

Summer 2022

New equipment makes blood tests easier in Preston



One of the most requested and popular pieces of equipment we provide for hospitals is the AccuVein AV500: a handheld medical device that illuminates veins below the skin. Blood tests and cannulation are common procedures for diagnoses, assessment and treatment in hospital, but veins in children and babies are not very visible under the skin. The AccuVein AV500, which is small, lightweight and portable, allows the clinician to see and access the veins more easily. The device helps to reduce stress and pain for the child, avoiding the need for sedation.

Recently we delivered an AccuVein AV500 to the Children's Community and Specialist Nursing Team in Preston. Matron Victoria Atkinson says: "This will make such a positive difference to the children and young people using our services and we are so grateful for this donation."

Thank you to the donors who funded this project: Life for a Life Memorial Forests, and Springfields Employees' Medical Research and Charity Trust Fund, which is supported by staff at Westinghouse, Springfields site in Preston.



We did it!

Pupils in Bolton love their new Acheeva beds

In June the team at Green Fold Special School in Bolton invited us to see how their pupils are benefitting from the Acheeva Beds we provided. These beds are specially designed workstations that give full postural support to disabled pupils. Fully mobile and adjustable, they allow staff to place pupils in a supported, comfortable position, enabling them to engage in activities and learning during their day at school.



Two pupils at the school, Aysha and Jenni (pictured with staff), were able to show us how they use their Acheeva. We also chatted to Phoebe, who told us: "I do my stretches on the Acheeva with lots of people. I like doing my work on the Acheeva and using the iPad. It's good we have the Acheeva. I press the button to sit up and lie down."

Young fundraising stars receive Queen's Birthday Honours

We are so proud of our volunteer fundraisers, 11-year-old Ruben and Elena Evans-Guillen, who were the youngest recipients of the Queen's Birthday Honours in her Platinum Jubilee year. The Warrington-based twins were awarded British Empire Medals for their services to fundraising, having raised an incredible £46,000 for local charities, including MedEquip4Kids, through challenge events such as running and trekking. Earlier this year the twins also received a Pride of Manchester Award in the Young Fundraisers category. We were very honoured to be invited to the star-studded ceremony to see the twins receive their much-deserved award.

Ruben and Elena have both been diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and have learned to channel their incredible energy into activities that benefit their community. Amongst other fundraising activities for us, Ruben and Elena carried out a 100 Acts of Kindness "Be a Good Egg for the NHS" campaign, which helped us buy a wireless heart monitor for the birth centre at Warrington Hospital. We'll be visiting the centre soon to see how local families are benefitting.



We need your help!

Safer care for the tiniest babies

One in seven babies in the UK needs specialist neo natal care after they are born. These babies may be born too early or with a low birth weight, or have a medical condition that needs treatment. The neo natal unit at Croydon University Hospital is in need of a new incubator to help keep babies warm and safe from infection.



Extra Acheeva for Ashgate School

We're fundraising for a new Acheeva Bed for Ashgate Specialist Support Primary School in Wythenshawe, which caters for pupils with special educational needs in South Manchester. Some of these pupils have had extended periods of absence including hospitalisation, which has had a significant impact on their school attendance and family life. While unwell, the children may spend extended periods of time lying down. As their health improves, it may take time for them to regain their physical stamina and confidence. The school already has one Acheeva Bed for pupils with highly complex needs. This mobile and adjustable workstation has enabled students to be more comfortable while learning. They would now like to have a second bed so that more pupils can have access to it.

Support to tackle mental health crisis

One in six children aged five to 16 were identified as having a probable mental health problem in July 2020, a huge increase from one in nine in 2017. This year we're funding resources for 49 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) to help them treat conditions including depression, anxiety, eating disorders, and self-harm. Items



include books for children, stress toys and games, arts and craft materials, and mood cards to help with understanding emotion.



If you can help us fund any of these projects, visit

www.medequip4kids.org.uk

Fundraising News



Sage volunteers set new coin counting record

As part of our partnership with The Trafford Centre, we hold a coin count every two months to benefit from money thrown into the centre's fountains. Last month our wonderful volunteers from Sage smashed their counting record, bringing in an amazing £2,470.

Chloe helps deliver fundraising appeal



Thanks to Chloe Wheeldon from law firm Clarke Willmott, who volunteered to stuff envelopes in our office to bring you the previous newsletter mailing.

A quacking day out at the Quays Duck Race

On Good Friday we launched our seventh annual duck race at Salford Quays. With 701 ducklings in the Community Race and 30 Mega Ducks in the Business Race, it was our most successful race to date, raising an amazing £10,000. Congratulations to BBK Partnership Barnet for winning 'Fastest Duck' in the corporate duck race, and to The Doctors Laboratory (pictured) who picked up the award for 'Best Dressed Duck' with The Quacken.



Leaving a gift to a charity in your Will is one of the most wonderful and significant ways you can continue to transform the lives of others beyond your lifetime. For more information call 0161 798 1600

Vote for MedEquip4KIDS!

We've been chosen to benefit from Tesco Community Grants in Atherton Superstore and Leigh Extra. If you shop at those stores, please place your blue tokens in the MedEquip4Kids box.

We've also been selected as one of the Yeo Valley Yeakens charities. When you purchase a Yeo Valley product, use its unique code to gain Yeakens online and donate them to us, we could win £1,500!



Upcoming events!

16 September –
Charity Golf Day

3 December –
Shimmer Ball

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