

# FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

Spring 2023



## SPRING/SUMMER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Friends - Play for Disabled Children's spring/summer newsletter.

We hope you all had a wonderful Easter and have enjoyed the warmer weather - fingers crossed the sun comes out again for our packed summer schedule.

We were pleased to see so many of you during our spring events and our Easter raffle was a great success and helped to raise some much-needed funds.

Paula, Mel and Emma x

### Upcoming events

- 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> July, 4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> August - Friends Friday @ Tunza
- 31<sup>st</sup> July, 14<sup>th</sup> August - Mates Monday @ Tunza
- 20<sup>th</sup> July - Fairy Forest, Lumb Brook Valley
- 24<sup>th</sup> July & 29<sup>th</sup> August - Roller Disco, Wigan Roller Rink
- 25<sup>th</sup> July - Space World, Prescot
- 26<sup>th</sup> July - Warwick Castle
- 31<sup>st</sup> July - The Reader Family Fun Day, Calderstones Park
- 1<sup>st</sup> August - Greenwood Family Park, North Wales
- 7<sup>th</sup> August - Windermere Day Trip
- 8<sup>th</sup> August - Sensory Hive, Whiston
- 9<sup>th</sup> August - Space World, Prescot
- 12<sup>th</sup> August - Blackpool Zoo
- 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> August - Gravity Trampolining, Warrington
- 17<sup>th</sup> August - Wizard Adventure, East Lancs Railway, Bury
- 20<sup>th</sup> August - Fairy Forest, Lumb Brook Valley
- 25<sup>th</sup> August - Drayton Manor, Tamworth
- 30<sup>th</sup> August - Bewilderwood, Cheshire

Choir will resume in September

### FUNDRAISING

We are excited to announce that a fundraising skydive will be taking place on 2<sup>nd</sup> September! Please go to the pinned post on our Facebook page to support those taking part and donate via their *Total Giving* fundraising links.

If you haven't already - please sign up and shop online via 'easyfundraising'. It's completely free to do so and you won't spend any extra, but it allows us to collect donations every time you shop.  
[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friends](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friends)

We enjoyed another fantastic SEN Roller Disco session at the Wigan Roller Rink!



### EASTER EXCITEMENT

We took part in two Easter themed activities this year - a trip to the interactive theatre experience at Walton Hall & Gardens to meet with Peter and his friends and take part in the Bunny Tail Trail as well as a visit to Lucem Cinema to watch Peter Rabbit 2.



### WIGAN ATHLETIC FC

We received even more generosity from Wigan Athletic FC during the Easter break and were invited to tour the stadium and attend their home match against Millwall FC. Both events were thoroughly enjoyed, and we were thrilled to see them win!



FRIENDS  
FRIDAY

We've enjoyed two Friends Friday parties at the Tunza Centre. The Ultimate Party for Easter including a visit from the Easter Bunny with an Easter Egg for each child and the Ready, Steady, Bounce party with plenty of inflatable activities for everyone to enjoy!



### JOY'S FUN DAY - THE TUNZA CENTRE

This was an incredibly special event in collaboration with the Joy Osundeko Memorial Foundation bringing everyone together in memory of Joy. We all enjoyed the fantastic entertainment and activities and look forward to this becoming a much-anticipated annual event!



#### SENSORY FUN

There was plenty of excitement and activities at Space World in Prescot and Warrington Play & Sensory which gave the adults an opportunity to sit down and enjoy a drink and a chat!



A huge thank you to Circus Starr, who generously donated free tickets for families to enjoy their fabulous show in Wigan!

### THESPIAN FRIENDS

We attended three theatre shows during early spring, a relaxed performance of Beauty and the Beast at St Helens Theatre Royal and a showing of Demon Dentist and Annie at the Liverpool Empire. Every show was thoroughly enjoyed in their own right with lots of laughter, dancing and singing.



### THANK YOU

- A big thank you to everyone who took part in our Easter raffle which helped to raise £140.
- We are hugely appreciative that Forge Fitness raised an incredible £95 for us with the return of the Saturday charity class.
  - A massive thank you to Amy who raised £130 for us.

Friends - Play for Disabled Children is a registered charity supporting families in St Helens and the surrounding areas. Our charity number is 1167995. We are registered in England & Wales.  
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We're on the Web!  
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