



## Play & Youth News

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**Welcome to South Locality Play & Youth News!**

**St. Ann's, Mapperley, The Dales, Meadows, Clifton, Dunkirk, Lenton & Wollaton**

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### **Celebrating National Play Day at St Ann's Adventure Play Centre**

On Wednesday 3rd August 2016, Children and Families from St Ann's, Sneinton and Mapperley, came together and celebrated National Play Day, with loads of freely chosen activities to enhance their experience of play.

National Play Day was celebrated this year by holding a family play day event at St Ann's Adventure Play Centre. The event ran from 10am – 2pm. Over 150 people attended this event. Our partner organisation, Epic showed their support again this year and brought a group of young people who were involved in their community games sessions.



The local Councillors supported this event again this year and with their funds we were able to provide some inflatables for additional enjoyment and boy! the bungee run did just that. Also were able to provide a fabulous BBQ, where we were able to offer burgers and hotdogs free of charge and ice poles. Adkins bakery was generous and gave us plenty of cobs.

Other activities on offer on the day were, inflatables, teams and sport games, wall climbing, windmill making for the younger children with our children centre workers, singing and dancing, music provided by DJ Rachel from Community Recording Studios (CRS). The paint spinning that was a real success, also Forest in the community delivered a 'feel good' session, which was a great smash with the young people. As always face painting was available on the day and this was very popular like it always is.

Free play was very evident on the day, children were making the most of everything on site, including rolling down the grass bank, and playing on all the park structures.

We would like to thank everyone for coming out and supporting such a great day and event. We will be back again next year even bigger.

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### **Teddy Bear Picnic**

Children from St Ann's Play Centre organised a Teddy Bears picnic, where they could celebrate with their teddy bears all together.

They helped decorate the Play Centre, with bunting and pictures. The children also made party hats for themselves and their teddy bears. They then sat down and helped each other to arrange the picnic mats and helped set out the food.

The children then all sat down and enjoyed their picnic together, coming up with games such as 'the best teddy bears' name', 'the best dancing teddy bear' and musical statues. Laughing and chatting with each other and creating new friends as some children spoke to others they had never spoken to before.



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### **Inspiring young people to be more creative with water candle**

Young people at Russell Youth Club, got stuck in and created their own candles by using different coloured waxes. To make a candle of their choice the young people worked in pairs, one pouring different colours of hot waxes on to plates and then the other dipping it into a bucket of water, to make wild and wonderful designs.

Young people really enjoyed this activity and was proud of what they had achieved, they work well in pairs and supported each other and got really creative. They wanted to do this activity again and use more colours and introduce different designs.



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### **Little Green Fingers in the making**

Children were busy putting compost in to little plastic cups for seeds to grow, like carrots for carrot cake, green peas planting for mushy peas, beetroot for beetroot cake, onions & potatoes, for pakoras.

Children who attend St Ann's Play Centre, created a task list to water, weed and feed the garden and to clear all pest, snails, slugs. Children worked together and got on with these tasks and enjoyed doing it.

When all the potatoes and onions were ready to be dug up, all children were there taking potatoes and onions out of the soil and washing them. The children put them in a bag to share with other young people and to take them home to share and enjoy with their family.

Little gardeners in the making for the future, planting flower seeds to be put in the raised beds out in the garden, flowers like Calendula, Sweet pea, Sunflowers, Marigolds. When we finished seed planting we put all children's name on a peg and clipped it a pot, to see who would grow first!





We also dug up carrots and all the herbs that were all planted in April, children took some home to share with family & friends.

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### **What young people think about their area**

Young people said they want the Street lights to be changed a bit quicker and no dog fouling on Sneinton area after they had participated in the "Mapping your area" sessions at Oliver Hind youth club.



Young people aged 5 – 11 years took part in "Mapping Your Area" project with Play and Youth Worker, Syed. All the young people that took part had a chance to say what they wanted in their area. The young people loved talking about the area they lived in, sharing things they liked and disliked. They have learnt who to approach and the right people to ask for help to make their area better.

During the sessions, young people were very surprised to find they were able to have a say about their area and how to get their voice heard by people who can make changes. They said they will help their parents to write a letter to the Council about some of the issues and problems they have had. They had a great time talking about their area, on what they liked and didn't like, what they know and what they do not.

Comments from young people: 'So easy to use the maps, easy to get the maps from the library, now I know where to go in my area and I have learnt how to use the map'.

Young people also stated that they didn't think they had a voice in the area they live in.

The young people were so happy and proud to receive a certificate after attending the project. Some of the young people could not wait for the day of the week to come and attend the Project.

At the end of the project, all the young people said this exercise gave them the opportunity to highlight areas that they feel are problems and try to identify why this is the case, as well as saying what they would like to see change or improve in the area. By participating in this project, the young people felt that they were listened to. That was the real success for the young people.

