

NEW CHILDREN'S UNIT NEARLY READY FOR PATIENTS

Over the summer, the builders have been working on the new Unit. Now we're all looking forward to the handover to the medical staff and children who will benefit from the new state-of-the-art facilities.

The extras funded by the Caring 4 Kids campaign are taking shape within the new Unit. The six home-from-home rooms are being fitted with the latest entertainment systems, en-suite bathrooms and the latest in colour-change lighting, so children can change the look of their room. The split level outside play deck is in place and will soon be kitted out with play equipment suitable for all ages and abilities. The parents' accommodation area has a spacious bedroom and airy kitchen space and a special teenagers waiting area is now being decorated.

Over 1,000 local children aged between 2 and 18 have worked with designer Penny Robbins to design the floors, walls and decor. The themes of "waterworld" on the lower floor for outpatients and "woodland" on the upper floor for inpatients and day assessment patients will be realised in the play areas (inside and out), corridors, wards, assessment and therapy rooms and nurses' areas. Essential therapy tools will be incorporated into the flooring so that therapists can ask children to run from starfish to starfish or step from pebble to pebble. Children's art will be displayed on beach hut-decorated walls, and reception areas will look like tree houses and boats.

Meanwhile, we have handed over the £250,000 raised as part of the Caring 4 Kids campaign towards the new children's waiting and treatment area in A&E. This will open early in 2011 with more child and family-friendly facilities for accident and emergency patients.



Children's Unit Consultant Dr. Tracey Farnon checking on the progress of the new Unit.



The new day assessment unit will have a woodland theme.

"I'm looking forward to the move to the new Unit and checking out the teenager's room, new games and outside space!"



Andrew Cutler, 15, who has Cystic Fibrosis and spends 2-3 months each year in hospital.

STARS APPEAL MAKES MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO NEW BEREAVEMENT SUITE

Thanks to the generosity of local people remembering Salisbury District Hospital in their Wills, the Stars Appeal has been able to provide a substantial contribution to the funding of the new Bereavement suite.

Relatives now have a more supportive environment where they can pay their last respects to loved ones. The suite now has a welcoming new reception area and refurbished family rooms.

The bereavement team now has first class facilities to work from which complement the professional service they already provide to bereaved families.

Legacy donations have long played an important role in funding additional facilities that make a lasting difference to local patients and their families. If you'd like to find out more about leaving a gift to the Hospital in your Will, please contact the Stars Appeal office on 01722 429005.



Legacy donations to the Stars Appeal have helped to fund the new Bereavement Suite.

Our Christmas Wish...



Aimee Cooke and mum Fiona, who live in Warminster, spent 11 weeks on the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit after Aimee was born 14 weeks premature.

We're still working hard to hit our £250,000 target for the new Family Accommodation Unit for families with babies in NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit), which we plan to start building in 2011.

So if you're thinking about making a charitable donation this Christmas, then please help us to make the new Family Accommodation Unit a reality.

Fiona Cooke, mum to baby Aimee, who was born 14 weeks early, says, "A family unit would be truly wonderful. It will help parents spend more time with their babies and bond with them. If your baby is having a not-so-good day, you want to be able to stay with them, not leave them at night. To have rooms where parents can stay would reduce the stress and worry of leaving your baby."

Caring 4 Kids campaign carries on...

This won't be the end for the Caring 4 Kids campaign. When we've handed over the £250,000 for the Family Accommodation Unit, the Caring 4 Kids campaign will remain as the fund within the Stars Appeal to support all children's services within Salisbury District Hospital.