

# Firm Foundations



Sure Start News from Medway Council

Issue 12 Summer 2009

*Serving You*

## Inside this issue:

Family Information Service	2
Parentline Plus	3
Baby Massage	4
Healthy Eating at Little Explorers	5
NEG Funding	6
St. Luke's Spring Play	7
Foundation Degree Graduations	8
Draft model child protection policy	10
My First Poem	11
Dates for your diary	12



## Foreword

Welcome to the Summer 2009 edition of Firm Foundations – the newsletter for everyone who works with and for young children in Medway.

In April, the Medway Children's Trust was launched – creating a new framework for the local authority, the NHS, the police and a range of other partner organisations and agencies to work together to improve outcomes for children and young people.

The Medway Children's Trust has agreed a new Children and Young People's Plan for 2009-11. Through consultation with partners, data analysis, and listening to children, young people and their families, the focus of the Plan has emerged around three key outcomes for children and young people in Medway – that they

- are safe and cared for;
- succeed in learning; and
- thrive

To help every child and young person we need to ensure that there are:

- some services available for everyone – a high quality universal offer for all;
- more services for some – to help them catch up and keep up;
- and even more services for a few – the most vulnerable or disadvantaged children who will need focussed and sustained support.

A key objective of the Plan is *“to give Medway children the best possible start in life with high quality early childhood services, delivered through Sure Start Children's Centres in every community.”*

We believe that everyone who works with children and young people should be:

**Ambitious** for every child and young person  
**Excellent** in their practice  
**Committed** to partnership and integrated working  
**Respected** and valued as professionals

I have been fortunate to be involved in celebrating a number of achievements by practitioners across Medway – registered childminders gaining the DHC qualification and other certificated training; playworkers and midday supervisors gaining NVOs; pre-schools being recognised for being “autism friendly”; and our first graduates of the Early Years Foundation Degree.

Congratulations to you, and everyone who has achieved new qualifications.

**Mark Holmes – Strategic Manager – early years services**

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## Family Information Service

Medway Family Information Service is an award winning free service that aims to support parents and carers by providing childcare information and impartial advice on childcare related issues.

Services provided by Medway Family Information Service include:

- Up to date information on both registered and unregistered local childcare including day nurseries, childminders, out of school clubs, holiday playschemes, parent and toddler groups and other leisure activities available locally
- Help and advice on the different forms of childcare and nursery education
- Information on available help with childcare costs
- Up to date list of local job vacancies in childcare
- Information on childcare careers, qualifications required and training opportunities

**Contact FIS by phone:** 01634 335566 **email:** [familyinfo@medway.gov.uk](mailto:familyinfo@medway.gov.uk)

**local website:** [www.medway.gov.uk/childcare](http://www.medway.gov.uk/childcare)

**national website:** [www.childcarelink.gov.uk/medway](http://www.childcarelink.gov.uk/medway)

**Office opening hours Monday to Thursday:** 8.30am to 5.30pm **Friday:** 8.30am to 5.00pm



## Parentline Plus Extended Telephone Service

### Specialist telephone support for parents in Medway

Parentline Plus is the largest independent provider of parenting support in the country. Funded and endorsed by the DCSF this national charity provides a range of services to parents, carers and practitioners and providing a successful 24 hour helpline.



Medway is fortunate to be host to a pilot to improve parents' access to telephone support. The service is a short intervention that works with the parent (or anyone in a parenting role) over a six-week period to try to change their situation for the better. It is for anyone who has a long-standing parenting issue they wish to receive one to one help with.

### How the Parentline Plus Extended Telephone Service (ETS) works

Practitioners working with families are able to make online referrals to the service. All they need is the parent/ carer's permission to do so. Parents will then be allocated a worker from Parentline Plus and will receive up to six calls at a regular time each week. Calls will last on average 45 minutes and are scheduled at a time convenient to the parent / carer.

ETS is a three-year pilot and we are fortunate to be working with Parentline Plus in helping practitioners support families that could benefit from the service.

If you or your team would like to know more and to be set up as a referrer then call Jan Davies on 01634 332209 or email [jan.davies@medway.gov.uk](mailto:jan.davies@medway.gov.uk)

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## Changes to basic holiday entitlements

Since 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007 all workers have had a statutory right to at least 4.8 weeks paid annual leave (24 days paid holiday if you work 5 days a week). From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009 this entitlement will increase to 5.6 weeks (28 days).

