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16th May 2016

The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service

The MBE for volunteer groups

Rebecca Norton Headteacher Fourlanesend Community Primary School Fourlanesend Cawsand **TORPOINT PL10 1LR**

Dear Rebecca

Subject: Kite flying event at Mt Edgcumbe

I hope this finds you in the very best of health. I am writing to thank you for the very generous donation of £115 donated from the sales of our CHICKS kites. All money donated goes towards funding the free respite breaks we provide for disadvantaged children. It was a pleasure meeting staff and children at the kite flying event at Mt Edgcumbe along with our bear mascot 'Mas' (stands for 'Make a Smile'). I have thanked Helen Marks for organising the event. Helen really is a wonderful ambassador for CHICKS and does a lot for raising the profile and much needed money to fund the breaks we provide to the children.

CHICKS provides free respite breaks for disadvantaged children from across the UK, including hundreds from many areas of Cornwall, at our three retreats in Tywardreath, Brentor and Ashbourne in Derbyshire. We already have children booked on breaks from Torpoint and Millbrook again this year.

For many children growing up in the UK the chance to enjoy days out or a visit to the beach is a distant dream. The children are aged between eight and 15 and come from a variety of backgrounds. The children may be living in poverty, suffering from abuse or act as young carers for sick or disabled family members. They may even be the children of injured service personnel or brought up in homes.

CHICKS began in 1992 and helped 25 children in its first year. We are now celebrating our 24th anniversary and have provided over 13,000 breaks. Last year alone over 1,100 children benefitted from a break at CHICKS. In 2016 CHICKS we aim to provide nearly 1,300 disadvantaged children with breaks.

On behalf of all the staff, volunteers and children I would like to thank you for your support which is vital in helping young children see a brighter future. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like to visit the retreat sometime.

Best wishes

Mick Ryan

Cornwall Community Fundraiser **CHICKS** Coastal Retreat

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