

Dear Parents...

As the holiday approaches, we thought we'd just give you a quick round-up on some of the fun things we've been getting up to at After 8's...



It's been a great year!

Looking back over the year, we've had some great times! Indoors, our Easter Krispie Cakes were a huge hit with the kids, and it's



nice to see that some of the classic games like Ker-Plunk, Snakes and Ladders and Connect Four are still popular activities too, but we also constantly refresh our range of board games and x-box games to keep things interesting! Our recent craft activities have included Clay Modelling, Cupcake Making, and the hugely popular Halloween crafts, where the children made some scary ghosts!

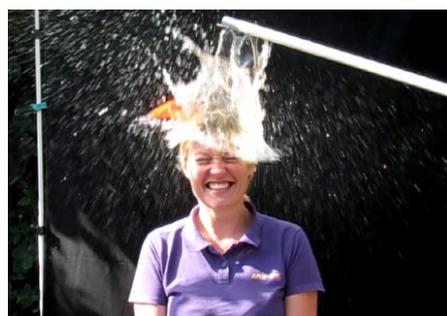


For those keen on something a little more energetic, we've introduced Table Tennis, and it has also been great to see both boys and girls

showing off their moves with "Just Dance" on the Wii.

We love to get outside for fun too, and one of the outdoor highlights in the summer was our Water Balloon challenge, where everybody had the chance to sit in the "Drenching Chair" whilst awaiting the inevitable deluge from a water filled balloon being punctured above. The whole thing was captured in slow motion video, and each child went home with a photo print of a freeze frame showing their most dramatic (or amusing) moment.

The staff didn't get away with it either, with Lindsay, Nigel and Daryl all taking joint first place in the supreme staff super soakings!



It is great to see that the kids are just as keen to play outside in the winter months as well; our additional floodlighting has enabled our frequent dodgeball games to carry on in all weathers! Other popular outdoor activities include French Skipping, Ball and Cup games and Assault Course challenges.

On the food front, we had a brief trial of Scotch Pancakes in place of the Chocolate Toast, but quickly made a U-turn due to popular demand!

Staff News...

This year, we have welcomed two new staff members - Beth Thomas and more recently Sharon Smyth, who are both enjoying being part of the After 8's Team.

We also continue to invest in staff training; Daryl has successfully completed her Paediatric First Aid certification, Lindsay and Nigel have attended Safeguarding Leaders training, and Nigel has completed Safer Recruitment training which helps to ensure that all staff are appropriately checked and vetted before working at After 8's. Following a period of illness, Eileen Gibson has decided to retire and spend more time with her new grandchild. We're sure that everyone who knows Eileen will join us in wishing her the very best for the future.

Signing out...

When you collect your children from After 8's in the evening, please be sure to sign them out correctly. It is important that each child has an individual signature and departure time against their name on the register. Please do not use ditto marks or brackets etc. to sign for several children at the same time, as this sometimes causes confusion.

Happy Holidays...

It just remains for us to wish you all a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year... We look forward to seeing everyone back after the holiday!

