



Bright Horizons FOUNDATION for Children

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

FUNdation

Day

28/11/23

FUNdation
Day is nearly
here!

Tuesday 28th November



Bright Horizons
FOUNDATION
for Children

5 NEW BRIGHT SPACES OPEN



WELCOME

Welcome to the second edition of the quarterly newsletter from the Bright Horizons Foundation for Children. In this issue we'll be sharing news of two more new Bright Spaces which have opened, how we have been supporting our existing Bright Spaces, fundraising news and what's coming up for the remainder of the year.

INTRODUCTION

As we approach the end of the year we are full of gratitude for the support we have received, and the impact we have been able to have on vulnerable children and families in our communities. 5 new Bright Spaces have opened so far this year, and we have raised almost £100,000 - double what was raised in 2023!

There is plenty more to come, including our annual FUNdation Day on 28th November, one more Bright Space opening, and Christmas Jumper Day on 7th December!



£93,791
RAISED





On 21 September Bright Horizons' annual Supplier Golf Day took place at Collingtree Golf Course in aid of the Bright Horizons Foundation for Children. It miraculously stayed dry for most of the day, which saw more than 50 golfers come together for some friendly competition. Dinner, raffle and an auction followed the golf with some fantastic prizes donated by Bright Horizons' suppliers, and a total of £2,500 was raised for the Foundation. Thank you to everyone who took part and made the day a success!

➤➤➤ KILIMANJARO CLIMB COMPLETED!

Gemma Hiron, Bright Horizons St Mary's Nursery Manager, reached the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro on Friday 1st September! Gemma raised an incredible £4,000, far exceeding her fundraising goal. Gemma wanted to take on this challenge after experiencing a difficult six years, and explains, "Taking on this challenge was both extremely difficult and exhilarating! I wanted to do something that would be a memorable experience and would raise as much money for a charity that I care a lot about. I feel immensely proud that I have been able to accomplish this but especially knowing that the money raised will be used to support vulnerable children and families and help to continue the vital work that the Foundation dedicate their time to. It was the hardest challenge I've ever done, but it was all worth it for an important cause."

The funds that Gemma raised will help fund a Bright Space garden for homeless pregnant women and young children in Oxfordshire, which we hope to open in the first half of 2024.

On her return to the UK Gemma was awarded the Foundation Award in her region, recognising her contribution to her community.



➤➤➤ MOUNT KENYA CLIMB FOR MET POLICE BRIGHT SPACES



Severica Turner, a Client Services Manager at Bright Horizons, will be climbing Mount Kenya in January in aid of the Foundation. Severica is fundraising to support Bright Spaces for the Metropolitan Police, who use them to support children giving evidence about sexual abuse they have experienced. By providing a calm, child-friendly environment and the opportunity to play, children relax which helps them to provide strong evidence, over a shorter time period, to secure the conviction of the perpetrators.

Severica initiated her fundraising and training by walking 5 km every day in September, and has already raised over £1,300 of her £3,500 target. Severica says, "I'm trekking up Mount Kenya to raise money for this amazing cause. Knowing that I can contribute towards supporting these children keeps me going. I'm keen and determined to support the Foundation and ensuring that all children have the best possible environment to give the best possible evidence, so they don't have to return and give evidence again." You can donate to Severica's fundraising [here](#).

▶▶▶ INVESTING IN OUR EXISTING BRIGHT SPACES

We place our greatest focus on supporting our existing Bright Spaces and the children, families and specialist agencies they serve. We want every child visiting a Bright Space, whether they are the first or the 100th child to visit, to have the same high quality experience, with plenty of creative supplies, books, puzzles, games and toys to enjoy, that are in excellent condition. So far this year we have replenished and refreshed our Bright Spaces at HMPs Pentonville, Downview, and Brixton; Hertfordshire Constabulary; the Metropolitan Police; West Yorkshire Police; Berkshire Women's Aid refuge and Refuge Stratford. Huge thanks to our Bright Space volunteers and their communities who tirelessly fundraise, work with our partners to respond to their needs, and visit to tidy and set up new resources for the children and families to enjoy.

