

March 2021



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Dear parents, carers and Friends of Daniel's Den

As many of us recall what we were doing 'this time last year' it seems incredible to think about all the changes that have taken place in Daniel's Den. From running 7 physical sessions a week to launching Daniel's Den at Home - a combination of Facebook Live, craft packs and Zoom sessions.



Our reach has increased enormously whilst we so miss our physical meet ups. The confidence and camaraderie of our team of volunteers has grown and many of us have tried new things. Our staff team has grown too - more of that later!

Lifting of Lockdown

The road map has been announced by the government and I know many of you have rejoiced to see your children return to school. Of course, caution is advised, and we have no intention of reopening our physical sessions until September. Just because we can do things doesn't necessarily mean we should, and we will keep you posted on developments. The safety of our families and volunteers is essential and a number are in the vulnerable categories. Thankfully, the vaccinations are rolling out and with COVID protocols in place, we hope to have in person sessions starting - initially meet ups in the park.

Singalongathon



Our main fundraiser this term is a sponsored sing and this takes place March 20th-26th.

We will be singing for at least 10 minutes non-stop in our zoom sessions and all participants will receive a Certificate of Participation in the post. Please do join us if you can. We have a JustGiving page set up so please encourage family and friends to donate. We haven't been able to collect any sessions donations for over a year and this means we have less funds coming in whilst our outgoings continue. We did receive funding for the craft packs, but this has ended and we so want these to continue.

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/singalongathon>



c/o Daniel's Den St Andrews Church | 956 Harrow Road | Sudbury | HA0 2QA
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Craft Packs



Craft Pack 4 - Animals

Our next Craft Pack is due to be distributed from March 27th - here are the collection points dates and times.

Please do pop along to pick up your next pack.

The new pack starts on Saturday April 10th and it is based on the theme of Farm Animals.

Don't forget to share pictures of the crafts you make on social media or via email/WhatsApp

Craft Pack 3 - Shapes

It has been brilliant to see all the pictures you've been sharing of the crafts you have made and also to see a number of you joining the zoom sessions.

New friendships have been made and lots of fun too. We know you all loved the book – God Knows All About Me!



New Craft Pack out!

New Craft Packs Collection Points

Saturday March 27th	12-12.30 pm	The Yellow, Wembley Park, HA9 0GL
Saturday March 27th	1.30-2pm	Park Lane Methodist Church, Wembley HA9 7SG
Saturday March 27th	2-2.30pm	Latymer Community Church, Ladbroke Grove W10 6SU
Monday March 29th	9-9.30am	St Michael's Stonebridge NW10 8LB
Wednesday March 31st	1-1.30pm	Lewinson Centre, Willesden NW10 2SG
Wednesday March 31st	2-2.30pm	St Andrews, Sudbury HA0 2QA
Wednesday March 31st	2.45-3.15pm	St Cuthbert's, North Wembley HA0 3QY

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Events



Sowing Seeds 2021

Daniel's Den is running a project throughout 2021 encouraging all our families to sow seeds, grow seeds and eat fruit and vegetables they have grown.

It is an intergenerational project running indoors and outdoors

- Chalkhill Community Allotment project—weekly sessions
- Sowing Seeds monthly videos
- Craft packs containing at least one opportunity to grow seeds
- Visits to parks, gardens and green spaces

Watch out for more details on Social Media and our website danielsden.org.uk



The project is funded by the Wembley Park Community Fund



Sowing Seeds

We were delighted to receive funding to run this project. Linda is the project coordinator and activities include:

- Weekly sessions on the Chalkhill Community Allotments (look out for booking system to book your place)
- Monthly videos
- Regular activities in craft packs - we've just sown cress seeds and have sunflower seeds and lettuce seeds in craft pack 4
- Trips to local gardens and green spaces - check out details on website and social media

The aim is to give the opportunity to everyone to grow something to eat this year ... as well as opportunity to get outside in the fresh air.

An online monthly art class for all who have given birth or are pregnant in 2020/2021. Art kit provided

Bumps Babies and Brushes

Pilot project

Free

Bumps Babies and Brushes

We have just completed our 3rd pilot session and the feedback has been very positive.

We are exploring more options and will keep you posted

Follow us on:



News

New website

We are delighted a new website is being developed and this will help serve the needs of our families and partners going forward.

