

Big Local Funding

Multi-Use Games Area at St James



St James' CE Primary School has recently received over £10,000 of funding that has been used to purchase a new Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA), that will benefit both the school and local community.

The funding was secured through a combination of community events, sports premium and a grant from The Grace Mary to Lion Farm Big Local (GM2LF).

Bradleys Surfacing Systems carried out the installation of the MUGA, which is situated on the front playground within a new area aptly titled 'The Lion's Den' – a name chosen by the parents and children as a nod to the Lion Farm estate where the school is situated.



To celebrate the opening of the new area, St James' hosted an event on Thursday 14th February, which saw some of their year 6 children compete in a football tournament on the new MUGA against members of local Grace Mary Primary School.

GM2LF attended the opening event, along with the Albion Foundation – the charity of West Bromwich Albion Football Club who will be working with St James' in the future.

Outdoor Trim Trail at Grace Mary



Grace Mary Primary School has recently received £10,000 of funding to purchase and install a large outdoor Trim Trail that will benefit the school and local community for years to come.

The grant was given by the GM2LF Big Local to enable to school to use the trim trail within the curriculum so that every class has access each week to support physical development as well as communication, leadership and teamwork skills.



The grand opening of the Trim Trail was held on 30th April 2019.



Big Local Celebrations

AGM & Community Party

On 13th March 2019, Grace Mary to Lion Farm (GM2LF) Big Local held their AGM and Community Party at St James Church.

Thank you to everyone that came along, supported or took part at the party. With almost 100 people there, it was amazing to see such a big turnout. It was an opportunity for everyone to see the incredible talent the area has with performances from the Lion Farm After School Dance Group, Big Local Little Voices, Shotikhan Karate and Brandhall Community Choir.



It was also a time for people to see what GM2LF Big Local has achieved and to have their say in helping Big Local move forward in the coming years.



We are pleased to announce the election results; Tracy Lowe, Wallace Youth Project and local resident (Chair), Martin Ennis, Holy Cross Church (Vice Chair) and Vicky Jones, local resident (Secretary). Thank you to Chris Sale from St James Church who will remain on the Partnership Board but stepped down as Chair after 2 years of carrying out the role.

Celebrating Our Volunteers!



As part of the UK's National Volunteers' Week which ran from 1st - 7th June 2019, the GM2LF Big Local Partnership held a party to celebrate our volunteers on Tuesday 4th June 2019 at St James Church

The party was a huge success with nearly 50 people attending and well done to the amazing 37 people who received a volunteer award.

The party was held to say 'Thank You' and to recognise the outstanding contribution which is made by volunteers in the area. These people are a shining example of how we can all make a big difference to other people and the communities we live in every day.

If you would like to know more about volunteering in the Big local area please get in touch with Helen Trueman. Email: helen.gm2lf@outlook.com



To see more photos please visit our Grace Mary to Lion Farm Big Local (GM2LF) Facebook Page

What's on each week in and around our Big Local Area

Monday

Rounds Green Library, 10.30am - 12.30pm .
Colour Yourself Calm. (Adult puzzles & colouring sheets) Mon, Wed & Fridays

Lion Farm Action Centre, 9.30am - 12.30pm
Advancing Card Making session.

Rounds Green Library, 11am - 12.30pm. Basic IT Courses. Using a computer, sending emails and the web. To register contact the library.

St James Church, 1-3pm Indoor Carpet bowls. Take gentle exercise and socialise, open to all abilities.

Lion Farm Action Centre, 1 pm-3pm Art Group. Informal art session, paint and relax.

Lion Farm Action Centre, 3:30pm - 5pm. After School Club. Dance session for 8-12 year olds (Term time only).

Holy Cross Church, 6pm - 7.30pm Karate (All ages).

St James Church, 7pm—8.30pm Slimming World. A friendly group for those that want to lose weight or feel better about themselves.

Tuesday

Lion Farm Action Centre, 9.30 -11.30am Job Club. Providing support to find employment, help with CV writing and advice and guidance.

Oakham Evangelical Church, 9:15am Carer and Toddlers. Pre-school play, make new friends and Carers get a chance to meet.

Oakham Library, 11.30am - 1.30pm Tividale Senior Citizens Club. Bingo, raffles, day trips and refreshments included.

St James Church, 9.30am - 11am Stay and play toddler group. (Term time only) St James Church 9am—12pm. Place of Welcome

Lion Farm Action Centre, 1pm- 3pm Over 50s Club. Scrabble, dominoes and card games. Includes tea and biscuits.

Lion Farm Action Centre, 3.30pm - 5pm. After School Club - indoor and outdoor activities for 8-12 year old (Term time only).

Holy Cross Church, 6.30pm - 7.30pm, Freestyle Karate Sessions

Wallace Youth Club, 5.30pm-7.30pm 8-16 years old. Great opportunities and activities for young people.

Wednesday

Lion Farm Action Centre, 9.30-11.30am Job Club. Providing support to find employment, help with CV writing and advice and guidance.

