

POOLING ITS RESOURCES

HEALTH bosses have this week welcomed the building of a new hydrotherapy pool in the borough.

Jeff Zitron, chairman of NHS Hammersmith and Fulham, the borough's primary care trust, spoke about the benefits which the new facility at Jack Tizard Primary School will bring to local disabled children.

He said: "Jack Tizard is an outstanding school which really needs an on-site pool to enrich the lives of its pupils. NHS Hammersmith and Fulham is delighted, with the council, to be able to invest over a million pounds in making this happen."

"We hope the hydrotherapy pool will make a vast difference to disabled children and their families throughout the borough."

Work has been going well over the past few weeks at the school on South Africa Road, in Shepherds Bush, with the pool still on track to open in January.

NHS H&F is putting £600,000 towards the £1.2m facility, with the other half of the money coming from Hammersmith & Fulham Council.

Disabled pupils from any school in H&F will be able to enjoy the new facility, as well as any other disabled children who live in the borough.

The pool will be the only one of its kind in H&F.



ON THE WAY: The day ground was broken at Jack Tizard. Pictured is headteacher Cathy Welsh with pupils Abdul Aidarus and Tyrone Noel

PICTURE BY LEIGH QUINNELL

Headteacher Cathy Welsh said: "We are all very excited by the development of a hydrotherapy pool at Jack Tizard. Having it on site will give our pupils a much wider range of learning opportunities and experiences through which they can develop their intellectual, social and physical skills."

Councillor Antony Lillis, H&F cabinet member, added: "This is a fantastic new asset to the borough. The pool is going to be great for pupils with special educational needs."

Party time for Masbro centre

► Masbro kids' wing launches with a party
► Parents can access advice and support from seven children's centres opening in the borough

DELYTH BOWEN

YOUNG families were treated to a fun day to celebrate the launch of the Masbro Children's Centre.

The centre, in Masbro Road, was officially opened by the mayor of Hammersmith & Fulham, Cllr Alex Karmel, on July 4.

A wing of the building has been completely refurbished to provide services for all local families, parents and carers whose children are under five years old.

Children enjoyed a bouncy castle, face painting, games, arts and crafts and were entertained by a balloon artist and circus performers.

Families and children can play together at drop-in groups, there is a creche, and parents can get advice and support on health, education, childcare and employment, or take part in parenting programmes.

The Masbro is one of seven new children's centres that H&F Council



CELEBRATION: Masbro chief executive Andy Sharp, Cllr Peter Tobias, Cllr Jane Law, H&F mayor Alex Karmel, Maria Yahya, Grace Poku and centre manager Jude Wood with children at the Masbro centre

PICTURE BY DARREN GERRISH

is developing across the borough over the next three months. Ellie Suggate, parenting co-ordinator, said: "It is going to be an excellent opportunity for parents and young children to enjoy using the centre and to receive support."

For more information on the Masbro Centre, call Jude or Rachel on 020 7605 0800 or visit www.upg.org.uk

To find out more about H&F's children's centres, visit www.lbhf.gov.uk



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