There is a minimum right to paid holiday, but your employer may offer more than this. The main things you should know about holiday rights are:

- You are entitled to a minimum of 5.6 weeks paid annual leave from **1<sup>st</sup> April 2009**.
- Those working part-time are entitled to the same level of holiday pro rata.
- You get paid your normal pay for your holiday.
- It is up to your employer to decide if bank holidays are included in this statutory minimum.
- You continue to be entitled to your holiday leave throughout your ordinary and additional maternity leave and paternity and adoption leave.

For further information visit [www.direct.gov.uk](http://www.direct.gov.uk)

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## Continuing success of NVQ's in Playwork

Schools are beginning to recognise the importance of qualifications for the Midday Meal Supervisors in playwork. Two recent success stories are Temple Mill School, Strood achieving 5 level 2 NVQ's and All Saints School, Chatham achieving 11 NVO's in Playwork.

A high quality of play opportunities at both schools has been achieved by the Midday 'playworkers' as a result of the training.

## Baby Massage

Staff within the Playlink and Health Visiting teams at the All Saints Sure Start Children's Centre have recently been trained to provide Baby Massage sessions for the families, as there is proven evidence that it promotes bonding and attachment and has other health benefits.

Massage can benefit both the parents and babies in many ways such as:

- Calming a fretful baby
- Improves muscle development
- Relieves colic symptoms
- Can help with constipation
- Able to gain weight faster
- Will fall asleep quicker



Baby massage is fundamental in enabling skin-to-skin contact, which in turn promotes emotional and physical well-being. The relaxing sessions also promote positive relationships between mother and baby.

At the moment there are three sessions on offer one on Tuesdays, another for young parents on Fridays and the last is specifically aimed at Dads and will be held once a month on a Saturday.

Each session will run for 5 weeks and will cover all aspects of the techniques used in massage, as well as advanced postures. There is plenty of time to practise the techniques and ask any question or concerns that parents may have with a young baby. We provide a very calming relaxing atmosphere to make this a memorable experience for everyone.

Parents attending these sessions said "I am bonding better with my baby and he is more relaxed after the session. I use the techniques I have learnt in the sessions, at home, especially at sleep times."

"I appreciate getting out of the house and spending quality time with my baby. He has been going to bed much better since coming to these sessions."

"The sessions are really peaceful and I enjoy spending time with my baby".

For more information about these sessions, please contact the centre on **01634 338833**.

## Kidstreet celebrates its 5th year

Kidstreet opened on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2004 as part of the Government 'Neighbourhood Nursery' initiative and will be 5 this year. They have worked in association with the Early Years Team at Medway Council to deliver quality and affordable childcare in an area of deprivation in Chatham. Jo King of Kidstreet said 'Having opened with 7 staff and 7 children, we now have 30 staff and over 120 children on roll. An expansion of facilities along with a dedicated in-house Inclusion Officer and staff studying towards their EYPS is ensuring government directives are being met within the private sector.'

Celebrations will be rolling out over the next few months including a party for the children and a visit to the Nursery from Nepicar Farm.



**Happy Birthday Kidstreet!**



## Healthy eating at Little Explorers

The staff and children at Little Explorers Day Nursery in Rochester got a taste of healthy eating on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January as chefs Chris and Jodie from Topes in Rochester stopped by to help the children create their own healthy snacks. The next generation of master chefs spent the morning cooking up a storm and experimenting with flavours and textures to make their very own tasty pizzas and fruit kebabs.

Parents and carers were invited to join in the fun and pick up a few tips themselves! The children's hard work paid off as they had a great time creating their own snacks and even more fun eating them!



Little Explorers Day Nursery are committed to healthy eating and the event was organised by the staff to reinforce the importance of healthy eating and to promote the importance of positive role models at an early age.

A fantastic morning was had by all!

## From the Heart

The staff and children at Kiddiwinks in Gillingham got a big surprise in March when they were asked to appear on the Alan Titchmarsh Show. Parents of children at the setting nominated the pre-school to appear on the show as part of Sarah Ferguson the Duchess of York's 'From the Heart' project, a programme which provides resources and assistance to various local charities and causes. Like many charity run pre-schools, Kiddiwinks spend a lot of time and effort raising funds to buy new equipment and resources but often find the funds are required for more urgent needs.

