

# KENILWORTH CHILDREN'S CENTRE

## NEWSLETTER

Jan - Feb 2012

**"Keeping children safe and well is everyone's responsibility and it is what we do everywhere, every day, all of the time."**

Please talk to any member of the team for more information or support on safeguarding, or if you have concerns about a child or family.

### Dates for your diary

Wednesday 4th January:  
TIMETABLE RETURNS TO NORMAL

- \* Credit Union Collection Point
- \* Baby & Child Health Drop-in Clinic
- \* NCT Breastfeeding Support Drop-in

Thursday 12th January:  
\* The Parenting Puzzle course starts  
\* Little Stars course starts

Wednesday 18th January:  
\* Baby & Child Health Drop-in Clinic  
\* NCT Breastfeeding Support Drop-in

Thursday 19th January:  
\* Chill & Cook course starts

Monday 23rd January:  
\* Baby Massage course starts

Wednesday 25th January:  
\* Speech & Language Drop-in

Friday 27th January:  
\* Save A Baby's Life course

Saturday 28th January:  
\* M.A.C. Club

Wednesday 1st February:  
\* Credit Union Collection Point  
\* Baby & Child Health Drop-in Clinic  
\* NCT Breastfeeding Support Drop-in

13th - 17th Feb: School Half Term  
Our timetable may vary;  
please contact us for details

Thursday 2nd February:  
\* Chill Out course starts  
Monday 20th February:  
\* Baby Massage course starts

Wednesday 22nd February:  
\* Introduction of Solid Foods talk

Saturday 25th February:  
\* M.A.C. Club

Wednesday 29th February:  
\* Baby & Child Health Drop-in Clinic  
\* NCT Breastfeeding Support Drop-in

Voluntary contributions of £2 per family are very gratefully received for attendance at our sessions.

These funds go towards providing refreshments at groups and maintaining our wonderful environment.

**Many thanks**

Our Baby & Child Health Drop-In Clinic runs fortnightly on Wednesdays from 10.00-11.30am. Scales are available to weigh your baby, and Health Visitors and Children's Centre Staff are on hand to offer support and advice.

**If you have any questions for staff, please arrive early to ensure efficient running of the clinic.**

### FACTS & FIGURES

- \* 26 new families registered at our Centre in November and December.
- \* We now have 617 families in our reach area that have used our Centre for activities and support.
- \* During November and December 603 people attended activities at the Centre.

**Look out for our new suggestion boxes located in the Garden Studio and Main Nursery Entrances. We are always grateful for your feedback, so if you'd like to make any comments about what we do well, how we've helped your family, what groups or services you'd like to see us offer, how we can improve the things we're already doing, we'd love to hear from you; just drop a note into one of our suggestion boxes.**

Nursery World, 06 January 2012

### **Parents told to immunise children against whooping cough, as cases rise**

**Parents are being urged to ensure their child is up to date with all of their vaccinations following a rise in the number of whooping cough cases in England and Wales.**

The Health Protection Agency's (HPA) warning comes after its latest figures show the number of cases of whooping cough in England and Wales has more than doubled from 421 cases in 2010 to 1,040 in 2011.

While the HPA claims that a rise in cases of whooping cough every three to four years is common, it warns that young children who have not been vaccinated are particularly vulnerable to the disease, as are babies under four months because they are not fully protected by the vaccine.

Children are offered the whooping cough vaccine at two, three and four months of age, as part of their routine vaccination programme. They also receive a booster vaccine at around three- and-a half to four-years-old, before they start school.

Dr Mary Ramsay, head of immunisation at the HPA, said, 'The uptake of the vaccine which protects against whooping cough is very good but it is a highly infectious disease so when there is a case it can spread quickly.'

'Parents should ensure their children are up to date with their vaccinations so that they are protected at the earliest opportunity. The pre-school booster is also important, not only to boost protection in that child but also to help prevent them passing the infection on to vulnerable babies.'

### **WANT TO KNOW MORE?**

For more information about our activities or the support available for you and your family at the Centre, please visit our website at [www.kccns.org.uk](http://www.kccns.org.uk), give us a ring on **01926 853394**, or drop in at Reception any weekday between 9am and 4pm.





www.healthcheck.moneyadvice.service.org.uk



Whatever the situation with your finances, it's good to know where you stand and that you are making the most of what you have. The health check, a new online money planner from the Money Advice Service, is for everyone.

The Money Advice Service is independent and it's here to help everyone understand and manage their money better.

It takes just 10 minutes to answer some straightforward questions and the health check will give you a personalised action plan which identifies the top three things you can do to make the most of your money right now, and to plan for future goals. Best of all - it's free and it's unbiased. The Money Advice Service won't recommend a particular product or provider or try to sell you anything.

**Support with money related issues is also available from the Citizen's Advice Bureau at Kenilworth Library on Thursday mornings. Drop-in at the Library at Smalley Place to book an appointment.**

# CREDIT UNION COLLECTION POINT

*How about setting up a savings account for your child?*

on the  
**first Wednesday of every month**  
from  
**1.00-2.00pm**  
in the  
**Garden Studio**

The next collection point date is:  
**Wednesday 4th January 2012**  
**Wednesday 1st February 2012**  
**Wednesday 7th March 2012**  
**Wednesday 4th April 2012**

Come along to pay into your savings account, apply for membership, or just to have a cup of tea and find out more!



Keith Bell of South Warwickshire Credit Union, Julie Joannides, our Family & Community Services Manager, and Georgie and Anita, our wonderful volunteers who kindly donate their time to run the collection point.

## What is a Credit Union?!

Credit Unions are non profit making financial co-operatives, offering their members an easy and convenient place to save, and access to low cost loans when required. They offer a valuable service to everyone: business people, families, employed or unemployed, young people or those who have retired. They encourage their members to make regular contributions into savings accounts that create a central pool of funds. This is used to provide loans back to the membership at very favourable rates. The interest generated from the loans is used to cover administrative costs, with any surplus returned to the members as dividends. Credit Unions are regulated by the Financial Services Authority and hold insurance to protect them against fraud or theft.

## We asked Julie Joannides, our Family & Community Services Manager why families should think about joining the Credit Union :

“In the current economic climate it's more important than ever to organise your money. You could use the Credit Union to save a small amount each month towards the cost of next Christmas, plus once you've shown you can save regularly you're entitled to apply for a low cost loan. This can really give families peace of mind that they won't have to resort to loan sharks. It only costs £1 to open an account and our regular monthly collection points are conveniently timed to coincide with our Stay & Play sessions and Nursery School pick up times.”