

ROMSEY OPPORTUNITY GROUP

The Appletree Centre, Princes Road, Romsey SO51 8DS

01794 511927 (Tues & Thurs 9-1pm)

Registered Charity No. 266330



October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers, Volunteers and Staff

Welcome back to a new term! We apologise for the delay with the newsletter but we have been very busy. Firstly, we wish our July leavers George, Manny, Arrin, Mia & Ben all in the best in their new schools and look forward to hearing how they are settling in.

The new term has seen several new children and their families join us and we welcome them to the Group and hope they will benefit from all we have on offer. We also welcome two new volunteers Rachel and Jenny who are already proving to be an asset to our volunteering team. Hopefully another new volunteer will be joining us after half term.

We now have a dedicated Romsey Opportunity Group contact number with an answer phone for when we are not at the Appletree Centre. The number you need to know is **07726 957735**.

STOP PRESS: Just as we were going to print, the trustees received a letter of resignation from Lyn Bird our Family Co-ordinator, to take effect immediately. The trustees have accepted Lyn's resignation and would like to thank her and her family for her dedicated service to the Group and families for the past 16 years. Arrangements will be made to give everyone an opportunity to say farewell and thanks in an appropriate manner in due course.

Dates for your Diary

Romsey Charities Christmas Fair – Saturday 19th November 2022 10.00am-2.30pm at Crosfield Hall

Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 8th December 2022

Last session of term – Thursday 15th December 2022

Group Activities

Outdoor garden



A big thank you to Keith who has worked his magic on the space outside the front of the Appletree Centre. It started off as an overgrown, unkempt and neglected garden and has now been transformed given the children the opportunity to grow and pick tomatoes and runner beans.



End of Summer Term lunch

The trustees very kindly organised an end of summer term thank you lunch for the staff and volunteers. We had two special invited guests in attendance. It was lovely to see Lyn (Family Co-ordinator) who has been on long term sick leave and also former trustee Georgina Burrows.



Summer Holiday Activities

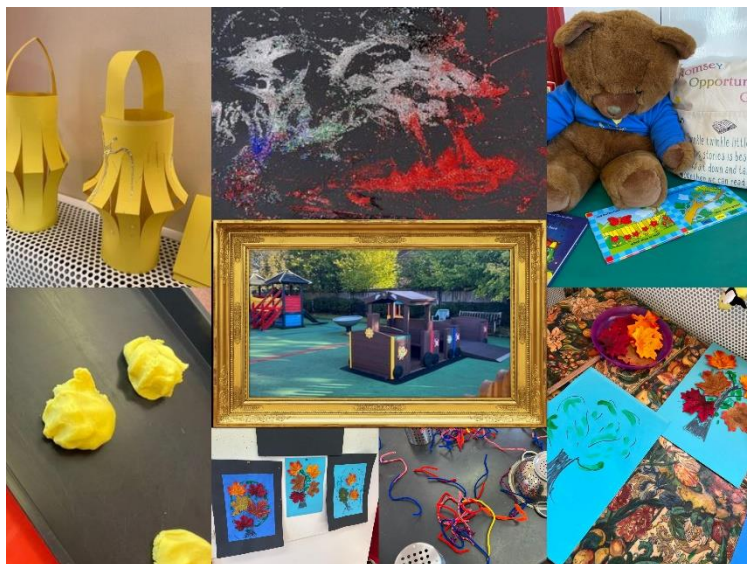
Lovely mum Alison, whose daughter Millie used to attend ROG, arranged a number of fun filled days out during the summer holidays for the families and children. Visits to Longdown Activity Farm, Romsey Rapids Park for a picnic and Hillier Gardens were enjoyed. We thank Alison very much for all her efforts and for her support to ROG families.

Sensory Room Update

We were able to start the new time with a brand-new sensory room set up. A big thank you for the donation of sensory equipment and to Keith for assembling it all. Thank you to Mike Hutchinson for carrying out the PAT testing to ensure it was all safe to use.



ROG art work



The children have been busy this half term celebrating all things Autumnal. A highlight was making pictures with leaves and lantern making and glitter art to celebrate Diwali. Janine our lovely playroom co-ordinator has been baking playdough for the children to play with in the creche and teddy has been looking after our reading material. We have also been creative with flexible pipe cleaners and colanders.

Surprise Gift



Clearing up before the end of half term, we received a knock at the door and we were handed an amazon parcel addressed to us. We weren't expecting a delivery so we were so surprised when we opened it up to receive this anonymous gift to us all! This lovely big box will be shared out between our wonderful volunteers, staff and trustees.



Fundraising

Dutton Gregory Solicitors Quiz & Curry Night



Thank you to everyone at Dutton Gregory Solicitors for organising a quiz and curry night for a second year in aid of Romsey Opportunity Group. It took place on Thursday 27th October 2022 and we had 3 teams from ROG consisting of parents, staff, volunteers and trustees picking their brains.

Romsey Charities Christmas Fair

The popular Romsey Charities Christmas Fair returns for the first time since 2019! Taking place on **Saturday 19th November 2022** between **10.00am – 2.30pm** at **Crosfield Hall** in **Romsey**. Please if you have any **donations of new items suitable to use as a tombola prize**, we would be very grateful. Please bring any **donations** on a **Tuesday or Thursday between 9.15am and 1.30pm** up until **Thursday 17th November**. We would also be very appreciative of anyone who can spend an hour or two anytime between 8.30am – 3.00pm to help out on our stall. Please talk to Janine or Carol for more details.



Children In Need Update



Yet again another huge thank you to **Children in Need** agreeing to giving us a **Grant** for **2022-2023**. **Children in Need** have supported us at times over the years and it is good to know that the money raised for the **Children in Need appeal** goes to local charities across the nation.

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

e-mail rog@romseyopgroup.org.uk or **01794 511927 (Appletree)** Tuesday and Thursday **9.15am – 2.15pm** term time only. Ring **07726 957735** at all other times and leave a message with your name and phone number and we will ring you back as soon as possible.