Within days of being contacted by the show a camera crew arrived at the setting to meet the staff and children; staff were then invited to appear on the show on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March and were given real star treatment! Helen and Debbie, along with one of their nominators, Natalie, were interviewed live on the show and received news from the Duchess of York that several companies had offered to donate some much needed equipment to Kiddiwinks. The following day toys and equipment began to arrive including six programmable toys, trikes and much more.

The children have found the whole experience very exciting and are delighted with their new toys! The staff have been completely overwhelmed and touched by the generosity of the Alan Titchmarsh Show, it's associates and everyone at the setting and would like to send particular thanks to Jack aged 3 and Jack's mum and nan, Natalie and Lee.



## Nursery Education Funding

All registered providers should have received Headcount pack for Summer 09.

***Headcount forms must NOT be completed in advance. Any forms returned to us before the headcount day will be rejected, and you will need to complete a second form.***



Dates for your diaries are shown below:

### SUMMER 2009

	Date
Headcount Day	7th May 2009
Return Headcount information for Summer final payment (Deadline)	15th May 2009
Summer final payment in your bank account (see note below)	26th June 2009

We are required to reconcile every child on headcount forms from all providers BEFORE we can make ANY payments. Any headcount forms returned late delay this process and may delay payments.

Please contact Clare Hassell  
on 01634 332202 or email  
[clare.hassell@medway.gov.uk](mailto:clare.hassell@medway.gov.uk)  
if you have any queries.

## 15 Hours Nursery Education Funding

From September 2010, all 3 and 4 year old children will be entitled to 15 hours of free early education over a minimum of 38 weeks. Parents will be able to take their entitlement more flexibly than now, and do so in ways that meet their needs.

The age of children eligible for the increased hours remains the same as currently – from the start of the term after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday, and settings do not have to offer the increased hours if they are unable to do so.

As a step towards the 2010 offer, from September 2009, Medway is required to run a pilot scheme offering the increased hours to a sample of our eligible children. Those settings invited to take part in the pilot scheme have already attended meetings and workshops explaining the details and devising solutions to any potential problems.

The aim of the pilot scheme is to learn lessons that will help ensure that the increased hours are implemented as smoothly as possible across the whole of Medway in 2010.

The pilot scheme will run in the Chatham, Luton, Lordswood and Walderslade areas, and is designed to involve a range of private, voluntary and independent nurseries and pre-schools. A small selection of schools and childminders across Medway will also take part in the pilot scheme.

Further information is available on the '15 hours Nursery Education Funding' questions sheet included with this edition of Firm Foundations, or you can contact Richard Cooke on [richard.cooke@medway.gov.uk](mailto:richard.cooke@medway.gov.uk)

## Breakfast Club Accreditation

The playwork team have developed a Breakfast Club Accreditation that will result in 20 Medway breakfast clubs receiving support and resources throughout the duration of the project. The aim of the project is to raise the profile of the breakfast clubs throughout the Medway towns and give them recognition for the excellent service they provide. The project will run for approximately one year concluding with the 'Accreditation' that will be moderated by an elected panel of appropriate Medway staff.

## Barnardos Big Toddle

The Barnardo's Big Toddle is the UK's biggest charity event for under fives, with up to half a million children taking part in their short sponsored walk every year. The Big Toddle has been running for the last 12 years and is easy to join! Anyone can join in: from nurseries, crèches and playgroups, to parents, friends and family, and you can toddle anytime throughout the summer. To take part in the toddle you can either join a Barnardos run toddle near you or organise your own for a time and place to suit you.



The money you raise goes to Barnardos projects that help children learn and play including family centres, play groups and counselling services across the UK. Plus if you are a nursery or group you can keep 25% of the money you raise to fund a project of your own!

To register or for further information on events near you or organising your own toddle visit

[www.bigtoddle.co.uk](http://www.bigtoddle.co.uk)

## St Luke's Spring Play

St. Luke's Pre-School in Rochester celebrated the start of Spring time this March by putting on their own Spring Play. The children had spent the term learning the words and actions to their favourite nursery rhymes and stories and got the chance to show off their hard work in the end of term play.



Family and friends were invited to the play at St. Luke's Church on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March and were treated to a fantastic performance which included a variety of well known rhymes and songs. The children dressed up as nursery rhyme characters to act out and sing 'Three Blind Mice', 'Little Miss Muffet', 'Ba Ba Black Sheep', 'Two Little Dicky Birds' and many more well known rhymes. The show was finished off with a performance of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'.

