

# News from Serennu September 2022



GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd  
Aneurin Bevan  
Health Board

**sparkle**  
helpu plant arbennig i ddigleirio  
helping special children shine



## Summer fun with a touch of Sparkle at our recent fun day events!

This month Sparkle hosted a double bill of events, supporting our families across the North and South of Gwent with our annual Summer Fun Days! These free events held at Serennu Children's Centre and Tredegar Leisure Centre, brought members of the local community and users of our centres, together for two full days of accessible activities, sports, crafts and games bringing "all the fun of the fair". With activities and stalls by a diverse range of partners and local organisations such as the Gwent Dragons, Blaenau Gwent RAF Cadets, Welsh Scouting, Newport County Football Club, Newport Live, Aneurin Leisure, The National Autistic Society, MediCinema, 02e, Gwent Police, The Welsh Ambulance Service, Treasured Memories and Make A Smile to name but a few. This Sparkle hosted event was supported as part of the Welsh Government's Summer of Fun, alongside donations from Recresco and Amazon Logistics. A huge thank you for the kind generosity of our Sparkle volunteers and trustees time and most importantly YOU! We're so glad you could join the fun!

A huge thank you to everyone that joined us!



## Serennu Outdoor Area is Looking Fantastic

You may have noticed how fantastic the outdoor area at Serennu Children's Centre is looking and it is a pleasure to see so many families making good use of it and enjoying the facilities. We would like to say a big thank you to the ABUHB Regional Partnership Board, who provided funding from the Integrated Care Fund which was utilised towards the fencing that has been installed, the new woodland walk and the new colourful sensory path that runs through the sensory garden. We would also like to thank Paul from Paul Sanders Properties for his assistance in completing the work in such a short time scale and Justin Jones from ABUHB works and estates, who ensured the scheme was managed. Donna Colwill, our Children's Centre Manager said "We want to go beyond providing treatment for the child and so aim to provide family centred services to accommodate the needs of parents and siblings too. Our onsite play and leisure facilities offer families using the centre, and those who live nearby, the opportunity to socialise in a safe and supportive environment. Families use the playground in the evenings and weekends and before or after medical treatment, which often allows a medical appointment to be a positive experience for the child. Allowing families and children to use the space when the centre is closed means they can make full use of the facilities, in a place where they feel comfortable and know well".



If you would like to be kept up to date with activities, events, forums and support groups being held at Serennu and in the local area please email: [Family.Liaison.ABB@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:Family.Liaison.ABB@wales.nhs.uk) or call: 01633 748013 to be included on the contact mailing list.





## Sign of the Month

©Signalong

### 'SCHOOL'

Working flat hand (palm back, pointing up) makes vertical inward circle in front of chin. Do not conceal mouth.

For more signs, information and resources, please see [www.signalong.org.uk](http://www.signalong.org.uk) or talk to your speech and language therapist.

## Well Done Marnie

We would like to say a big Thank You to our friend Marnie who has been doing incredible fundraising throughout the summer months. "Marnie's Miles" campaign has kept Marnie active because she has been walking in many different areas across Wales, and her amazing efforts have raised £1087 so far! Thank you Marnie, you are truly a Sparkle Superstar.



## Future Dates at Serennu

### Tuesday 6th Sept

T:21 Dragons Support group  
Support group for parents/carers of children with Down Syndrome  
10am-12.30pm

### Wednesday 7th Sept

National Youth Advocacy Drop In Session  
NYAS can provide independent professional advocacy for children and young people involved with children's services.  
10am-12pm

### Friday 9th Sept

Sparkle Coffee Morning.  
A chance to relax and chat to other parents and carers.  
Children welcome.  
10am-12pm

### Saturday 10th Sept

Serennu Dad's Group for parents/grandparents/male carers to get together for a chat and a coffee  
10am-12pm

### Thursday 15th Sept

ADHD Parent Support Group  
For parents/carers affected by ADHD  
10am-12pm

### Tuesday 20th Sept

SNAP Cymru  
Drop in Session  
10am-12pm

### Wednesday 28th Sept

Anxiety around Transition and Building Resilience Workshop  
1.00pm-3.00pm

## Thank You Mike and the Team

The cycling superheroes at #FreeBikes4Kids, do an amazing job of recycling old bicycles so that they look and ride as new. At Serennu Children's Centre, we recently received an incredible donation of recycled bikes that could be offered to families who could utilise them. Carlien, one of the mums who received two bikes commented "I'm Gobsnacked! So amazing and I'm so grateful, I've got goosebumps..." Whilst another young person exclaimed "It's my favourite colour!" as he sped away! On behalf of the families who have collected bikes, we would like to say a huge thank you to #freebikes4kids. With the school holidays now here, they are already riding them and having lots of fun. Thank You Mike!



## FIND US ONLINE!



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Justgiving.com/SparkleAppeal



[www.SparkleAppeal.org](http://www.SparkleAppeal.org)



ORDINARY 2  
EXTRAORDINARY



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