



REPORT FROM BEV HALL

Our regular Friday Parent Support Meetings take place from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm in the lounge at Cornerstone during term time. This last year has flown by, the group has continued to grow. There are between six and eight parents who attend regularly, with Angela, Jenny and myself coming along to support and help them where needed. Mostly the parents help and advise each other through their own experiences. This get-together is greatly valued by the parents as it is a time when they can be really honest about how life is going with all its ups and downs and they gain so much help and advice from each other. Over the year we have had several mums' meals out at various locations. They all enjoy these occasions, and we have at least ten mums coming along each time.

During the holidays we have run several activity mornings for children under the age of 11 with additional needs and their siblings. We held two in August, the first of these was very successful, we had 16 children attending, of which ten children had additional needs, but the second session in August was not so well attended with only four children, two of whom only came for an hour at the end of the session. The summer activity mornings will need a rethink.

In the October half term we had one session, when we had 14 children attending, seven of whom had additional needs. We had one session during February half term, which was very popular with 18 children attending (10 with additional needs), at this session we had a bouncy assault course which is always a very exciting addition to the morning. Lastly one session in the Easter holidays, when 14 children attended, six of whom had additional needs.

The parents leave their children in our care while they have a drink or go shopping, this means a great number of helpers are required so that all the children have equal opportunities to access all the activities, so on average we have 8-10 helpers, who work extremely hard for the whole morning, no coffee breaks! A big thank you to all who willingly give up their morning to come along and make the mornings a success.

At Christmas WASSPS and SWANS had a Christmas party together at Gambados in Eastleigh, this was organised by Steffe and was a very happy occasion. We will miss Steffe, she organised so many fun events for us all.

From the feedback I get from parents and children, SWANS is much appreciated by all who come and is very much needed.

