



Year of events will raise money to improve childcare group's site

Edmund Crosthwaite
edmund.crosthwaite@archant.co.uk

A childcare centre wants your help as they prepare for a year of fundraising activities.

The ABC Childcare group in Ipswich wants to upgrade some of its facilities and buy new equipment.

Children up to the age of 11 are looked after at the centre which has both a pre-school care service and an out of school/holiday group.

Around 160 children use the facility, including their breakfast club, and now the group's management committee wants to spruce up some areas of their site.

A few inside areas have recently had a makeover as has the outside play equipment, but there are other areas the committee want to bring up to the same standard.

Director and treasurer Emma Rose said: "We're now developing the inside area; the home area and reading and writing areas.

"We're looking to do a traditional family fun day with traditional stalls.

"We want local groups like karate and belly dancing to come and do displays."

That event will take place later in the year on June 14 but Mrs Rose said there should be some other fundraisers happening earlier.

"We've also got a football tournament going on this year," she added. "And we've got a bouncy bunnies day on March 10 and 11.

"We'll have a bouncy castle for the two days and the children will get sponsorship for how many bunny hops they can do.

"There's plenty planned and we're confident that will get us where we want to be with the inside area.

"It'll benefit the children greatly. The outside area wasn't particularly good so it's been developed to quite a



ABC Childcare is launching its fundraising drive to help get new equipment for the Foxhall Road centre. Harry, Katie and Harry with staff members Annemarie Brinkhoff and Emma Johnson. Photos: LUCY TAYLOR

high standard. We're looking at role play equipment so children can develop their role play skills.

"And we'll be making the reading area so it's more like a home environment and make it a little but more like the standards people are accustomed to."

As well as attending the fundraising events when they happen people can also contribute by getting involved in their planning.

Volunteers are needed to help organise and run the events and, Mrs Rose said, would be good experience for a group of scouts or guides working towards their badges.

→ Anyone interested in helping in this way can call Mrs Rose on 07541 521526.



IN BRIEF

Trains and plans the topic at next society meeting

IPSWICH: The next meeting of the Ipswich Transport Society features a mix of aviation and railway items.

During the meeting on February 20, Bev Steele will present A Rail and Air Miscellany.

The meeting, starting at 2.15pm, will take place in the Pioneer Hall of the Co-op Education Centre at 11 Fore Street.

Entry will be £2 per person and further information is available by calling 01473 405116.

Police appeal for help after house broken into

IPSWICH: Help is needed to solve a burglary.

It happened in The Avenue between 6am and 10pm on Thursday. An offender broke into a property, causing the alarm to sound and then left. Call Ipswich CID on 101.

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Kesgrave Market

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9.00am to 12.30pm

1st Kesgrave Scout Hall/Town Square (nr Tesco)

Chicken • Beef • Pork • Lamb • Fish • Fruit & Veg • Bread • Rolls
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** February News and Offers **

FREE 'Make and Take' Crafts for the Children with *The Great & Little Workshop*
(Sponsored by SPARK)

Newbourne Pork and Newbourne Farm Shop's Recipe of the Month
(Available at the Market) 'Slow Roasted Pork Belly with Sticky Red Cabbage, Apple Jam and Mashed Potato'
500g Onions, 1 Stick of Celery, 500g of Carrots, 1 Red Cabbage and 1 kilo of Potatoes, all for £3.00!

'Stock up on Stokes' - buy 4 jars/bottles of Stokes Products and receive a FREE bottle of Stokes Tomato Ketchup

Victoria's Bakery - Lovely Valentines Cupcakes and Biscuits will be available, as well as Speciality Breads. Packs of 4 cakes for £2.20

PaperFrog Crafts - A FREE handmade bookmark with every purchase (1 per customer). New characters added to the peg magnet range - still only £1.50 each or 3 for £4.00

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Park's grants buy sports equipment

The Friends of Christchurch Park have bought two table tennis tables for public use at a cost of £4,000.

Grants coupled with the group's own funds have secured the weather and vandal-proof equipment which chairman Richard Wilson said they hoped to install by the Easter holidays.

Mr Wilson said: "We did a questionnaire recently and people have been looking for more activities for families and young people.

"We haven't just done this on a whim, it's taken quite a lot of time.

"They're going to be by the upper bowls green.

"Our plan is to have some bats and balls available to hire."

Outdoor table tennis tables have been a common site all over Europe for many years and are now being installed in public areas across the UK. The friends group is confident they will be a popular attraction.