

KENT WIDE DOWN SYNDROME GROUP

Registered Charity 1119018 K.W.D.S.G

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Forth coming events

We have the following events planned or booked for the next few months. To book please email or phone.

December 12th Christmas Party – Faversham Gym Club. 4.30-6.30

February 2010-Activity Days (to be confirmed)

February 2010- Valentines Disco (to be confirmed)

May 2010- AGM Maidstone (to be confirmed)

Please make sure that we have either, your address or, better still, e-mail to keep you up to date with our events and activity flyers.

SPEECH THERAPY

Following a question raised by our group regarding speech and language therapy across Kent, there has been a commitment from Medway PCT to put things right. Talks have already been held with service providers in Medway and a meeting was held with Medway service users including our Chairperson in Chatham on 9th November. A very constructive meeting took place and Derek Hoddinott from Medway PCT is now going to look at positive and effective ways to move forward. We will keep you informed of the progress.



Bowling Event

Our most successful bowling event ever took place in Gravesend on Thursday 29th October. After a competitive but fun game of bowling, our families took over Pizza Hut where we enjoyed lunch and a social get together. Everyone said how much they enjoyed it and it was nice to see some new faces.

Fundraising

We would like to thank one of our supporters, Mark Penell from Gravesend, who climbed Mount Snowdon to raise funds for our group. He managed to raise £173.50. Well Done Mark.

Also Mrs Fewkes from Hartley who kindly donated £20 in remembrance of a friend who had Down Syndrome and recently passed away.



CHRISTMAS EVENT

Our Christmas Party will be held on Saturday 12th December at Faversham Gym. Our costs have been held at last year's price of £3.50 per child or £10 per family (3 or more children). Please watch out for our flyer



WEBSITE

Our website is up to date and contains lots of useful links and information. If you know of any clubs or regular activities or useful links e-mail info@kentds.org and we'll add it to the directory.

FUN TIME SPECIALS

Don't forget that there is still a fun time special being held at Windchimes Resource Centre, Reynolds Close. Herne Bay, CT6 6DS. This is on Sunday 6th December between 10.30 and 12.30. Contact Angie on 07740 348908 for more details.

Trustee Up date

Adele Loft has decided to stand down as Treasurer and her position will be taken by Angela Debont. Also we would like to thank Barry Papworth for his help as he stands down as Deputy Chairman. We would like to thank Adele and Barry for all their help. We also welcome a new trustee Emma Austen.

Existing Trustees are:

Keith Clear – Chairperson

Tracy MacKenzie – Secretary

Angela Debont – Treasurer/ Assistant Secretary

Nigel Brookes- Website Co-ordinator

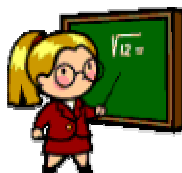
Tracy Papworth- Fundraising

Sarah Kent- Education

Steve & Angie Ralph- Trustees

Emma Austen- Trustee

If any members would like to come forward to be co-opted onto our board of trustees and get some experience before next year's AGM please contact us.



Conference

On Friday 23rd October, KWDSG held a very successful conference in Maidstone entitled Educating Children with Down Syndrome in Primary Schools from 5-11 years. The speaker was Gillian Bird from DownsEd. Attendees included health visitors, support assistants and parents. The fact that it was so well supported shows that there is a need for this type of training. We have had excellent feedback and are looking at holding a regular conference. If there are any suggestions for useful, practical courses then please tell one of our trustees.



Thanet Support Group Meetings (11am-12.30pm)

2009 5th December

Baptist Church, Queens Road, Broadstairs, CT10 1NU

e-mail thanetdowns@hotmail.co.uk

Medway Support Group Meeting Dates (6pm-8pm)

2009 26th November

2010 25th March, 24th June, 23rd September, 28th

October, 25th November

Parklands Children's Centre, Oxford Road, Gillingham.

Please let us know if there is a local support group in your area and we will add them to our list.



As this is the last newsletter before Christmas, we're keen for members to help raise funds by letting us know if their schools or nursery groups would allow a stall for KWDSG at their Christmas Fair or have a few friends over for mince pies and mulled wine. If it's too late for this year, perhaps a quiz night for next year. We're happy to listen to any ideas for fundraising.

The world is your oyster. Please contact us via any of the above methods. We also welcome volunteers to help out on the stalls or events.



WELL DONE GIRLS

Ashleigh Callaway, a member of our group, won 2 silver medals and 1 bronze and Moya Clear won 3 bronze and 1 silver medal at a competition held in Poole over the weekend of 17th and 18th October. Both girls won medals for their first rhythmic gymnastics discipline and are looking forward to more competitions next year. Moya and Ashleigh both attend Gillingham Gymnastics Club and if you would like to find out more please ring 01634 843431.

We always like to hear stories of success or achievement about our family members, whatever their age.

If you have a success story please contact us so that we can put it in our newsletter.



As this is the last newsletter before Christmas the KWDSG Trustees would like to wish everybody a Happy, Healthy, Peaceful and Prosperous 2010.