The children had a terrific time and especially enjoyed dressing up as their favourite characters!

After the Spring Play had finished parents had the opportunity to buy a variety of items from a craft sale and were invited to enter into a tombola.

Both the children and their families had a fabulous morning and did a fantastic job of celebrating the return of Spring time!



## PEAL

The launch of the new PEAL book, *Parents as partners in the Early Years Foundation Stage - Principles into practice*, took place at the Thomas Coram Children's Centre, London, on 9th March. NCB Chair, Dame Gillian Pugh, introduced Children's Laureate, Michael Rosen, who spoke about the importance of parental involvement in children's learning, with a particular focus on literacy. He was followed by two practitioners who have attended the PEAL training, who spoke about how the training has influenced their practice to date.

Photographs of the event will be available shortly on the PEAL website - [www.peal.org.uk](http://www.peal.org.uk)

The book may be ordered online from [www.ncb.org.uk](http://www.ncb.org.uk)





## Medway Graduate Leader Fund celebrates its first Graduates!

On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2009 the first cohort of Medway practitioners entered the chapel of Canterbury Christ Church University to receive their Foundation Degree in Early Years Studies certificates. These determined practitioners had started their journey in January 2007 with funding from the Transformation Fund that became in 2008 the Graduate Leader Fund. The Programme Director Janet Wood, felt the day celebrated the hard work of the students as well as the support they had received from their families. Janet felt that the day held a special magic for her and was delighted that so many had been successful.



The practitioners were recently invited to meet with the Quality Team to share the impact the degree is having on themselves, their colleagues and most importantly the children in their settings. Practitioners spoke of their delight in having had the opportunity to access the qualification with Medway funding. Through government funding Medway Early Years Service have been able to pay the course fees, supply cover and as well as a contribution towards costs such as course readers and books. This funding has made it possible for Medway to start progressing towards a graduate workforce across the birth to five sector.

Practitioners felt the degree course had supported their development by enhancing their reflective practice. Courses not only provided higher knowledge and understanding but also challenged them to ask questions about their current practice. This has meant that practitioners have had to consider why they do what they do and be clear about their pedagogy and practice. Practitioners have become more confident as professional advocates for high quality early years practice. The development of the practitioners' professionalism has impacted not only in their own settings but across Medway, their professional voices are confident, clear and articulate and are already contributing towards the shaping of Medway's next steps.

As a local authority we are aware that sometimes it is difficult for practitioners to make that commitment to undertaking a foundation degree when you are not really sure what it will be like and whether or not you will enjoy it. Consequently we have been working with CCCU for the last three years to develop pathways towards foundation degrees. The 20 credit courses are available for practitioners with level 3 qualifications who wish to explore academic study without committing to undertaking a degree.



Currently, the 20 credits 'Communication, Language and Literacy' module is going very well, with 24 students being fully funded to complete it, over 7 weeks, with work based tasks and a final assignment. The course runs in partnership with Medway Early Years and Childcare Quality Team and Canterbury Christ Church University, Medway campus. Recent comments from current practitioners have included "I am now a university student, and can't wait to carry on to gain my foundation degree - thank you!" and "the support, and funding from Medway Early Years and Christ Church working together has given me so much confidence to reflect on and enhance my practice. It is great".





The students, each week have commented on their developing confidence to use their skills and knowledge of key theorists to reflect and evaluate their practice and provision. They are all keen to take forward these skills, enabling them to successfully apply for a place on the foundation degree course and thus impact effectively upon their schools and settings in the future. The next 20 credit course, Effective Teaching and Learning starts in June. Applications can be obtained from Kim Turner [kim.turner@medway.gov.uk](mailto:kim.turner@medway.gov.uk)

If you are interested in undertaking a Foundation Degree in Early Years you can contact Janet Wood, Programme Director on 01843 609168 [janet.a.wood@canterbury.ac.uk](mailto:janet.a.wood@canterbury.ac.uk)

For information about funding for Foundation Degrees from Medway's Graduate Leader Fund please contact Brenda Swift on 01634 332194 [brenda.swift@medway.gov.uk](mailto:brenda.swift@medway.gov.uk)

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## How to survive a Foundation Degree!

Some thoughts from a graduate...

