

New Minibus for SEN Centre

Children at the Special Educational Needs Centres at Eastwick Schools in Bookham have received an amazing gift from a local charity, the Children with Special Needs Foundation. The Foundation, which exists to provide help to local children with special needs, has gifted a minibus to Eastwick Schools to enable the children in their dedicated SEN Centres to get out and about as much as possible.

A tea party was held at the schools to thank Gordon and Ann Parris, the founders of the charity, who said "It is our pleasure to present the minibus to Eastwick. We hope it will give the children the ability to go out and see the outside world". Mr and Mrs Parris founded the charity 20 years ago when, as Mayor and Mayoress of the Borough of Surrey Heath, they identified a need for an organisation which could support children with special needs in the local area by providing funds for equipment, tuition, holidays or special care in a way that cuts through the red tape faced by many larger charities.

Eastwick's Head of Special Needs Centres, Miss Rebecca Langley, said "This gift will make a real difference to the children in Rainbow and The Ark at Eastwick. It gives us the flexibility to take them on outings and trips that will enhance their learning and their understanding of the world around us and which, otherwise, would not have been possible". The SEN Centres at Eastwick currently have places for 44 children from ages 4-11 who have been identified as having complex special needs, including physical difficulties.

