

New Play Area

In recent months we have seen the contractor, UPM Tilhill working on the construction of the New Play Area. The old playground has been demolished and the new space has started to take shape. With the works due to be completed over the next couple of weeks it is now planned for the New Play Area to open to the public in

March. We are looking forward to the works being completed shortly despite the delay caused by the weather and believe that the new space will become an exciting and popular destination for the local community.

Following on from the success of the art workshop we held in the summer, we organised further four workshops in which students from Chiswick Community School and young people from the Croft Centre took part. The workshops were delivered by arts charity Create and entailed making lanterns, musical instruments and a collage. The final workshop, which will coincide with the New Play Area opening ceremony, will involve the participants in

Big Slide at the New Play Area

a story telling activity. We are extremely grateful to Heathrow Community and Environment Awards who have supported the workshops with a grant of £2,500.

Activities

The nature study classes will resume after the Easter break. A group of children from Cavendish School will again have the opportunity to explore the environment on Dukes Meadows and learn more about nature. The spring programme is kindly supported by Thames Community Foundation.

Farmers Market

The Farmers Market has a new Manager! Mark, who has been a loyal customer since the Market opened 10 years ago, has taken over from Mick. We would like to thank Mick for all his help to ensure the Market runs smoothly over the past years and he will no doubt appreciate a lie in on Sunday mornings!

Following last year's success the Farm on the Move with its cute sheep, goats, fluffy rabbits and many more will visit the Market twice this year.

The Farmers Market is one of our social enterprises and helps us raise revenue to improve the local environment, maintain the paddling pool and soon the New Play Area. Please support the



Lantern making workshop

market by spreading the word and doing your weekly grocery shopping locally!

To keep up to date with news and developments you will soon be able to support the Farmers Market on Facebook!

Volunteering

A big Thank You to all our volunteers - those from the local community who regularly join us on Sunday projects, corporate groups and designers



Apple Day at the Farmers' Market

who assisted us with our promotional materials. Special thanks also to Barry from the Masonian Bowls Club who keeps the grass neat and tidy in the paddling pool area.

In the autumn we were joined by volunteers from GSK who planted a stretch of hedgerow along Riverside Drive. We also seeded wildflowers in one part of the Orchard.

Our volunteers play a vital role in helping us to develop and maintain our work in the park. If you enjoy Dukes Meadows you can support our work by participating in the regular bi-weekly volunteering projects on **Sundays 11am – 1pm**. If you would like to join us please drop me a line on maria@dukesmeadowstrust.org