It's Tuesday and my head's in its usual spin, though it's only doing 1000 rpm this week! I made a determined effort last week to get my homework done straight away so that I could have a few days where I could pretend that I'd never embarked on this journey! All was going well until Sunday when the knots started forming in my stomach and anxiety was once again staring me in the face. How ridiculous! I'd done my homework, having sussed the simplicity of it, so why on earth was I being so stupid? I gave myself a good talking to and decided that if I had a couple of early nights before Tuesday, then there really was no reason to get so het up. So, that I did and hey presto! I felt not too bad as I set off on this weeks adventure.



What a difference that week has made! I knew to keep my thinking simpler this week - the really hard stuff is yet to come. I knew not to worry so much - I know some people now, some who are in the same boat and some who aren't. More importantly, I'm beginning to think that maybe I can do this after all! All that remains is to complete this week's homework, which I'm well on the way with. One question stays with me throughout - How can something so simple be so unbelievably difficult? If I learn nothing else from this adventure, I will have at least found out who I really am.

Something tells me that things are getting better as each day goes by so who knows, I may actually look forward to going next week. I must be looking like a student now - or is it that the staff in the cafe have finally realised that from time to time you get students that are totally over the hill? They no longer ask me if I'm a student or assume that I always want a cup of hot chocolate!!!! Things *are* getting better!

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## Job vacancies

### Family Information Service **Advice / Information / Brokerage**

Recruiting new staff for your setting is as easy as ABC...

The Family information service can advertise your vacancy free of charge for however long you need to advertise for. We also work together with Jobcentreplus so we can forward your vacancy to them, making advertising for new staff for your setting "child's play"!

**Let us help you find the right staff for your setting.**

For more information please ring:

Medway Family information service on **01634 335566** or  
e mail: [familyinfo@medway.gov.uk](mailto:familyinfo@medway.gov.uk)

## Autism Friendly Pre-School Project 2008

The Early Years and Childcare Quality Team are proud to announce the names of the settings in Medway who successfully completed the Autism Friendly Pre-schools Project 2008. These settings are Little Monkeys Pre-School, Allaboard Day Nursery, Crestway Pre-School, Rochester Kindergarten, Kidstreet Day Nursery, White Road Pre-school, Kestrel Under 5s Pre-School, Lordswood Under 5s Pre-School, Buttercups Day Nursery, Beehive Pre-School, Parkwood Christian Fellowship Pre-School, Stoke Pre-School and Hundred of Hoo Day Nursery.

All practitioners in these 13 settings have undertaken awareness training and have a basic understanding of autism and ways of supporting children with autism and associated social communication difficulties. The SENCO has explored ways of improving the learning environment and issues relating to autism and has attended 6 training sessions led by professionals from special education, the health service and voluntary agencies.

In January Mark Holmes, our Strategy Manager, joined us at our celebratory lunch to present these settings with their certificates and status.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate everybody involved on their achievements and I hope they continue to work with our team to develop their practice further. *Hayley Forest (Inclusion Advisor)*



## Draft model child protection policy

Please note, that a recent Ofsted inspection has highlighted an addition that needs to be made to the draft model child protection policy which we circulated to early years settings earlier this year. In the section for allegations made against staff, you must include the following information (in bold) which has been suggested by Ofsted:



**If an adult living near, working at or visiting the premises has allegations made against them, the setting must report this to Ofsted AND Linda Randall (from the Medway Safeguarding Board). Ofsted can be contacted on 0845 6014771. Your DCPC will need to ask for the Compliance, Investigations and Enforcement Team who will advise you further.**

Please let our advisory team know if your inspection suggests anything further or different to this latest update and we will endeavour to update everybody accordingly.

All five DCPC training days are now fully booked. If you were unable to book, please be on the lookout for future dates to be arranged for the Autumn term and ring Tina Newman at 01634 334016 as soon as possible.

## Focus on after school clubs

Five after school clubs have been selected to take part in a project developed by the Playwork team. The project will run for approximately one year, offering support and guidance relevant to Ofsted and The Every Child Matters outcomes. Each club will be supported throughout the project and receive resources and guidance throughout. This is a very exciting opportunity for the clubs, and should result in clubs being able to offer a high standard of child care and play opportunities.

## Places to go in Medway

The Historic Dockyard, in Chatham Kent is a great place to visit with plenty to do for all the family. Set in an 80-acre estate packed with historic ships and museums the site offers a unique and rewarding experience that will excite, educate and entertain every visitor!

The Dockyard offers a wide range of activities that your children will love, from making rope in the Ropery to travelling back in time to an 18<sup>th</sup> Century warship.

