

Feeding Birkenhead up-date report: North Birkenhead Development Trust

1. School holiday activities

Food and fun activities were delivered over the following school holidays:

February – total of 39 children attended @ cost of £4.44 per child.

April – total of 64 individual children attended (111 meals provided) @ cost of 84p per child

May – total of 31 individual children attended @ cost of £2.03 per child

Food was sourced from Aldi, Tesco and Fareshare for all half terms.

Sessions delivered included free breakfast club (generally low take up), art and craft in the library, story-telling picnic, rocket making, drop in playscheme and lunch, family cookery, create a town, youth club, meal share, football and the café has offered buy and adult meal kids eat free.

Activities where food has been provided have been very successful. Families have appreciated the offer of toast during the morning sessions and the opportunity for children to make their own lunch and sit to eat it as a community.

The family cooking has been an ongoing success. We run these sessions throughout the year and have welcomed 27 families since October 2015.

St James Centre Summer Programme Feedback

Total number of meals provided: 903

Total number of sessions offered: 36 (excluding 5 days a week open access café for breakfast and lunch)

Total number of participants: 387 (children only)*

* please note: this excludes the 6 excursions provided. Over 250 individuals engaged accessing 325 places visiting Knowsley Safari Park, Gulliver's World, Monkey World, Apple Jack's Farm, The Story Barn (Reader Org) and Blackpool.

Sessions offered:

4 library craft & breakfast

5 Monday playschemes and lunch (pasta, hot dogs, soup with homemade bread, wraps wedges, sandwiches)

5 Youth clubs and hot tea (pasta, home made KFC chicken, pizza, wraps & wedges ,homemade burgers and wedges)

5 Park play and cold tea (sandwiches)

Glitz and Glam party

5 family cooking sessions (various meals made with a 'food from around the world theme' including burgers, pasta, curry, fajitas and a pudding)

5 junior chef school sessions (fish cakes, spag bol, burgers, curry, popcorn chicken and puddings including muffins, crumble, cold deserts)

4 sessions with Can Cook Studios

2 autism friendly library sessions with snack

Glitz and Glam party (organised by Youth Volunteers for children aged 8 and under, disco, face painting, nail painting and party food)

145 hot and cold breakfasts provided by the Open Door Café (cereal, toast, sausage, egg or beans on toast)

50 lunches provided by the Open Door Café (toasties, sandwiches, pasta dishes)

Some highlights of feedback collected this summer:

"lots of activities for children and families; cooking club and summer trips are fantastic"

"When there's too much month before pay day and no money I rely on the cheap activities that include a meal for my kids. The staff who run this centre are truly dedicated to making our area a little better for our kids and our community. It would be a tremendous loss if these activities and the library weren't available."

"It's a brilliant centre full of useful resources, information and a brilliant café".

"free breakfast for the kids has been a god send through the summer"

"the trips have been amazing"

"They area always offering cheap activities that are great."

"Great because it's very convenient and not expensive".

Funding for the trips this summer was received from Prince of Wales Charitable Trust (£1000) and Youth Trips from Community Foundation for Merseyside. We fund raise all year round too.

We have a full programme of activities planned for October half term, including freaky family cooking, spooky stories, Halloween parties for under 3s, under 9s and over 10s, youth trip to a scare fest and providing support to My Child Can Halloween Event in Birkenhead Park.

We will be celebrating the festive season with a Christmas market and family grotto on Saturday 19th November.

2. His Church

We have now ordered and received 7 beauty and household supplies from HIS Church. We have distributed these through our library coffee morning, Summer finale event, Macmillan coffee morning and at our Community Celebrations (bingo & Queen's birthday lunch) and Community Market days and using the St James Opp Shop as an outlet.

The delivery of His Church pallets has been coordinated by George from Beechwood Development trust and Luke from Gautby Road. This co-ordination of deliveries has worked very well. Pallets have cost on average £180 each (last delivery slightly higher @ £200) and we have generated a small surplus from each one.

3. Food poverty and welfare

We continue to be a part of the Wirral Foodbank (Trussel Trust) as a distribution point on a Monday evening. We welcome the support of Involve NorthWest benefit advisors at these sessions and together we have been able to address individual and family challenges around welfare blockages and budgeting. We have supported 4 families accessing foodbank with whitegoods through the Birkenhead Relief in Sickness Grant.

We work closely with Wirral Ways to Recovery and the Secondary to provide a hot meal once a month to those in need. These include rough sleepers, sofa surfers and hostel sleepers. To date we

have provided 8 hot food hubs, providing an average of 40 2 course, hot, nutritious meals per session (320 meals). The ingredients for this have been provided by Fareshare and donated by Tesco Bidston Moss with some additional purchases from Aldi.

We are working with MDI insurance, Money for your Motors and CPL to provide Christmas hampers for the homeless as well as Gautby Road to provide hampers for our local community. We will be distributing hampers for the homeless at our hot food hub on 23rd December.

We are working alongside Gautby Road to support the ILC initiative in North Birkenhead, sharing resources and information as well as planning a number of initiatives to add value to our existing to

Education & training

Working with Lifelong Learning, from September we are utilising the teaching kitchen for adult cookery classes with an optional qualification in Food Hygiene (L2), Nutrition and Allergy Awareness (at L1). This programme will enrol in January and April. This will be featured in the new Wirral Council publication due in October.

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