



Woodhall Farm Food Festival
Thursday 10 April
Woodhall Farm Community Centre



Background

We were approached by Nicole from Dacorum Local Food Initiative as she wanted to work with residents in a LSOA and to show them how easy it is to grow your own salad vegetables and herbs at home, whether it's on a window sill or in a garden. Woodhall Farm was the selected area as it rates high on the child poverty scale (44%) and it was decided we would pilot this event here.

We worked in Partnership with World Shapers Children's Centre as they are based at Woodhall Farm and Circle Anglia Housing Association as they have many tenants in this area.

We met to discuss how the event should run and we worked together to plan the day.

Get the word out

The crucial part of this event was getting the word out. We designed a flyer and they were distributed throughout Woodhall Farm via the schools, Circle Anglia Housing Association, the local neighbourhood shops and by hand to some of our residential properties. It was also displayed on the events page of Dacorum Borough Council and advertised in Woodhall Farm Community Centre.

The Event

We held the event in the gardens of the local Community Centre and in the Community Centre itself.

The event opened at 10:30am but we had people queuing from 10am!



We had 'Make your own pizza dough'

Parents and children alike joined in to make pizza dough, a selection of vegetables were available for them to choose as toppings. take home and cook!



Make you own fruit baskets

The children made their own fruit baskets, filled them up with fruit to take home with them

'Grow your own'

Everybody joined in, planting their own tomatoes, salad leaves and herbs ready to take home and continue growing on their window sills.



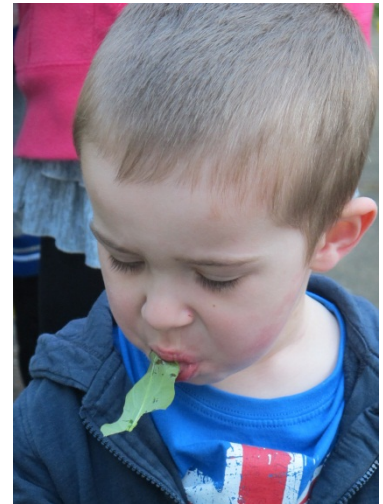
Salad leaf 'tasting table'

There was a 'tasting table' of all different salad leaves ready to pick and eat

He tried it.....



....but didn't like it!



Apple Pressing

The children made their own apple juice from scratch, first mulching the apples, then putting them through the apple press, turning the handle between them until all the juice was out.....



...then drank it!



Healthy & Well Being educational games and healthy activities

As well as being a fun day Sportspace provided educational games around Healthy Eating. The Eat Well plate has sections for carbohydrates, protein, fats & sugar, milk & dairy, fruit & vegetables. The children have to pick foods out of the picnic basket and place it in the correct section.



There was lots of fun to be had with Hula Hoops, bean bags, balls and Frisbees. The children especially loved the hula hooping games.



For those who wanted a quieter time there was lots of Easter colouring to do



Other activities...

The children loved having their faces painted...



planting their very own sunflower seed....



trying out different fruits by making their own 'fruit cup' for a snack...



Our Waste Service department came along to talk about their 'Love Food Hate Waste' campaign and handed out lots of freebies, including recipe cards showing you what you can make with leftover food!



The event ended with an Easter Egg Hunt for the children which they thoroughly enjoyed, even though it took some of them ages to find their eggs!!

Special Thanks...

to Sainsbury's Woodhall Farm for supply all the fresh produce and discounted Eggs and Wilkinsons for supplying some of the plant pots and eggs free of charge.

Summary

This event was a great example of Partnership working and we can look forward to more of this in the future.

All attendees were invited to write comments on how they thought of the day went, some of the comments received are below;

Brilliant day! So much to do and for free Pizza for dinner tonight and growing my own toms!

Fab day. Sports were the winner!! Great idea ☺ Loved the gardening. Frisbee throwing

Great idea to bring the kids out to a fun filled day Really good day, kids enjoyed the day

Great day, kids loved it. Thank you Great day – had fun Really good, Thanks Eggseleent

The form filling idea was fab. More activities for kids and adults in Woodhall Farm is much needed.

I really liked the sports! From Tony I fink it was xelant (☺) It was a very good day thanks

I fink it wo fatstik (I think it was fantastic) I liked climbing the tree Had a great time

All the seed planting and fruit eating was great. What a fun morning Egghunt

Enjoyed planting and fruit tasting Had lots of fun The balls and Frisbee

Had lots of fun, nice idea for having world food day. Looking forward to same again ☺

I loved the apple pressing and trying it!! The Easter Egg hunt Bean Bags

Hula Hooping A fantastic day, kids loved it!! Apple pressing Great Fun, Fab morning

Fantastic Day!! Well organised Fun I liked making pizza dough Face painting

We both really enjoyed the egg hunt and had a great time Decorating Pots!

Sydney loved the garden Great fun out! Loved the Easter Egg hunt and the pizza dough

Hula Hoops were 'Hoopsa fun!' It was very good when I made the basket

Great fun especially enjoyed making the fruit baskets and colouring in

Active Sports from Sportspace was fun! Paisley enjoyed the the frizbees

Millie enjoyed the hula hoops!!