm currently taking a short break from my volunteering duties. My mum recently celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and I'm spending more time with her at the moment. I am still, however, the trustee for the volunteers so please feel free if you want to contact me to discuss anything. Conversations will be treated in a confidential manner and I can be contacted either on my mobile (07970 652690) or my email address [johnjones@thewo.org.uk](mailto:johnjones@thewo.org.uk)

## We Are Recruiting.....

## WE WANT YOU!!!!

### Could you be a Home-Start Wirral Family Support Volunteer??

Are you a parent or grandparent?

Are you able to spare 3 hours a week?

Do you have family or friends that would like to volunteer their time?

Home-Start Wirral volunteers visit families at home, supporting

Parents in situations such as isolation, illness, multiple births,

Mental health issues or who are just finding parenting a struggle.

They provide non-judgmental practical and emotional support and help build the families confidence and ability to cope.

*All volunteers will be subject to a Disclosure  
and Barring Service Check  
(DBS)*

**Contact us on: 0151 608 8288  
For more information**

## Charity Shop Update...

Busy times for Home-Start Wirral as we opened our second shop in September. The new premises, on 14 Brook Street in Neston was given to us by Centric Projects, a charity that takes commercial premises that have been left empty or neglected and matches them to charities needing space. It's a great location and came at the perfect time for Home Start Wirral as we also started a new course of preparation in Neston recently too so we'll be supporting families in the area.

The shop has received a really positive response - with five new volunteers signed up already and lots of customers telling us how pleased they are to see an old empty unit being brought to life for a great cause. Please do pop in and see us or drop off a donation - there's free parking close to the shop and Neston is a lovely old market town that's really worth a visit.

We'd also like to say how proud we are of shop volunteers Lyndsay and Heather. They both spoke really eloquently about how Home Start Wirral support had helped them through difficult times at our AGM in September. We are lucky to have such inspiring women volunteering at our charity shop.

Congratulations to shop volunteer Dave Smallman who celebrates his 50th Birthday, Bill Bonner who was 80 recently and to Heather White who is expecting another baby.



Did you know that you could show your support for our charity through eBay? Simply visit our profile page on eBay <https://charity.ebay.co.uk/charity/Home-Start-Wirral/63743> and click "Add to My favourites".

You can also search for us by going to [charity.ebay.co.uk/search](https://charity.ebay.co.uk/search)

Once you've picked us, you'll be able to easily donate to benefit us, whenever you buy or sell on eBay. What's more, by picking us as your favourite charity you could help us win up to £7,000. That's because this October, eBay for Charity will be counting every time a charity is selected as a favourite. The charities with the most favourites at the end of the month will win cash prizes.

So make us your favourite charity on eBay and invite your family and friends to do the same too. Every vote counts!

Mandy Edwards - our shop assistant has been busy finding places to put our fundraising orange boxes. There are 17 businesses on Wirral helping us to raise funds. If you have a local corner shop, newsagents or convenience store that would let us pop a box on their counter please get in touch. It would be great to have 20 boxes by the time we send our next letter out.

## *Morrisons Bag Pack....*

**Thanks to everyone that attended our fundraiser bag pack at Morrisons  
We managed to raise £200!!**

***THANK YOU!!***



# Life Long & Family Learning Courses...

## **Best Start**

This course is aimed at helping parents to understand brain development & what they can do to give their child the best start by building strong attachments & creating safe environments.

## **Starting Young**

This workshop will encourage learners to discuss the issues and barriers surrounding healthy eating and lifestyles and how we can overcome them.

## **Discover & Do**

This course targets parents with the hope to develop their understanding of the benefits of outdoor play and help to overcome barriers of engagement by using different play styles and being creative

## **Grow & Play**

This workshop aims to develop a basic knowledge of child development and help promote the value and importance of play in the development of young children.

## **Ready 4 Maths**

This course will be for parents looking to improve their math's skills and aim to give them a solid foundation in early math's literacy.

## **Parents, Early Years & Learning**

This course looks to give parents the confidence to support their children through early years of their academic journey.

## **Parents, SEND & learning**

This course is aimed specifically at parents with a child dealing with a SEND condition. We hope to give the parents confidence to support their child in the early years of their academic journey.

## **Healthy Happy Homes**

Aimed at parents looking to support their children and understand young people's mental health as well as building family resilience.

**If you or anyone you know is interested in any of these courses please get in touch with our Family Learning Coordinator Jess Gaskell  
For more information on: 0151 608 8288  
Or [jessicagaskell@homestartwirral.co.uk](mailto:jessicagaskell@homestartwirral.co.uk)**

## ***Baby Massage Gift Vouchers now Available!***

**Are you looking for an extra special gift this Christmas??  
We may be able to help....  
We now offer gift vouchers for our popular  
Baby Massage courses  
Courses available at  
Home-Start Hub 17/01/18 to 14/02/18  
Neston Community Centre 16/01/18 to 13/02/18  
And future dates still to be confirmed throughout the year**

**Gift Vouchers £30**

**If you would like more information  
Please call us on: 0151 608 8288**

# The Big Meet...

Join Us For Networking & Refreshments!

Home-Start Wirral would like to invite you along to our networking event...

We have invited a number of local agencies along to showcase their services and give you the chance to see what's out there...

**“Ask Us Wirral” “Autism Together”**

**“Tomorrows Women”**

**“Family Nurse Partnership” “Early Help Team”**

**“Mencap” “Wirral SEND”**

**“North Birkenhead Development Trust”**

Please join us at The Home-Start Wirral Hub

Woodchurch Lane

Prenton

CH42 9PH

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December

1pm-3pm

To confirm your attendance

Please call us on:

0151 608 8288



**COMING SOON...**

## Home-Start Household Essentials

We are opening our very own shop selling household items such as washing powder, etc. at a fraction of the usual cost. The items are coming from an organisation called HisChurch and the products we receive will vary from delivery to delivery. This shop is for the use of families, volunteers and others in the community. This shop will not be manned; however we will have an honesty box and a recommended price list so please bring change with you on your next visit to the Hub and save some money on your weekly shopping bills.