



## NEWSLETTER

MAY 2016

#031



### MAY 2016 SUPPORT GROUP DATES

The Avenue support group dates for May are **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May** from 9.30am-11.30am, **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May** from 12.30pm-2.30pm and **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May** from 6.30pm-7.30pm. Children are welcome.

Our support groups are informal and friendly offering parents, carers, grandparents and relatives of a child with autism the opportunity to speak with other parents who understand and to pick up information/leaflets.



### VISITORS AT THE AVENUE

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May** - Darran Youell, Parent/Carer Support Worker from Carers in Bedfordshire will be offering one to one informal chats at this group. Darran can offer parent/carers practical, emotional and social support as well as help with training, grants, form filling and tribunals/appeals. To book a chat please email us at [theavenuesupport@outlook.com](mailto:theavenuesupport@outlook.com).

**The Play Doctors** are offering our Avenue families a discounted price on their short half day or evening training courses. Costs of courses are usually £42 inclusive of Vat but if you book using The Avenue's name as a reference the cost will be £25.00 all inclusive. See website for full details of the courses: <http://www.theplaydoctors.co.uk/training/>



On **7<sup>th</sup>** and **8<sup>th</sup> May** ZSL London Zoo is having a Special Children's Day which is

a unique annual event at ZSL London Zoo welcoming children with special needs and their families and friends. With increased specialist facilities and number of staff, as well as special interactive events and discounted entry, Special Children's Day is an exciting and exceptional event not to be missed.

All Special Children's Day activities are free and all Zoo visitors are welcome to join in the fun!

For more information go to: <https://www.zsl.org/zsl-london-zoo/whats-on/special-childrens-day>

### FUNDRAISING AND DONATIONS.....

*Wow what an amazing month April turned out to be*

SPRING RAFFLE **£349**

SANDY POSTIES SWIMATHON Grand total ended up as **£322**

SANDY POSTIES Collection Box raised **£24**

These fantastic fundraising amounts will be put towards the costs of our summer holiday groups and the continuation of our current services.

*Thank you to all of those who contributed.*

### GRANTS

The Avenue has been awarded **£350** by Biggleswade Town Council. This grant enabled us to purchase many sensory samples such as a weighted cap, compression vest, seamless socks, resistance rings etc as well as some specialised books to display at our groups.

### USEFUL FACE BOOK PAGES

**Go Club** – Social group for children with ASD focusing on Lego play.

**Auty Not Naughty** – Autism branded clothing.

**TreezyABA** – Autism resources



### TRAMPOLINING

Sandy Sport Centre offers trampolining for children ages 10-17 with Autism on Thursdays evenings from 6-7pm For further details contact Melanie Brooker on Tel: 0300 300 8075



### VOLUNTEERS

**Welcome** – We are delighted to welcome Elaine and Glenys to our team. Elaine will be developing some special projects for The Avenue (watch this space) and Glenys will be working in our office, running our databases and helping with administration.

**Well done** to Joanne for completing courses in Safeguarding Children with Disabilities and Advanced Safeguarding Children (refresher).

**ALL THE AVENUE'S SUPPORT GROUPS AND WORKSHOPS/EVENTS ARE HELD AT THE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH, CRAB LANE, BIGGLESWADE SG18 0LN \*UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED**