- You will be able to register and sign up more easily for activities and events
- You will be able to see what we do, where, when etc
- You will be able to make donations simply and easily

New members of the team

Together Everyone Achieves More is our motto and we truly believe this.

- * **Linda Concannon** is now officially our part time Volunteer Coordinator
- * **Natalie Fabello** is joining the team as our new Operations Manager on March 22nd. A local young mum of a toddler, Nat brings creativity and a love of systems to our staff team

New groups

We have a vision to see a toddler group within walking distance of every family in the UK and delighted to know there are thousands of groups across the UK meeting the needs of families. At DD we are committed to have 12 groups up and running by the end of 2022! At present we have 7.

Our 8th group will be online as we are aware some people cannot physically attend an in-person session due to geographical or physical challenges.

Our 9th group will be in the Chalkhill Community Centre. Plans are just getting underway with this, but we hope to launch this group in September 2021.

Our 10th group will be in? Who knows?

Updated Welcome Pack

We are thrilled that we have been able to do a third reprint of our song book and include this in our welcome pack - along with the parenting postcards in our DD bags.

The songbook has been dedicated to the memory of our dear volunteer Emma who died in January - she is missed so much.

Celebrations

It was a joy to celebrate Eutilda's 80th birthday by surprising her with a cake and flowers on her doorstep. Eutilda has been volunteering with us at St Michael's Stonebridge for many years!



Volunteer Opportunities

We are always looking for new volunteers and have lots of opportunities. Check out our website or email Linda at volunteer@danielsden.org.uk.

Our next information evening for Volunteers is on Zoom on

Thursday April 22nd 8-9pm

Everyone is free to join us, so please contact Linda if you want to know more.

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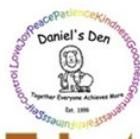
Dates for your Diary



- April 22nd – Volunteers Information Evening
- May 8th – Trip to the Farm 2-3pm
- June 5th - Volunteer's celebration and awards evening
- June 25th - Great Get Together picnic 12-2pm
- July 9th - End of Term and Zoom sessions. Leavers certificates posted
- July 10th - Craft Pack 5 starts
- September 13th - Autumn Term starts
- November 2021 - 25th Birthday Celebrations for DD



Please note **Facebook Live** sessions are 52 weeks a year.
Zoom sessions term time only



You are invited Trip to the Farm at Home

**Saturday May 8th 2021
2-3pm**

This event is free of charge
Invite your friends to join you
You can sign up for the Zoom session which will
be streamed live on our Facebook page or you
can watch on Facebook



Daniel's Den

**Trip to the Farm at Home
2-3pm Saturday 8th May 2021**

Information -

You can set up your own farm in your home— use rugs/blankets to create the fields. Make bunting with a farm theme—animals, tractors. Please share photos on social media
Pack a picnic
Gather a bucket full of blocks to feed the animals
Dress up as an animal of a farmer

On the day:

Bring your own picnic.
Wear appropriate, comfortable clothes and footwear.
Remember to bring sun cream and sun hats or wellies

2pm	WELCOME— share pictures of your farm
2.10pm	Sing Old McDonald had a farm
2.15pm	Swimming in the pond like a duck
2.20pm	Puppet show
2.30pm	Picnic
2.45pm	Big Sing
2.55pm	Scavenger hunt

Enjoy a fun filled day at the farm (at home)

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Finally...



Come say a socially distanced hello

Great Get Together
Friday June 25th 2021

12.00 - 2.00pm

at

**King Edwards Park, Wembley
or Home**

(Subject to Covid Updates)



Every Saturday at 10.45am - Join us and see what will be happening over the next week



Every Monday at 8pm - For parents/carers only - Meet the volunteers as they live stream a zoom call planning and discussing the different topics for Daniel's Den



All Zoom sessions will be closed during Easter Holidays (1st - 16th April)

Our Zoom sessions will re-open on Monday, 19th, April 2021

Finally ...

Daniel's Den would not be able to do what it does without the tireless work of our staff team and volunteers. A huge thank you goes to them for all they contribute to making Daniel's Den what it is. And of course, we wouldn't be what we are without our families and friends. Please do keep spreading the word.

Jo Gordon

Chief Executive

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