▶▶▶ NEW OPENING: UXBRIDGE CROWN COURT

In October we opened our fourth new Bright Space of the year at Uxbridge Crown Court. The Bright Space supports children of all ages, who will spend 3 hours or more waiting to give evidence about a crime they have experienced or witnessed. The Bright Space provides a safe and welcoming environment with comfortable seating, books, creative and imaginative resources, and games and puzzles to enjoy, helping to put children at ease.

▶▶▶ NEW OPENING: HMP FOREST BANK

On 6th November we opened our fifth Bright Space of the year, located in the Visits Hall at HMP Forest Bank in Manchester. The Bright Space is designed to make the visit experience more child-friendly and enjoyable for children, encouraging them to visit their relatives more regularly. Maintaining family relationships is proven to positively impact offender rehabilitation, which in turn benefits the lives of their children and families.

Bright Horizons nurseries in the North West raised an incredible £5,760 towards the project.

Huge thanks to everyone who has supported these two Bright Spaces.

▶▶▶ BRIGHTENING LIVES ACTIVITIES

Our wonderful volunteers recently supported the HMP Bronzefield family day. Children visiting their female relatives were able to spend quality time together, and decorate and fill a pencil case for the new school year to put in new book bags.

Our Bright Space partner at the prison said, "Our heartfelt thanks to you, your team and all those who donated items for our family day. The Foundation made a huge impact on the day, and it wouldn't have been half as successful without you. We are grateful for the ongoing support the Foundation offers to Bronzefield, the women and children in our care and their families. Time with family and children means the world to the women and to enhance this experience as much as possible through our working relationship is much appreciated!".

Huge thanks to our volunteers, the Bright Horizons Bedfont Lakes Nursery community, and Bright Horizons Division L&E who donated stationery for the children.

Uxbridge Crown Court Bright Space



HMP Forest Bank



HMP Bronzefield Volunteers



Stationery donations for HMP Bronzefield



»»» BRIGHTENING LIVES CONTINUED

In August we delivered these caddies of Bright Space resources to our partner at Pentonville Prison, to make the visit experience more positive for children. Children are not always able to move around the visiting space, so these caddies enable them to read books, play games, colour and draw, and relax with a fidget toy, whilst remaining in place with their loved ones.



COMING UP

Our annual **FUNDation Day** takes place on **28th November** to fundraise for Bright Spaces. Coinciding with #GivingTuesday, FUNDation Day brings together the whole Bright Horizons community in a collective fundraising effort, whilst having FUN in the process! This year's theme is Bright Fest (think festival!); quick and easy ideas to take part include wearing bright clothes in your workplace or team for the day (the brighter the better!), playing games or have a cake sale.



We are asking as many people as possible to donate just £1 by texting BHFUN1 to 70085. There are tens of thousands of people in the Bright Horizons community, so potentially thousands of pounds could be raised for vulnerable children in our communities. Whatever you do, please share pictures with us on social media using the hashtags #FUNDationDay and #GivingTuesday.

»»» MAKE THE WORLD BETTER WITH A SWEATER!

Every December, millions of people across the UK put on a festive jumper and make a donation to help vulnerable children. Our Christmas Jumper Day is on 7th December, or you can do it on a date of your choice! You can print or email our handy QR code which is directly linked to our Just Giving page.



»»» MEASURING OUR IMPACT



We want to ensure that our Bright Spaces are positively impacting vulnerable children and families, and the vital work of the specialist agencies with whom we partner.

In early 2024 we will be surveying our Bright Space partners to evaluate our Bright Space impact. The results of this survey provide us with valuable insight into the number of children and families supported, how our Bright Spaces are being used, and how we can evolve with the changing needs of the communities we aim to help. This enables us to focus our fundraising and volunteering efforts in the best way possible. The results will be shared in our Issue 4 newsletter in early 2024.

»»» HOW YOU CAN HELP

There are numerous ways in which you can support the Foundation and our Bright Spaces. You can:

- Fundraise and / or donate individually, as a community or as a corporate partner
- Help raise awareness by following us and sharing our stories - we are on [Linked-In](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).
- Create and support new or existing Bright Spaces in your community - check out our map which shows current and pipeline Bright Space locations [here](#)

If you would like to know more about these opportunities please get in touch [here](#).

