

ROMSEY OPPORTUNITY GROUP

The Appletree Centre, Princes Road, Romsey SO51 8DS

01794 511927 (Tues & Thurs 9-1pm)

Registered Charity No. 266330



December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers, Volunteers and Staff

Welcome to our latest newsletter keeping you in touch with all our good news especially if you are new to Romsey Opportunity Group! Christmas is fast approaching so there is an air of excitement with events, crafts and music. We are grateful to so many organisations and of course our volunteers who make all these things possible.

Finally, we are increasingly proud of our families who make all this worthwhile. Have a very happy Christmas and see you for more laughter, fun and probably a few tears in 2022.

Yours Lyn

and on behalf of Janine and Carol to whom I now hand over for the rest of the newsletter!



Christmas
Holidays

Friday 17th December
2021 - Monday 10th
January 2022

Dates for Diary

Thursday 16th December 2021 – Children's Christmas Party and last session of term 10am-12noon

Thursday 16th December 2021 – Staff/Volunteer Christmas nibbles provided by the Trustees @ 12.30pm approx. Secret Santa gift up to £5.00 max.

Thursday 6th January 2022 – Staff/ Volunteers Only 'Cleaning session' 10am-12noon

Tuesday 11th January 2022 – Everyone returns for our first session of the Spring Term 10am-12noon



Children In Need Success!

Another successful application to Children in Need and we breathe a sigh of relief as grants towards running costs become more difficult to find. Well-done to our volunteer and Trustee Sue for the hours of hard work making sure everything is in order so we remain eligible. Please note photo taken from Pudsey's 2014 visit to ROG



Visit our website <http://www.romseyopgroup.org.uk>

Lyn Bird - Family Co-ordinator **07715 560631 (Mobile)** e-mail rog@romseyopgroup.org.uk

or **01794 511927 (Appletree)** Tuesday and Thursday 9.00 – 1 pm

Or Janine Hollands - Playroom Co-ordinator



Group Activities

On Tuesday 30th November Rhiannon Wilmott, Children & Young Families Worker from Romsey Abbey visited the Appletree Centre and performed a bespoke Christingle service for our children.

The children really engaged and enjoyed the story and lights from the candles! ❤️

Fundraising at ROG

Walk the Test Way

On a beautiful sunny day in late September Jim (Lyn's husband) & friend Darren took part in the Rotary Club of Romsey Tests '**Walk the Test Way 2021**' in aid of Romsey Opportunity Group. An urgent need of ROG is to replace outdoor play equipment which has become unsafe; the replacements will be eco-friendly, manufactured from recycled plastics, total cost approx. £2500.

Here is photographic proof that they did it! Thank you to Romsey Test Rotary for a well organised walk and to those who have donated. A special well done to Jim and Darren for completing 16

and 11 Miles and getting their medals! An amazing **£415** has been raised to date via JustGiving.

11.12.21 Hot off the press! Our treasurer Dick has just received a cheque for £442.56 for the sponsorship for Walk the Test Way. Thank you so much.



Abbotswood Christmas Market

On Saturday 20th November Romsey Opportunity Group had a stall at Abbotswood Community Centre. £150.60 was raised altogether. A huge thank you to everyone who donated items to sell. Sue's famous 'Appletree Centre' Chutney sold out! Alison's mum Anna and auntie Diane made some beautiful hand knitted Christmas decorations. We are also very grateful to Michelle one of our mums who made some amazing festive cupcakes. Finally thank you to our wonderful helpers who gave up their time on a Saturday afternoon: - Lyn, Helen,

Ruth, Alison, Maggie and Anna B enabling us to promote the work that Romsey Opportunity Group does and raise money in the process.

The Factory Shop

Thank you to the fantastic staff and customers of The Factory Shop, Romsey who have raised these funds for our special children and families by swiping their club cards, buying a shopping bag or making a donation in store. The cheque for the money raised so far went straight into the hands of our Treasurer who has a big smile behind that mask!!

We are always very grateful to the community for helping us to help others.... **Please keep shopping in store, swiping those club cards and buying those bags to continue to support ROG.**



Quiz Evening

"We are very grateful to **Jon Whettingsteel** and his company **Dutton Gregory** for a super Quiz and Curry evening on 25th November in Winchester. The 'Rusty Trustees' team from ROG were narrowly beaten by the Staff & Parents team 'The Reason' by just 1 point (blame Dick for miscounting snooker balls!). But neither team were able to show the breadth of knowledge by the team "Let's Get Quizzical" from Martin & Co Letting and Estate Agents in Winchester, who were proud to show off their prizes!



Thank you so much to **Jon** for such brilliant organisation and being both a great quizmaster and advocate. Lyn and Alison, one of our mums, gave emotional speeches on the night. An absolutely amazing total of **£1,059.70** has been raised for ROG! We are so grateful to everyone who has supported us.

<https://www.facebook.com/duttongregory/>

Christmas Videos on Facebook

Feeling festive? Don't forget our lovely music lady Liz converted a room in her house into a mini studio last year and uploaded many videos to our closed Facebook page. To watch them again please click on media and then videos and you will find them.



Useful Information

★ NEW ★

🗣️ 👤 The Children's Wellbeing Support Service 🗣️ 👤

🗣️ <https://www.hampshiresendiass.co.uk/>



As part of on-going work to improve neurodevelopmental services for children living in Hampshire, the Hampshire and Isle of Wight CCG Partnership has commissioned a new service to respond to children of primary school age, who have social, emotional and mental health needs that result in challenging/distressed behaviours.

The Children's Wellbeing Support Service will provide much needed early intervention and support for parents of children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs which can present in a similar way to Autism, Attention Deficit Disorder, Attachment Disorder, anxiety and poor emotional wellbeing.

The service is aimed at children from Year R through to Year 6, regardless of their education status. Speak to your GP for more information and referral.

Contact For families with disabled children

A great source of support and information for both younger and older children with additional needs. <https://contact.org.uk/help-for-families/information-advice-services/early-years-support/>

Baby Necessities

A baby bank located in southern Hampshire providing new and pre-loved items to families in need. Their aim is to alleviate child poverty and promote the reuse of items through the simple act of redistribution. <https://baby necessities.co.uk/>