Rounds Green Library, 10.30am - 12pm Knit and Natter.
Sandwell Council Housing, 10am – 12pm

St James Church, 11.15am - 12pm, Onefitmama. Mother and baby class

Lion Farm Action Centre, 1.30pm—3.30pm. How to use a computer and stay safe online'. Online computer training (Age 16+).

Lion Farm Action Centre, 3.30pm—5pm. After School Club - indoor and outdoor activities for 8-12 year old (Term time only).

Oakham Library - My time Active, Sandwell Healthy Lifestyle Services, Want to lose weight? Be more active. Every Wednesday .

Holy Cross Church, 5.45pm - 6.45pm. Rainbow Guides. 6pm - 7.30pm. Brownie Guides.

St James Church, 6 pm- 7.30pm Tividale Shotokan Karate Club (Age 5+). Also held on a Friday 6-7.30pm.

Thursday

Lion Farm Action Centre, 9.30-11.30am Job Club. Providing support to find employment, help with CV writing and advice and guidance.

Oakham Evangelical Church, 10.30am. TLC Club for senior citizens, meet up, chat and take part in activities. Just £3.50 which includes lunch.

Holy Cross Church, 9.30am - 11am Tots & Co, Parent and Toddlers group.

Lion Farm Action Centre 11:30am-1:30pm. How to use a computer and stay safe online'. Online computer training (Age 16+).

Lion Farm Action Centre, 3.30pm—5pm. After School Club - indoor and outdoor activities for 8-12 year old (Term time only).

Portway Lifestyle Centre 7pm-8pm Karate for beginners.

Portway Lifestyle Centre, 8pm - 9pm Karate for those aged 18 plus unless accompanied by an adult

St James Church, 7-9pm RE:Act Youth Club. Offering a range of craft, sports and a place relax and meet up with friends.

Friday

Lion Farm Action Centre, 9.30-11.30am Job Club. Providing support to find employment, help with CV writing and advice and guidance.

Holy Cross Church, 8.30am - 9.30am Tea and Toast.. 12pm - 1.30pm. Free lunch at "Fathers Kitchen". 2.30pm. Mass – short simple said service.

Lion Farm Action Centre, Community Garden open Mon - Fri, 10am—2pm. Restrictions apply during school holidays.

Rounds Green Library, 10.30am - 12.30pm Friday Coffee Club. Social meeting, plenty of chat, laughs with tea & biscuits.

Holy Cross Church, 10am - 12pm IT centre open, free online courses. 1.30pm Bingo. 2.30pm Cards and Dominos.

Lion Farm Action Centre 1:30pm-3:30pm Craft group. Try your hand at something a little crafty-includes card making.

Lion Farm Action Centre, 3:30pm - 5pm. After School Club. Dance session for 8-12 year olds (Term time only).

Oakham Evangelical Church, 7pm Friday Youth Club. Activities and chance to meet friends. For young people aged 11 plus.

Saturday

Rounds Green Library, 10-11am Councillor Surgeries Bring your ideas and concerns to your local councillors

Portway lifestyle Centre, 10.30-2:30pm Eminence Dance Works Creative Dance Group for all

Oakham Library, 10:30-12pm Breakfast Club for Children 8 and over. Free Toast and drinks

Portway lifestyle Centre, 9.15am Bodypump

Portway lifestyle Centre, 10.15am Zumba

Rounds Green Library, 11am - 11:45am Colouring and Craft Club Colouring sheets and puzzles

Sunday

Oakham Evangelical Church, 10am Communion Service a time to stop, reflect and refresh
6:00pm Evening Family Celebration, A lively family friendly service.

St James CofE Church, 10-11am Morning Worship and Sunday School. A friendly traditional church, sharing God's love to all.

Holy Cross CofE Church, 4pm Sunday Mass. A friendly group meeting for relaxed worship and prayer. Chat and cuppa afterwards.

Newbury Lane Methodist Church, 10:45am Morning Service and Junior Church
6pm Sunday Evening Service

CONTACT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Holy Cross Church	01384 257888
Lion Farm Action Centre	0121 544 3094
Newbury Lane Methodist Church	0121 552 2145
My Time Active (At Oakham Library)	0121 366 0966/0800 011 4656
Portway Lifestyle Centre	0300 012 0121
Oakham Evangelical Church	01384 859012
Oakham Library	01384 255563
Rounds Green Library	0121 552 2879
St James Church	0121 552 5491
Wallace Youth Club	07817 175998

If you would like to submit an article for inclusion on the website or in this newsletter please email Helen Trueman: helen.gm2lf@outlook.com

Mention of products or services in this newsletter should not be construed as an endorsement or recommendation by the GM2LF Big Local Partnership.

Tots & Co at Holy Cross

Dianne, Sue and Linda would like to tell you about Tots & Co.

We started in January 2019 and have a wonderful group of welcoming parents, grandparents and toddlers. The children enjoy seeing each other and the adults have become good friends.

It has been a privilege to co-ordinate the group. We have a story time with songs every week followed by snack time. It is a very relaxed atmosphere where everyone is made to feel welcome. Come along and see for yourself.

