



# Sure Start

[www.wlcsurestart.org.uk](http://www.wlcsurestart.org.uk)

Issue No 20  
Happy New Year  
2010

## WELL DONE!

Congratulations to Play Support Workers Kelly-Ann and Michelle on achieving their National Progression Awards in Playwork and Childcare at West Lothian College. Well done, all your hard work and study has been rewarded.

## MANAGER'S REPORT

This session we welcome our new Dads Worker, Andy Brough who comes to us with his Early Years & Childcare qualification and experience in social care. Andy is getting to know the dads' clubs and planning the programme for next term.

Rosalind Witcombe and Susan Duffy have been taking part in research. They are running the new Incredible Years Toddler programme as a Scottish pilot study, jointly with Clinical Psychology under supervision of University of Edinburgh. New courses like this involve a lot of preparation and parents tell us they are enjoying it so far.

Sarah Arroll and Mhairi Hall have just completed another successful Positive Steps group. Karen Love has been supervising them and is now carrying out evaluation interviews. So far parents are reporting great improvements for themselves and their families.

We are about to have our 2<sup>nd</sup> Care Commission inspection and do hope to improve on last year's ratings. We have worked hard on the issues raised last year.

## IMPROVEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

We have been "benchmarking" (comparing our services) with Midlothian Sure Start for several years now.

As a result we changed the name of our crèche workers last year to Play Support Workers to emphasise their role in play. In July we held a joint event for fathers in the Lothians – a Dads' Gathering. At Midlothian's AGM in November, it was good to speak to their fathers' workers and we hope to collaborate again in 2010.

## PEER EDUCATION

Congratulations to our next 6 Peer Educators who have completed their Peer Education training and gained their 50 hours volunteering Millennium Awards in Bathgate in December.

Special thanks to volunteer trainers, Steven and Tracy, for all their commitment and hard work in delivering the course. And thanks again to Julie Taylor Early Years Development Worker whose energy keeps this important programme going.

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## OFFICE MOVE

We will be moving office from 1<sup>st</sup> February to Lomond House, Beveridge Square, Livingston. Email contact remains the same but phone numbers will have to change.

## SURE START INFORMATION SESSIONS

- ☺ Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2010  
(Unit G, Kirkton Business Centre, Livingston Village)

### New Office

**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Lomond House, Beveridge Square, Livingston, EH54 6QF**

- ☺ Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2010
- ☺ Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2010

These sessions are for any new staff in West Lothian and will provide information about our services. The sessions are held in the Sure Start Office

Sessions start at 9am and last 1 hour approx.