



Beane Valley Newsletter

February 2012

Holiday Club open during half term
8 - 6 Monday - Friday
01920-831053
4 - 11 year olds

February Half Term Timetable Monday 13th February - Saturday 18th February

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MORNINGS	Toy Library 10.30 - 12.30 <i>Children's Centre</i>	Music and Storytime 10.30 - 12.00 <i>Benington Village Hall</i> ***** Bumps and Babes coffee morning 10.00 - 11.30 <i>Children's Centre</i>	Stay and Play 9.15 - 11.15 <i>Walkern School Hall</i>	Stay and Play 9.30 - 11.30 <i>Watton Community Hall</i> ***** Antenatal Breastfeeding Workshop 10.00 - 12.00 <i>Children's Centre</i>	My Baby's Brain Information Workshop for parents of babies and toddlers 9.30 - 11.00 <i>(babies welcome)</i> <i>Watton Community Hall</i>	Stay and Play 10.00 - 12.00 <i>Watton School Foundation Unit</i>
AFTERNOONS			Storysacks 2.00 - 3.30 The Very Hungry Caterpillar <i>Watton School Hall</i>	Toy Library 1.00 - 3.00 <i>Children's Centre</i>	Baby Massage 2.30 - 4.00 <i>Watton Community Hall</i>	

Herts County Council Parents Satisfaction Survey

Every year Hertfordshire County Council asks people who use children's centres, to complete a short survey to share their thoughts and comments about the centres, to help the council understand how satisfied parents are with services provided and make improvements if necessary.

The survey is designed to be completed online and should only take **10mins** to complete. To begin the survey please put this address in your browser: <https://www.hertsdirect.org/websurveys/surveys/ZW8CAH/>

The survey will be available for you to complete from:

Monday 6th February 2012 until 6am Monday 5th March 2012.

We know that your time is very precious so, to thank you for completing the survey, you will be entered into a prize draw if you give your name and contact details at the end of the survey.



The prizes are Tesco gift cards worth: 1st - £100 2nd - £75 3rd - £50

Please encourage anyone you know who uses Children's Centres in Hertfordshire to complete this survey too, this could be a partner, grandparent or childminder.

The information will be analysed by a person who is independent from the Children's Centre(s) that you use. Results of the survey will be published at Easter time on this website:

www.hertsdirect.org/childrenscentres

Many thanks for your help

Note from Beane Valley: We would like as many people as possible to complete the survey. If you do not have internet access you are welcome to come into the Children's Centre to complete the survey online or we can give you a paper copy. Please speak to a member of staff.

Paediatric First Aid Course



We are planning a 12 hour First Aid course for childminders and preschool staff, over 4 Thursday evenings in March. Some parents who have previously attended our short course have expressed an interest in learning more. The course costs £40 and you will gain a certificate and be given an up to date handbook. Please ring the office if you are interested in booking a place.

Parents Forum

Wednesday 22nd February 1.00 - 3.00
Watton Community Hall

We are planning to hold a fun event to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on Thursday 7th June.



Please come along to the Parents Forum and tell us your ideas to help us plan and organise the event.

Children welcome - toys available to keep them happy and free refreshments available.

Walkern Stay and Play

Our Stay and Play sessions on Wednesdays at Walkern School Hall 9.15 - 11.15 are open to all parents and carers of babies and preschool children. However, we are planning to include a bigger area and more toys for the babies, as we



understand there has been a baby boom in the village! Do spread the word and encourage new parents to come along.

£2 per family

Baby Massage Course

We will be running a 5 week course after half term for parents and their babies.

Best in the first few months before baby is moving around.

Fridays 2.30 - 4.00
24th Feb - 23rd March

Watton Community Hall

£15 per course (massage oil provided)
(reductions for parents on low income, please call)



Booking essential 01920-831053

Storysacks

Wednesday 15th February
2.00 - 3.30

Watton School Hall



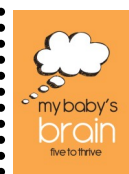
The Very Hungry Caterpillar

Story and craft fun for children up to 8
and their parents/carers. £2 per family

This session is very popular so please ring to book a place in advance and let us know if you cannot attend.

My Baby's Brain

Some of the staff have recently been on training to learn about new research into how babies' brains develop. We would like to share this learning with you and will be holding an informal training session for parents of babies and toddlers on Friday 17th February 9.30 - 11.00 at Watton Community Hall. Babies are welcome too. The session will be free but



please phone the centre to book a place. To see how effective the training is you will be asked to complete a questionnaire before the session and again 2 weeks later. You will also be given a free booklet, "5 to Thrive"

Breastfeeding Support

All staff are trained to provide information and support with breastfeeding, including visiting at home - please ask at any time if you need help.

Our **breastfeeding drop-in** is held at the centre on Tuesdays 10.00 - 11.30 throughout the year.

Antenatal breastfeeding workshop
Thursday February 16th 10 - 12 at the centre run by a local health visitor. Please ring to book.

Pamper Mornings

Our target this year is to register at least 80% of the families in our area.

We are well on our way (78%) but would love your help to exceed our target.



Although our Pamper mornings are designed for pregnant mums, we have some free vouchers to give away. All you have to do is bring along a friend who lives in the Beane Valley area and is not already registered with us, and you will be given a voucher to attend the next Pamper morning on Saturday 3rd March. Speak to a member of staff for more details. All mums-to-be are also welcome - ring to book a place.