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## **New Windmill in St Ann's**

Using their environment and being creative, children and young people at their local St Ann's Play Centre created a Windmill Sculpture using recycled material they also made a scarecrow

Children and young people at the St Ann's Play Centre sawed and hammered together a Windmill Sculpture, using natural resources, such as scattered wood, twigs from the outside spaces. Children and young people first started with drawing windmills on paper and then from there they collected wood around the play centre that was not being used or would probably be left or rot away and also using our local wood yard with scrap donations of wood. Children got to work using saws, hammers and nails to put together a Windmill.



Being creative children and young people also created a Scarecrow again using there environment collecting twigs straw, and recycling clothes.

Children and young people are pictured showing how proud they are of their creation.

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## **Making new friends and doing fun things**

Hard work paid off! The Play and Youth workers from Central and South area of Nottingham got together in all weather to find a safe place within the Lenton and Dunkirk area for the young people to play and take part in various fun activities.

Since we started the brand new play session on Lenton recreation Park, we have had lots of new members and built some really positive relationships with young people and their parents who attend. We even have a following of young people who attend more than one of our static sessions throughout the city after attending the Lenton Park session. One week some young people even made the staff a fresh baked cake to say 'Thank you' which we were very grateful for.



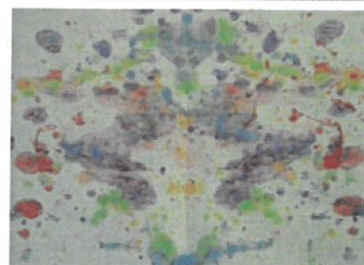
Over the last few weeks the young people have been taught how to play archery safely, make clay trolls which we decorated the trees with and this week we are going to make our own Kites. Young people have planned and chosen all these activities, with the support from the Play and Youth Workers.

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## **Crafty Kids at Sheila Roper**

We have been trying our hand at different arts and crafts at the Sheila Roper Play sessions over the Summer. We have had lots of fun and made some marvellous creations!

Our whole summer plan was to be as creative as possible and we





have had a go at lots of different arts and crafts. We've done bubble pictures, mosaics, glass painting, decorated photo frames, melted wax crayon pictures, Mandalas, and decorated magnets!

Our Sheila Roper play sessions are quite new to the staff team but have been getting busier and busier each week. The staff team have really enjoyed getting to know all of the children in the sessions and we have been playing some talking games at snack time to find out more about each other. A favourite game has been 'My Favourite...' where we take it in turns to pick a topic and tell each other our favourite things. We heard some very creative concoctions when we played 'my favourite ice-cream flavour' and think there may have been a pinch of imagination in some of those recipes!

Also over the summer, building work and refurbishment has begun on the community centre and light is now flooding in to the main space through the new windows and front door. Although there is some more work to be done the building already feels like a totally different space. We are really looking forward to the work being completed and launching the new look Sheila Roper Community Centre closer to the autumn.

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### **Harrow Road re-launch**

As some of our older members were approaching the age where they had to move on to youth clubs which would suit them better, we organised an open day to encourage old and new members to attend and get involved in some friendly, enjoyable, fun and exciting activities.



As a team we did a consultations with the young people that attended the junior youth session, to get ideas of what kind of activities they would like for the re-launch we were planning.

Local residents feedback the need for a provision for younger children to be able attend our sessions. It was decided to lower our age range to 5-13yrs old.

The re-launch was a successful event which attracted high number of young people. They really enjoyed the event and was reluctant to go home when asked by parents. Staff members had to convince the young people that the session would be running the following week, same time and place but with different activities.

Since the re-launch our numbers have increased which has been very positive.

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## Pool Link

My name is Robert and I have recently joined the Play and Youth team. I have been spending time to get to know and build relations with young people throughout the South locality area. Since being a Play and Youth Worker this has been very rewarding having relationships with the young people. I believe that I overcome some barriers between me and young people and this is reflected in our positive relationship.

I now feel as a valuable member of the team, this involving not only the staff members but also the wide group of Children and young people we see in all our centres.

With a background in sport I engaged with the young people in a way which I believe has worked on communicating, creating and building relationships.

Picture: Myself handing over the pool tournament trophy to Kye.



## Hummingbird to Nightingale

During the summer youth member, Chantice wanted to join the music project at the Meadows youth club because she could sing and wanted to hear herself on CD. The young lady was then taken to the studio to meet Spyda who delivers music sessions the studio. However when Chantice was put into the recording booth and asked to sing a song of her choice she just froze. Spyda and Play and Youth Worker, Karl spoke to her to try understand what was the problem and she said when she saw the boys in the room her nerves went, So it was decided to ask the boys to take a break and leave the room for a while. Chantice then went in again and sang but her nerves took over. Spyda told her not to worry as he would work with her and also let her listen to the recording of herself and she was not impressed at this point. A plan was then drawn up with the group, which included some one to one, alone time in the studio (excluding Staff). The plan worked because after two sessions she was confident enough to work with the group and is now a very good singer in her own right.



**thanks for reading! Play & Youth News**



**We hope you enjoyed reading Play & Youth News!**

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