

## ■ TROOPERS HILL

# Natural Learners return to Troopers Hill

THANKS to a grant of over £5,000 from the Nineveh Charitable Trust, Natural Learners are back on Troopers Hill for 2018. In 2017, Friends of Trooper's Hill supported a series of trial sessions for an outdoor education and play programme called Natural Learners. This included nature-based play sessions for pre-school children and their parents called Wild Play, an after-school programme of outdoor activities for primary school aged children, and a free outdoor education session on life cycles for Year 5 pupils from Summerhill Academy. The project aims to encourage local residents to develop a connection with the natural world by providing inspiring educational experiences.

Amy Stone and Mali Kedward who run the Natural Learners sessions aim to build on the work of the 2017 trial to offer an even more exciting programme of events this year. They will



repeat the Wild Play pre-school sessions alongside a series of family events during weekends and school holidays. In addition, they will work with children from a local school. The funding

means that more sessions can be delivered at the same affordable charges and that they can be offered for free to low income families.

Susan Acton-Campbell of

Friends of Troopers Hill said: "Encouraging children to enjoy outdoor play and learning has proven benefits for their health and confidence. We also hope it will instil a lifelong respect for the environment and who knows, future leaders and volunteers for Friends of Troopers Hill may come from these children and their parents."

Amy and Mali said, "We are so excited to be a part of this project and thanks to the Nineveh Charitable Trust we will be able to make these activities accessible to families who may not normally visit Troopers Hill."

Dates, times and charges for Natural Learners activities on Troopers Hill will be published in issues of the St George & Redfield Voice, on Troopers Hill noticeboards, the Friends of Troopers Hill website, Facebook and Twitter pages and on the @Naturallearnersbristol Facebook page.

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