

Autumn term 2022 Newsletter



WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON THIS TERM AT DANIEL'S DEN



Wow - what an amazing term we have had at Daniel's Den.

We were delighted to open our doors in September and welcome so many new families - we now have almost 1000 0-5's on our database. Watching the toddlers developing confidence, making new friends and babies smiling is always such a joy. We know many of you have been making friends in the groups and this makes us so happy. We have said goodbye to some of you as your children have moved into nursery or you have moved away ... this week one of our families have moved to New Zealand and the mum said 'Going to miss our Daniel's Den sessions! Our kids absolutely loved Daniel's Den; they especially loved the weekly crafts. Such great people and full of so much support x



New Groups

We opened two new groups this term. One at Lindsay Park Baptist Church in Kingsbury (meeting on Mondays 9.45-11.15am) and another at John Keble Primary School in Harlesden (meeting on Fridays 10.30-12noon).

VOLUNTEERS

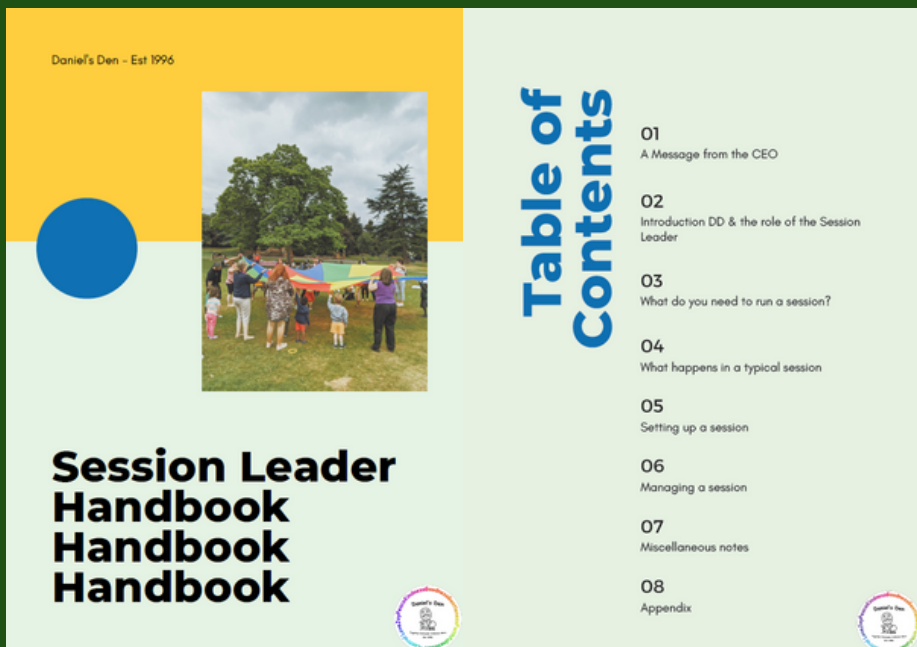


Lisa practicing CPR



Ildiko & Rev Trevor @ our Christmas Volunteer social

We have recruited new volunteers – including Ildiko in the office and Danielle and Rosemary in our sessions – with lots of people's applications being processed too. We have a number of occasional volunteers to help at events and are always looking to recruit more. Please chat to one of our team or look on the website for more details. We provide induction training and carry out DBS checks on all new volunteers. Many of us attended a First Aid Course provided free of charge by the Red Cross.



New Session Leaders Handbook

This was published this term and it was so encouraging to run 2 training sessions for all our leaders and potential leaders.

Events and projects



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



Our 26th birthday was celebrated in all our sessions with cake and singing the Happy Birthday Song. Our Family Fundraising Disco took place at St Andrews Church at the end of our birthday week, and we raised over **£300** after expenses - we are using this to buy a portable speaker and microphone for all our outdoor and indoor events.



Our Nativity Week was as popular as ever - 12 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!



Events and projects



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 Mahdi from Brent Council Children and Family Information Service, Brent Health Watch and a researcher from Oxford University who is looking at the Vaccination rate in Brent. Thank you for being so welcoming and receptive and I think this feedback from Brent Healthwatch is great, 'Just to say thanks so much for all your support of Healthwatch - visiting Daniel's Den groups has given us the chance to speak to people from a different demographic to our 'typical' respondents and I think this is important for building up an accurate picture of services in Brent!'.

Upcoming dates



Our sessions are now closed, and will be re-opening our groups the week commencing the 9th of January 2023. Plans are well underway for next term and here are some key dates:

Dads Zone:

Jan 14th (tbc check social media), Feb 4th, Mar 4th & Apr 1st 2022

Jan 2023:

4th - Snipping (help prep crafts for the term)
9th - Session Re-Open & Volunteer Info meeting
27th - Volunteer & Staff Social
30th - Volunteer Induction Training

Feb 2023:

13th-17th - Half Term
25th - Mum's Zone

March 2023:

WB 6th - Singalong Week

April 2023:

WB 3rd - Easter Holidays



Action Points

Registrations

We have noticed that not everyone has registered on our website – in some. Registering is free 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. 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/>



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



See you in 2023!

DONATE

If you would like to support the charity
financially you can do so via our
website:

[https://danielsden.org.uk/support-
us/donate/](https://danielsden.org.uk/support-us/donate/)

For partnerships & any other
fundraising opportunities please email:
natalie@danielsden.org.uk

Contact us:

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