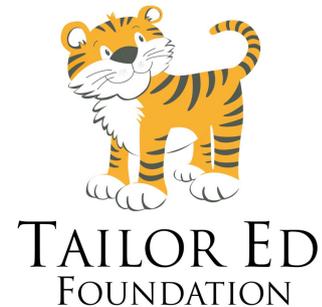


*Tailor Ed Foundation (SCO39246) wishes to see children with autism and their families empowered and included, able to live the lives they want to and access all the day to day experiences that other families take for granted. We work with families living in the city of Edinburgh with a child with autism up to the age of 16.*

Happy New Year!

We hope you're all settling in to 2020. Thanks for all the lovely Christmas cards and kind gifts - it's much appreciated. There has also been some great fundraising efforts over the festive period which we're really grateful for - details below. We've also some fantastic progress from one of our Early Years families to share as well as info on a couple of events coming up.



## Fundraising Thank yous...

Fundraising by families, friends and supporters over the festive period has been fantastic.

In no particular order a huge thanks goes out to:

Bank of Scotland who matched the £317 raised by A Hazlewood in her Bank of Scotland team

The JB Group who held a collection in their office in 11 Maritime Street and made a donation of £30

Staff at the Royal Bank of Scotland Macmerry who raised a whopping £400 from tuck sales

Staff at the NSL Services who not only ran one fundraising event in December, they ran 12 days of fundraising and raised an amazing £720 – well done to everyone involved.

And of course all those families who give a regular donation each month including some who even gave us a wee bit extra

**Tailor Ed is so grateful for all of these donation. Almost all of the above fundraising activities were led by parents who have links to our services. As we start a new decade do you think you could encourage your colleagues at work to take part in a fundraising activity to raise funds for Tailor Ed and do you think your employer would match fund it?**

There are loads of things you could do at work such as like running a tuck shop, a cake and bake sale, charge 10p for every cup of coffee/tea, organise a dress down day once a week/month and charge everyone a £1, or simply ask if colleagues would donate the pennies in the salary – potential a max of £1 a month?

If you want to chat over how you can fund raise at your work please give Stuart a call or email him at

# thank YOU

## ROARsome PROGRESS

This month we'd like to share with you Anthon's progress in our Early Years Service as described by his Project Worker Martha. Like much of our work it all starts by ensuring children have a voice and can have a say about what's important to them. Another big priority for Anthon and his family was his diet.

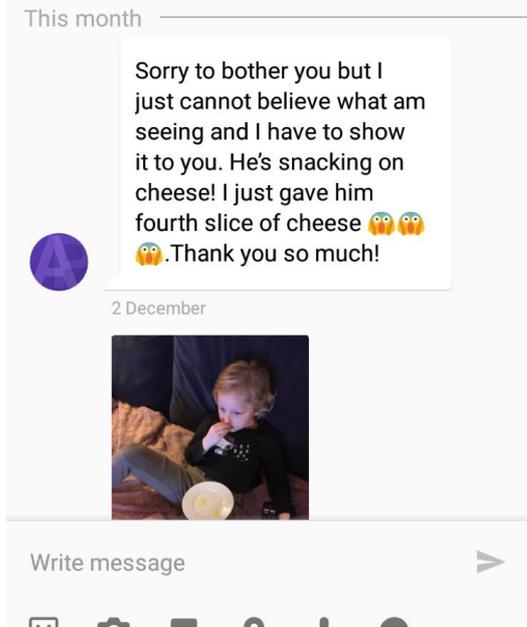
*When we met Anthon, he could ask his mum and dad for his favourite things but he wouldn't persist if they didn't understand him. He rarely spoke to people outside his family, he rarely spoke to his support worker at nursery and didn't requests things from Martha in her first visits.*

*Martha and Anthon's parents worked hard at giving Anthon lots of opportunity to practice asking for things he wanted and used Choice boards to help develop the language he was using.*

*Other Tailor Ed project workers are coming to visit with Martha to give Anthon a chance to practice his communication skills with others and gain confidence communicating with different people. He recently had a great time when Pete came to visit and confidently asked him for everything he wanted.*

*Anthon now confidently requests using 3 word sentences both from his parents, Martha and is starting to gain confidence to communicate at nursery.*





*particular difficulty for the family was there wasn't anything practical to take on outings.*

*Martha and Anthon's parents came up with a plan to help Anthon explore food in a relaxed way with clear expectations. He loved his Bob the Builder Challenge boards! He's now eating cheese, ham, banana chips and he recently had his first ham sandwich!*

We're delighted with the fantastic progress Anthon has made. It's been great to see his confidence with communication grow and how this has also helped him feel comfortable expanding his diet. And this text from his mum Anna gives a sense of how exciting it's been for his family to see him achieve a healthier and more practical diet.

## EVENTS

### Dads' nights

#### *For all dads raising a child with autism*

Our regular monthly dads' night for **January will be on Thursday the 23<sup>rd</sup>** at the Newsroom for the pub quiz. There will be a table booked under Iain MacKenzie's name for 8pm with the pub quiz starting at 9pm.

You are welcome to just turn up or feel free to let Iain know if you plan to attend ([iain.mackenzie@gmail.com](mailto:iain.mackenzie@gmail.com)). The next one will go back to being on the third Thursday of the month – making February's one on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

For March, Pete and Callum will be organising something (open to suggestions – could be a pool night or exploring a new pub with some nice beers to try) so please complete the doodle poll of the dates you are available and we will get back to you with more details.

<https://doodle.com/poll/zgqiqisdgeaip3eu5>

If you have any questions or would like more information on our dads' nights, please get in touch with either me ([callum@tailoredfoundation.co.uk](mailto:callum@tailoredfoundation.co.uk) 07980 533 185) or Pete ([pete@tailoredfoundation.co.uk](mailto:pete@tailoredfoundation.co.uk) 07790 415 084).

### Autism Friendly Play Session

#### *Open to all children with ASN*

Our regular autism friendly play session at **Time Twisters** will run on **Wednesday January 29th from 4pm-6pm**. Time Twisters is at Unit 5, Catalyst Park, 2B Bankhead Drive, Edinburgh EH11 4EJ.

Sessions are closed to the general public but siblings and friends are welcome to attend. Members of Tailor Ed staff (usually Pete and Eva) will be present at these sessions and runs a few group games for those who wish to take part.

Please be assured that there is extra upstairs seating available where numbers will be limited to ensure it's a quieter space for those who need it.

**These sessions now cost £2 per child (adults enter for free).**

# Short breaks fund



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**Tailor Ed Foundation (SCO39246)**

**Our mailing address is:**

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