

# NEWSLETTER May 2017



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## Holiday Respite Club

After the success of our weekend Saturday Club and a growing demand from families for more respite services, FUN launched its new Holiday Respite Club on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2017. This club will now offer one day of full respite for 9 to 17 year olds during each week of the school holidays. Places are already booking up fast. If you would like to find out more about how your child could access this club, please get in touch or see our website for more details

## May Holiday Club

Our ever-popular holiday club is open to the whole family and opens its doors again during the forthcoming half-term week. Come and join us on the following days:

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June

This is a drop-in service, so no need to book, and our Activity Centre will be providing all of our usual activities, including bouncy castle, soft-play, sensory room, lego, pool and football tables, multimedia, interactive games and much, much more.



FUN is looking to expand our dedicated team of **Support Staff** who support children and young people at our clubs and activities. All of our support staff bring a caring and accepting attitude to their roles. If you are interested in applying for a support worker role, please contact the office or see our website for a full job description and application form.



FUN staff have now received their Active Luton **disability sports training**. Our members can now look forward to more inclusive sports activities during our clubs.

Registered Charity No.  
1091474

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Thank You!

A HUGE thank you to all of those who have supported FUN by raising money and providing their time and talents for free to enable us to continue to help our members and their families.

The Co-op local community fund has raised a massive **£8,122** so thank you to every shopper who chose FUN as their nominated charity.

Many thanks to **Jam Crackers IT Support**

who have chosen FUN as their charity of the year for 2017/18.

Keep an eye out for their great FUN events. [www.jamcrackers.co.uk](http://www.jamcrackers.co.uk)

The Sixth Form students at **Redbourn Upper School** have raised us an amazing **£1,000** from their fancy dress day, Valentine chocolate delivery service and their battle of the bands event. A big thank you to all the students taking part!

**Together Ltd** for their very generous donation of **£150**

Many thanks to everyone for shopping via **EasyFundraising** **£328.12**

## Is your child aged under 5 years? Have they been diagnosed with an additional need or are they undergoing assessment?

If so, our **Opportunity Play** sessions could be for you. We offer a fun drop-in play session for under 5's with additional needs and their siblings. Staff are on hand to talk to parents about the process of diagnosis and offer information and advice about local services. The children can access all of the play areas that our Activity Centre offers. Sessions run every Tuesday morning, term-time, from 9.30am to 11.30am.



## Young Adult Club

Our young adult group have recently had a very successful shopping and budgeting trip in the local area. They were tasked with shopping for ingredients and comparing prices at different local supermarkets. They then cooked and ate their meal together at our Activity Centre. Well done to all of our young adults for a very successful activity! Our Young Adult Club runs every Tuesday evening from 6.30pm to 9pm.

## Youth Club

Our 10 to 17 year olds at youth club have had a busy time designing their own T-shirts to wear at the club. They have also held their own 'Bake Off' challenge creating some imaginative desserts; and awarded certificates for all of their hard work and creativity. Youth Club runs every Monday evening during term-time from 6.30pm to 8.30pm.



## Adapted Minibus



We are thrilled to announce that FUN

has now secured a new fully adapted minibus accommodating up to four wheelchairs at one time. We are so pleased that our young people who are wheelchair users will now have much greater access to our community trips and activities.



The Co-op have again chosen FUN to be one of their nominated charities in the

Luton area. Every £1 spent in the Co-op provides 1% to your chosen charity. If you are a Co-op customer, then please do log on to your reward card account and choose Families United Network as your local cause to support.

## Parent Carer Participation

Over the past six years, FUN has set up and hosted the three **Parent Carer Forums** within Bedfordshire. We are very pleased to announce that all three forums are now independent organisations in their own right. The work that the forums do in allowing parent carers to have their voices heard and to influence local services is vital; and FUN are pleased and proud to have been part of the process of bringing all three Parent Carer Forums into existence. If you would like to know more about the Parent Carer Forum in your area, please visit the websites below:

**SNAP Parent Carer Forum for Central Bedfordshire**

[www.snappcf.org.uk](http://www.snappcf.org.uk)

**Luton Parent Carer Forum**

[www.lutonforum.org.uk](http://www.lutonforum.org.uk)

**Bedford Borough Parent Carer Forum**

[www.bbpcf.org.uk](http://www.bbpcf.org.uk)