

Summer 2023

## Child-friendly monitor helps kids in surgery



We visited the Starlight Children's Unit in Wythenshawe Hospital to see the new spot monitor donated by the charity. The lightweight and portable device is used by the medical team to accurately check young patients' stats such as blood pressure, oxygen and temperature. On the ward we met five-year-old Arabella, who was born with an extra thumb on her right hand. Unfortunately, Arabella has received negative comments from her peers at school, so the surgeons were going to remove her extra thumb. Clare hopes that the surgery will lead to Arabella being happier at school.

Clare was very happy with the new monitor, which was used to check Arabella's stats. She said: "The spot monitor is wonderful. As soon as the nurses brought it in for Arabella I couldn't believe how small it was! It is so child-friendly compared to the older, bulkier monitors. Thank you MedEquip4Kids!"



# We did it!



## Charity CEO awarded Honorary Doctorate

We're thrilled that our Chief Executive, Ghazala Baig, will receive an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Bolton in recognition of her services to healthcare. We're very proud of Ghazala and what she's achieved in her 23 years at MedEquip4Kids. Her graduation takes place in July and we'll report back on the event.

## Heated mattresses keeping babies cosy

Recently we visited Wythenshawe Hospital's neonatal intensive care unit to see the CosyTherm heated mattresses we funded earlier in the year. These are used when babies are born weighing over 1.5kg and need extra warmth. We also provided this equipment for North Manchester General Hospital and St Mary's Hospital.



## Learning about mindfulness

Our Hummingbird Project helps young people learn about the techniques that can improve their mental health and wellbeing. By the end of the summer term our Project Lead, Ian Platt, will have delivered the course to 1,375 students this school year. He is pictured above with a group of Year 7 pupils at Urmston Grammar. The topic that day was mindfulness, including the activity of eating a sweet mindfully, which was much enjoyed by everyone!

# We need your help!

## Lifesaving monitor for children's unit

A Careescape monitor will allow young patients at Tameside General Hospital to have continuous cardiac monitoring while they are on medication infusions, for example because they have taken an overdose and need to protect their liver, or are on insulin or asthma medications. It is vital to monitor the child's heart rhythm and be able to recognise any abnormal readings.

## Colour screens make kids happy

Visiting hospital can be boring, stressful and frightening for children, especially for those with special needs who can be either over-stimulated or under-stimulated by clinical environments. Warrington Hospital have asked us to provide four Early Years Interactive Touch Screens which can be loaded with sensory lights, colours, sounds and music, as well as apps to improve literacy and numeracy. The children's ward recently borrowed this equipment for a few days. One child, who was partially sighted, really enjoyed the sensory light app as when he touched the screen it would burst with bright colours and sounds.

## New resources to support mental health

For the past nine years we've been providing packages of resources for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) across the UK to help the services enhance their care for the one in six children in the UK with a diagnosable mental health condition such as anxiety, depression or an eating disorder. These include emotion cards, fidget toys, art materials, books, workbooks, and more. This year we're raising funds to support 56 more CAMHS teams.



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.

If you can help us fund any of these projects, visit  
[www.medequip4kids.org.uk](http://www.medequip4kids.org.uk)

# Fundraising News

## MedEquip4Kids Shimmer Ball returns in November 2023

We're already excited about our next Shimmer Ball, which will be held on Saturday 25th November at the Lowry Hotel. Our event last year would not have been the success it was without the help of our corporate supporters, including AKA Bespoke Jewellers who very generously provided an elegant 18ct yellow gold and diamond half eternity ring for our auction. If your company is interested in supporting our Shimmer Ball this year, please do get in touch.

## Core Talent team get active for children's healthcare

We're super impressed by the enthusiasm of our corporate partners, Core Talent. Pictured below are Daisy Lomax (left), who ran the A J Bell Great Manchester Half Marathon, and Adam Davies (right), who completed the Manchester Marathon. Head of Brand and Marketing, Kathy Koomson, said: "Our team have enjoyed participating in fundraising events and it motivates us to know the funds we are raising will directly benefit children in the UK."



## Congratulations

to Gab Stone (pictured below) who finished his 11th London Marathon in April this year and raised over £2,000 for MedEquip4Kids.



## Dates for your Diary



**15 September - Charity Golf Day**

**25 November - Shimmer Ball**

Contact MedEquip4Kids at:  
The Appeals Office, 5th Floor  
90 Deansgate  
Manchester M3 2GP  
Tel: 0161 798 1600  
info@medequip4kids.org.uk

[www.medequip4kids.org.uk](http://www.medequip4kids.org.uk)



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