

RAW



May 2006

Hi

Welcome to your second RAW newsletter thanks to Carly for producing it. If you would like to make any comments, write a story, a poem or an article please contact me your piece can be included in the next letter.

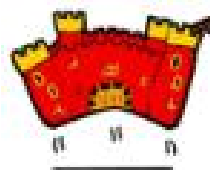
Just an up date on what is going on for young people's participation. I will be arranging lots of activities for you through out the half term and summer breaks as soon as the dates are arranged I will let you know. The activities are for the over 8 year olds and I am hoping to get some days at Randalls Farm environmental centre some days out in the woods at Maulden and at Chicksands as well as activity days at the Kempston out door centre.

Let me know if you are interested and I will save you a place.

Sharon

SUMMER EVENT

The RAW group will be planning the summer event which is open to all of you and will be held on the 27th of July at the Weatherley Centre in Biggleswade, please remember to put this date in your diary! We have been busy planning the day and so far we have booked circus skills entertainment, fire tender, dance workshop we are also hoping to have a football workshop and lots of other exciting entertainment as well as the stalls and stands. The young people have already requested that we arrange a bouncy castle again, if you have any ideas about what you want for the event please let Sharon know, we welcome your comments.



CHILDREN'S PARTY

During half term we had a party for the under eights at the Weatherley Centre in Biggleswade. We played lots of games including musical chairs and pass the parcel. We had a children's disco, thanks to Adrian for keeping us amused. We had a children's entertainer, Alan, who is a magician, he also sculpted balloons for all of the children. Marianne taught us all to dance which was real fun. All of the children and adults who attended had a great time. Thanks to all of the staff and carers who supported a great day. Special thanks to the older RAW members for giving up their time to support the children who attended.



Yopevs

The R.A.W group has recently been nominated for the Young people of the year awards and has now reached the final stage! The award is for all the positive things that the R.A.W group do for others. So far we have had to send in some photos of R.A.W in action, write an article of what R.A.W do for others and now we are working on a rap along the same lines, to do as a presentation at the awards. We have been invited to a special presentation in Putteridgebury on the 25th May and are really hopeful that we win. If we do we will receive a cash prize which will be put towards a special day for the R.A.W members! So fingers crossed!!



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TOTAL RESPECT

In the last edition of the R.A.W newsletter we had an interview with Adam about total respect training. This month we have spoken to Carly to find out what she likes about being a trainer.

How long have you been delivering total respect?

About 3 years now.

What is your favourite part of total respect?

I love meeting new people and also making a change to the services young people receive.

What's the best thing about being a trainer?

I like teaching people new things and hearing about their ideas and experiences.

What's inline for total respect in the future?

Well we are trying to get training set up in different counties around the country. We want other places to reap the benefit of total respect.....and hopefully one day we are hoping for world domination!!

Total Respect training will be running throughout all of the holidays if you would like to come along to the training for a fun 2 days and a good lunch please talk to Sharon and she will let you know the dates.

DANCING

'At the young people's half term event I held a dance workshop for the children to participate in. I had both boys and girls who decided to join in, I began with a warm-up to get these movers going and then began to teach them the opening of a dance to 'Pussy Cat Dolls - Don't Cha'. The children were such quick learners that they completed moves right up until the Buster Rhymes rapping part - over half the dance in 45 mins!!! I was sooo impressed with the children dancing, concentrating and taking part in such a vigorous workout! Their enthusiasm was very rewarding so I encouraged them to perform the dance to the bystanders, hasten to add they received a very welcoming applause!

So for all you kids out there who want to participate in the next dance session - make sure you come along to the Summer event, and get moving and grooving!!!

Hope to see you there

Maz



HOW TO GET INVOLVED

We are running groups in all areas from May and would welcome your participation and support if you would like to attend any of these groups please either talk to your carers, social worker or to Sharon direct.

The sorts of activities we have booked so far are Forest skills at Randalls farm, orienteering in Ampthill park and Maulden woods, out door adventure days in Kempston and many more fun things!!

R.A.W would also like to recruit new members. If you would like to get involved or find out more contact Sharon and she will arrange for you to meet other members to talk to.

We are also hoping to create a book of short stories written by people in care. We would really appreciate your input with this. Please contact Sharon with your stories, poems and art work.

Also if you have anything you would like to see appear in this newsletter please let us know. We really welcome you comments good or bad!



To contact Sharon Buckley, Childrens Participation Officer ring 01234 276768 or 07748335052 or e-mail sharon.buckley@bedscc.gov.uk