

Thank You

This certificate of appreciation is awarded to

childrenz aid

For their very generous donation to

PALS (Play And Learning Support)





Play And Learning Support

- PALS started in January 2015 and we have 75 children with special needs and over 50 siblings
- PALS provides activities for children with all special needs from birth to 18 *(due to demand, the age limit has been recently increased from 16 to 18 and decreased from 3 to birth)*
- PALS runs 12 weekly activities including Fun & Games, Lego Therapy, Teen Scene, Music, Microfitness, Soft Play, Sports Night, Swimming, Swimming Lessons, Horse Riding and Horse Therapy together with a monthly trip to the cinema and Support Group for parents/carers *(in addition a gymnastics class is currently being organised together with a pre-school club)*
- PALS runs 50 weeks of the year and provides extra activities and support during school holidays when it is needed the most
- PALS encourage siblings to join in the fun
- PALS is not for profit and relies solely upon donations, funding and fundraising
- With funding from Children's Aid, PALS families were able to enjoy horse therapy, create storage and purchase equipment for our Fun & Games night.

www.playandlearningsupport.co.uk

Registered Charity Number: SC045175

The parents and children would like to extend a huge thank you to

childrenz aid

Because without them, our kids would not have been able to enjoy the following



FUN & GAMES

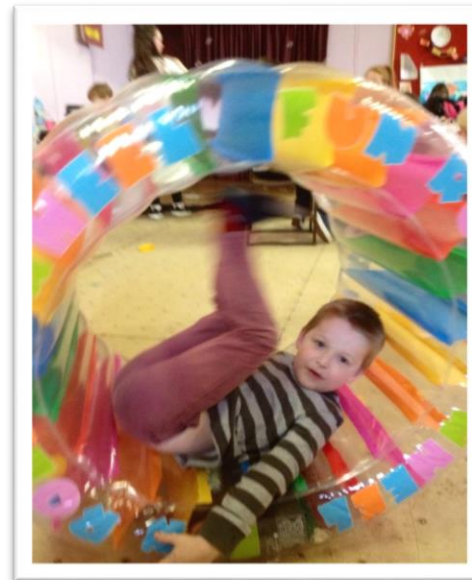
- Our Fun & Games Night is held on a Monday night between 6pm and 7pm.
- It is held in a local Church hall and we are able to be flexible with opening times. We are able to start earlier to provide extra activities during school holidays when they are needed the most.
- Once a month the kids can enjoy our bouncy castle which was purchased with funding through Children's Aid when we were part of REACH Lanarkshire Autism.



Paige & Evan are age 2 and have brothers with autism. They enjoy playing with other siblings their age.



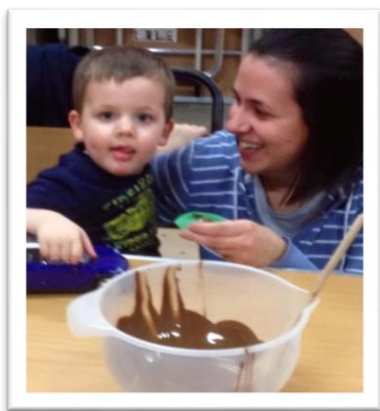
Aaron is 7 and has autism. His twin brother doesn't.



Jamie is 8 and has autism. Jamie's older sister **Holly** helps out at our activities

FUN & GAMES

- We do arts & craft, baking, sports, small inflatables, board games or the kids can have free play or just run off some steam !!
- Fun & Games night is led by the children and we let them choose what they want to do.
- With funding we were able to create our own storage in the hall and purchase new equipment.
- Sense Scotland visit us for story time and to give us ideas on sensory activities for the children.



Sean is 2 and is awaiting an autism diagnosis which he will get when he turns 3. His big brother **Peter** age 6 has autism.



Ellis is age 7 with global development delay. His little brother **Evinn** age 2 can join him in all the activities.



Drew is 5 with autism and his little sister **Paige** is 2

FUN & GAMES

- We had a Halloween Party where we had party games, a best dressed/most scary competition (everyone got a certificate) and did arts & crafts.



Shannon is 10 and has autism. **Jessica** (nearest) is big sister to Sean who is 5 and has autism.



Rhys is 7. His twin brother **Aaron** has autism.



Rio is 5, has autism and is non-verbal. He sees lots of school friends at PALS activities.



- We held our Easter party at Fun & Games where we decorated Easter bonnets, did an easter egg hunt, bubbles, painted Easter pictures and had party food.

Crackerjacks Horse Therapy



Sean is 5 and has autism. This is his first riding session at Crackerjacks Horse Therapy. Sean has a very limited attention span along with other difficulties and his parents were apprehensive about how he would react. Sean loved the horses and went straight up to ride without hesitation. He loved his session and his parents were absolutely over the moon. He is now able to attend regularly and his confidence is growing.



Ellis is 7 and has a duplicate chromosome with global development delay, learning difficulties and delayed speech. Ellis has been attending since his 4th birthday and is a very confident rider who loves to “trot faster”. With his delayed development, horse therapy has been instrumental in improving his core muscles, his vestibular system, his balance, his co-ordination, speech and concentration. Ellis is very sensory and loves to just study the horses and stroke them.



Crackerjacks Horse Therapy



Adam is 8 and is a keen visitor to Crackerjacks. He has autism, pica, epilepsy and speech and language delay. He also has mobility issues and requires use of a wheelchair at times. Horse therapy strengthens his core muscles and encourages his speech in allowing him to direct the horses.



Rayan is 8 and is without diagnosis. He is a keen rider who has been attending for years and visits weekly to improve his health, wellbeing and skills.



Jamie is 8 and is a confident rider. He has limited language and is excited about being able to instruct the horse and it responds. This keeps him interested and he loves riding outdoors.



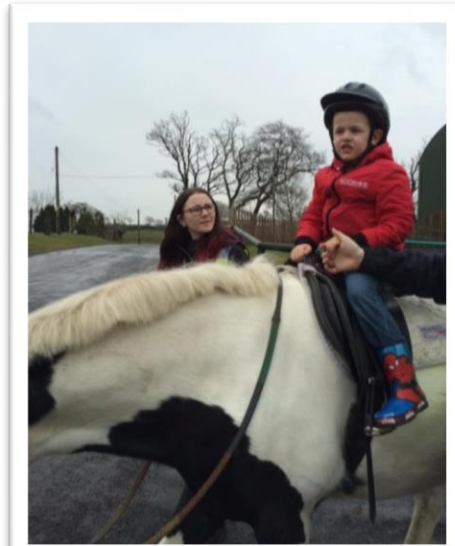
Aaron is 6 and has autism and is non-verbal. He is a keen rider and has been attending regularly. He is encouraged to communicate with the horses by use of the reins and his feet to move them on, etc. This allows him to feel in control.



Crackerjacks Horse Therapy



Martin is 5 and has autism and is non-verbal. His parents were amazed at how well he got on at horse therapy. He loves to ride, especially outdoors and has been trying to communicate with the horses. He also loves brushing them and helping in the yard.



Peter is 5 with severe autism and is non-verbal. This is the first time Peter has been on a horse. His mum was very apprehensive as Peter doesn't like new things and likes to remain in his own little world with his ear defenders on to block out the noise. He absolutely loved riding and will be going regularly. His focus was very much on the horse and his mum thinks horse riding is going to be "his thing".



The parents and children would like to extend a massive



to

children2 aid

for helping us learn, grow, laugh, be confident and make lifelong friends
whilst taking our brothers and sisters on our journey with us x

March 2016