We meet at Holy Cross Church, Ashleigh Road, Tividale every Thursday (term time) 9:15am-11am. Free admission with free tea and coffee. Donations welcome.

For more info contact: Dianne Darby on 07787 227492 or email dianne741@live.co.uk




Contact GM2LF Big Local

Gm²Lf
a formula for change

 **Visit our website:** www.gm2lf.org

 **Like us:** Grace Mary to Lion Farm Big Local (GM2LF)

 **Follow us:** @GM2LF_Official

General Enquiries

Helen Trueman, GM2LF Big Local Development Co-ordinator

Email: helen.gm2lf@outlook.com

Tel: 07724 5842411

Post: Lion Farm Action Centre, The Vicarage, Shelsley Avenue, Oldbury, B69 1BG .

Money Matters Support



MONEY

TALKS

Support and guidance on a wide range of money issues including bank accounts, Universal Credit and other benefits, budgeting, shopping savvy, savings and managing debt.

Natalie Harris, Financial Engagement Worker

Tel: 07894 465112

Email natalie.gm2lf@outlook.com



Local Trust | Big Local

Rounds Green Library

Dementia Action Week

Agewell has recently moved their office into Rounds Green Library on Lion Farm and is working in partnership with the library. In May, they held their first official event.

Agewell's Kingfisher Buddies hosted a dementia awareness event at Rounds Green Library. The event aimed to raise awareness of and support available to those living with dementia as well as their family and friends. In addition to information, there was a chance for attendees to treat themselves to nail painting and hand massage, as well as get an exclusive preview of Agewell's 'magic' sensory table.



The event was attended by library and Agewell regulars, as well as a few fresh faces. There was a warm, friendly atmosphere, aided by plenty of cake and hot drinks, which saw people catching up with old friends, making new ones and enjoying friendly conversation and laughter, to help lighten the load of those facing dementia.

If you would like more details of the services on offer at Agewell, please contact them as follows:

Tel: 0121 796 9333 Email: info@agewelluk.org.uk www.agewell.org.uk

Recording Life on Lion Farm - Robert Clayton

The library has also been playing host to the photographic work of Robert Clayton. Many local people will have seen Robert on the estate during the past year as he has been following up on a project he started more than 25 years ago. 'Estate', Roberts book, was published after he spent many months photographing locals in their homes and going about their daily life.



Now, he has returned as part of the BLAST! photographic festival in Sandwell, once again recording life on Lion Farm. This work has formed part of an exhibition which has been showing in the library (until 5 July). Multi-Story commissioned the work for the festival and the library held a launch party on Saturday 15 June. Many people enjoyed looking at the photographs and speaking to Robert about their own experiences of living on Lion Farm. Robert hopes there will be enough material for another book in the future. His original book can be purchased from the library for £25. Copies are also available to loan.

The library has regular events and special events all through the year. A copy of their What's On can be found at the library. If you are interested in volunteering opportunities or becoming a Friend of the Library, please contact them on 0121 569 4934.

Wallace 25th Year Anniversary Community Party in the Park



Sunday 18th August 2019
1pm - 4pm
Free Celebration Event



- * **Pony Rides**
- * **Bucking Bronco**
- * **Bouncy Castle**
- * **Dancing**

**Contact Tracy Lowe on
07817 175998**

- * **Train Rides**
- * **Photo Booth**
- * **Mascots**
- * **Sweet Cart**
- * **Free Refreshments**

Wallace Youth Project



Wallace - Feel The Freedom



Wallace Youth Project has been running as a voluntary youth club at Darley House community room, Wallace Close, Oldbury for the past 25 years. The group has recently secured £5,000 from the Awards for All Community Fund.

Local young people face daily issues around knife crime, mental health, and peer pressure to behave anti-socially. As a part of their celebrations, the youth group are taking young people from the area on a weekend break on a narrow boat experience at the start of the summer holidays. Voluntary youth workers are hopeful this will help the young people address issues at the earliest stage of the summer holidays in order to avoid local gangs and be free from drug related crimes.

It will also support the young people in adopting a positive attitude towards these issues and tackling the fear that comes through peer pressure. This will also have a positive impact within the community as a whole. Open space and activity can have a significant influence on young people's wellbeing and help prevent mental health problems

developing or becoming worse.

The adventure will start on Friday 19th July 2019 and tour local canals until Monday 22nd July 2019. The young people will work as a team of peers with volunteer workers to learn new life skills. They will discover the history of the canals, and learn to look after their health and wellbeing by way of cooking, how to open and close locks, and also be tasked with cleaning the boats! Contact the co-ordinator for the route.

Wallace Youth Project is at present awaiting confirmation that they can still use the community room at Darley House Flats, following a re-modernisation programme due to the housing shortage. Wallace Youth Project continues to be a great asset for the young people in the local community. The funding from the Awards for All Community Fund has encouraged the young people and raised their self-belief and esteem. We would like to thank the Community Fund for their support for "Wallace - Feel the Freedom" project.