The recently re-opened Historic Dockyard in Chatham celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> year this year and has planned a series of special events to mark the anniversary including 'Pirate Play Days' a celebration of

Pirates for all the family. All are welcome to enjoy the delights of the 'Pirates' Play Place' where they will be treated to storytelling, puppet shows, costumed characters and a treasure trail complete with party games and prizes!

An on site restaurant, tea shop and gift shop along with good quality toilets and baby changing facilities ensure that the needs of the whole family are well catered for.

The Historic Dockyard is easy to find with plenty of car parking and is open from 10am to 6pm between Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March and Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October, opening times may vary at other points of the year.

Prices

Adults - £14.00

Concessions - £11.50

Children (Aged 5-15 years) - £9.50



For more information visit the website [www.chdt.org.uk](http://www.chdt.org.uk) or call 01634 823800

## My First Poem

This term the children at Hempstead Pavilion Playgroup have been developing their literacy skills with a little help from the Young Writers 'My First Poem' competition.



The children were able to write their first poem by filling in the simple template provided in the competition pack. All schools and pre-schools are welcome to enter the competition and there are prizes for all entries!

Hempstead Pavilion Playgroup have been taking part in the competition for the last three years and have been lucky enough for the last two years to have their entries published. If your settings' entries are published you automatically receive a complimentary edition of the book, extra copies are available for parents to buy.



The Young Writers 'My First Poem' competition is a fun and easy activity that can be related to EYFS and Letters and Sounds and is a great way to encourage children with speech and language difficulties.

For more information on the competition visit the website

[www.myfirstpoem.com](http://www.myfirstpoem.com) or call 01733 898110

## Dates for the diary

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>	<u>OTHER</u>
Sweeps Festival, Rochester	1st - 4th May 2009	<a href="http://www.medway.gov.uk/index/leisure/events/sweepsfestival">www.medway.gov.uk/index/leisure/events/sweepsfestival</a>	Lots of exciting activities will be taking place providing the perfect opportunity to see some of the traditional dances and hear the songs which have been passed down from generation to generation.
World Fair Trade Day	9th May 2009	<a href="http://www.wftday.org">www.wftday.org</a>	A celebration of Fair Trade internationally, with events organised worldwide.
Fathers Day	21st June 2009	<a href="http://www.activityvillage.co.uk/fathers_day_page.htm">www.activityvillage.co.uk/fathers_day_page.htm</a>	Help the children in your setting get creative with Fathers Day crafts and cards.
Child Safety Week	22nd - 28th June 2009	<a href="http://www.capt.org.uk/csweek">www.capt.org.uk/csweek</a>	It aims to raise awareness of the number of accidents that tragically lead to serious injury or death of children and young people and how to prevent them. The theme for Child Safety Week 2009 is: "Safer together".
Wallace and Gromit's Wrong Trousers Day	26th June 2009	<a href="http://www.wallaceandgromitfoundation.org">www.wallaceandgromitfoundation.org</a>	Wrong Trousers Day is all about paying £1 for the right to look wrong and wearing wrong trousers to help improve the quality of life for children in hospitals and hospices around the UK.
Children's Art Day	6th - 12th July 2009	<a href="http://www.engage.org/projects/artworks">www.engage.org/projects/artworks</a>	Children's Art Day is held across the country. It is an opportunity for children to sample and enjoy the wide range of visual arts.

## Feedback / contact details

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition of Firm Foundations!

This magazine is written for you and we really value your views, we would like you to send us news about your setting or any other information you think may be useful to other providers.

**The deadline for our next issue is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July.** Let us know about any upcoming events...

- Outings with your children (e.g. local visits, trips to the park etc.)
- Events at your setting (e.g. coffee mornings, competitions etc.)
- Any media recommendations (e.g. TV programmes, books etc.)
- Ideas about the kinds of articles you would like to read

### Contact details for editor:

Name: Gemma Pearson

Phone: 01634 332191

Email: [gemma.pearson@medway.gov.uk](mailto:gemma.pearson@medway.gov.uk)

Please note if you wish to send in any photos of the children in your setting, you need to ensure permission has been granted by the parents/carers before the photo is sent to us. Please contact us if you would like us to send you a photograph release form.

As this is your magazine we want **you** to tell **us** what you would like to see, contact us to request information on interesting topics that you feel would benefit your own setting which will in turn benefit others.