# AUTUMN TERM AT DANIEL'S DEN

Wow – what an amazing term we have had at Daniel's Den. Each of our groups have welcomed new families into their sessions and we love to see friendships being formed and a sense of community growing. Congratulations to all those new babies born this term and our thoughts and prayers go out to those of us who have lost loved ones or who are going through tough times.

## Volunteers

We have recruited several new volunteers this term and we would not be able to do what we do without their help and support. There are so many ways in which people can be involved from making cakes for the disco, snipping crafts, helping at weekend events as well as helping in the sessions and admin. Please look out for our recruitment drive in the New Year!



# New Groups



First Day @ the Grand Union



First Dat @ The Bridgestone Arena

We opened two new groups this term. One at Grand Union Community Hub in Alperton (meeting on Thursdays 9.30–11am) and another at Bridgestone Arena in Stonebridge (meeting on Wednesdays 1.15–2.45pm).





#### Sowing Seeds -

We had a wonderful Harvest Session on our Allotment in October despite the torrential rain and Linda gave lots of fantastic advice.

#### DD Birthday & Disco -

Our 27th birthday was celebrated in all our sessions with cake and singing the Happy Birthday Song. Our Family Fundraising Disco took place at St Cuthberts Church at the end of November, and we raised over £300 after expenses.

#### **Nativity Week & Christmas Parties**

Our Nativity Week was as popular as ever – 11 plays ensured lots of memories were made. It was lovely to see members of the community join us for the week and share a mince pie or 2! One of our mums made a wonderful comment – 'You're the best of the best! Right up there at the top'.

We also closed out our sessions with Christmas parties and able to give a gift for each child. Some of our groups even received a special appearance from someone from the North Pole...

#### The Net

Our project The Net takes place every month and we run up a pop-up session for asylum seekers in a local hotel. It is wonderful to take our activities to these amazing families and share donated clothes, toys, and books with them.

#### Visitors

We had several visitors this term including Brent Council Children and Family Information Service, Maternity Voices Partnership, and others.



#### **Upcoming dates**

## **UPCOMING DATES**



Friday December 15th was the end of this term for our groups and we re-open on Monday January 8th, 2024. Plans are well underway for next term and here are some key dates:

#### January 2024

Jan 3rd - Snipping Jan 8th - Sessions Reopen

Jan 22nd - Feb 5th - Fundraiser - hand painted plates

(see timetable for dates – pick up a booking form from your group)

Jan 26th - Volunteer/Staff Social

#### February 2024

Feb 12th – 16th Half Term

#### March 2024

#### March 4th - 8th Music Week -

This event is an opportunity for musicians to visit our sessions and to invite the community to join in our sing along. If you are a musician or know a musician who would like to be involved, please let us know. You may even like to dress up as one of our songs!

March 20th	Daniel's Den Exhibition at Brent Civic Centre
March 23rd	Sowing Seeds at the allotment
March 28th	End of term

#### DAD's ZONE - CHANGE OF VENUE - ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH

Dad's Zone dates are Sat Jan 13th, Feb 3rd, and March 2nd, 12–1.30pm



### **ACTION POINTS**

PLEASE REMEMBER to take pictures of only your child and to NEVER take pictures of other people's children.

#### Registrations

We have noticed that not everyone has registered on our website. Registering is free and and is something you only need to do once. Why register on our database?

- It tells us who is using our services which enables us to report to funders
  - It enables us to keep in touch with you

Register via: https://danielsden.org.uk/sessions-and-events/register-with-us/

Don't forget to claim your free Welcome Bag with your voucher attached to your welcome email.

#### Volunteer recruitment

We are always needing new volunteers to help at our sessions, with administration and occasional events. We were pleased to do a presentation at the College of Northwest London regarding volunteering opportunities and are delighted that a number of students are coming to volunteer in some of our sessions.

If you or someone you know is interested please speak to the session leaders or visit our volunteer page on our website.

https://danielsden.org.uk/support-us/volunteer/



To our grant funders, sponsors and regular donors...!

# THANK YOU! WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DO ALL THIS WITHOUT THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR FUNDERS!



If you would like to support the charity financially you can do so via our website: https://danielsden.org.uk/support-us/donate/ For partnerships & any other fundraising opportunities please email: natalie@danielsden.org.uk



## The Daniel's Den team wish you and your family a safe and happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

## See you in 2024!

#### Contact us:

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