

Edition:25

## Facing a deployment? We are here.



I wanted this newsletter to celebrate the success of Fundraise February and tell you all about our plans for Month of the Military Child, however we cannot avoid the reality of the war in Ukraine. I think many of you are with me; while I see the horrifying impact on the people of Ukraine, I cannot help thinking 'what could this mean for me and my military family'. Even though I feel guilt and selfish quilt I believe these emotions are ok to feel because this is our reality. The fear of what could be

**(3)** 

I know many are already facing a deployment this year, while others have If your children are worried about the possibility of deployment and don't really want to talk about it, don't forget you can use our x-ray of feelings images. This one focuses on deployment and comes with a prompt sheet and activity sheet to work through with your child.

Even though it is hard, we do need good things to focus on. You helped us raise over £3,600 during Fundraise February this year! We are overwhelmed by the amazing fundraising that took place; Pyjama days, cake sales and big challenges for little legs were just some of the



Adam is our Little Trooper of the Month

Five year old Adam Newman has been awarded '<u>Little</u>
<u>Trooper of the Month</u>'
following 12 difficult months.

In March 2021 Adam and his family moved back to the UK from Gibraltar where they lived for just nine months. In August Adam become a big brother for the first time, then in November Adam's Dad was deployed overseas. It was his second tour in two years, which meant he was away from home for Christmas for the second vear in a row and is not due home until April. In his short life, Adam has been to three different schools or nurseries and lived in three different homes.

Adam's Mum Lauren nominated him for the award for coping with so well with the upheaval that military life can bring. She said: "Adam has had so much change this year, from moving home and country to changing schools, making new friends, having a new baby brother, to his Dad deploying again. We are very proud of him. He's an absolute superstar."

This month's Little Trooper of the Month has been kindly sponsored by Rewards for Forces, the UK's largest discount website for serving and ex-serving personnel. Partners can join too. The

been given short notice and some have had deployments extended. I want to reiterate, we are here for you. We have so many resources on our website and in our shop to help you. Lots of you have ordered <u>separation packs</u> already, but please do not forget our birthday card scheme, send a hug kit and Little Troopers Treasures app. Everything can be found in the at Home section on our website.

ways you joined us to raise money.

Funding for any charity is a challenge, especially after the last couple of years, but your support during February has given us a real boost. Read on to find out about our brilliant fundraisers and our plans to celebrate our little troopers during the Month of the Military Child.

## Louise x

section called Veterans
Rewarding Veterans –
supporting businesses
owned by Veterans.
www.rewardsforforces.co.uk

company has just added a



Rugby player Thom Smith becomes a Little Troopers Ambassador

We are thrilled to announce that rugby player Thom
Smith is our very first
Ambassador for Little
Troopers. The English rugby union player, who plays for
Doncaster Knights, knows
first-hand what it is like to be a military child as his Dad serves in the Royal Air
Force.

Thom is excited to support the charity in helping more little troopers, he told us: "I have wanted to be affiliated with a charity for some time now and I was looking for an organisation where I felt I could help and make a real difference. I first heard about Little Troopers when my little sister, Florence, took part in a workshop at school. She really benefited from using the charity's resources. After I did a bit of background research into the charity, it was a no brainer. I know first-hand how difficult it can be as a military child. Finding a charity which dedicates all its time to supporting and trying to get the best out of military life for them was so easy for me to get on board with."



## **Month of the Military Child**

April is the international Month of the Military Child and we're inviting families and schools to join in and celebrate with their military children. We have some great plans:

- There will be free online events including Lego workshops, Space Detective and Baking (limited places available). Booking opens on the 1st April 2022.
- You can also download dandelion-themed games, recipes, colouring-in sheets and other activities.
- Free Gift we'll be giving away a free postcard featuring one of the charity's special 'X-Ray of feelings' illustration, which explores some of the unique experiences and emotions associated with being a military child, you can order yours here.

Louise, will be kicking off the month's celebrations with a live Instagram Q&A with professional rugby player Thom Smith on the 4th April at 8pm.

Follow <u>@louiselittletroopers</u> for more details.

To find out more about our Month of the Military Child plans you can click here.



Fundraise February raises over £3,600!

Our brilliant community came together to raise over £3,600 during Fundraise February. We are so grateful to all our supporters, THANK YOU! here are a few highlights from last month:

- Instagram group <u>@ohmymummy</u> set up a small business auction, with lots including craft sets, bath treat and house decorations. The auction raised £353.25.
- Little Trooper Millie Foreman rode her bike throughout February meeting her target of 15 miles. She raised a super £80.
- <u>Christie Bailey's family of four</u> walked, cycled and swam their way through February. They have already raised an incredible £725 and are still collecting.
- Zara, Jasper and Cyrus signed up for <u>Read-a-Thon</u>s, they read lots of books and raised £95.
- Maddy Cane ran walked, skipped and danced her way round 10km of Dishforth Airfield. So far, she has raised an amazing £175.
- On 17th Feb the children at Wendover C of E Junior School wore their pyjamas for the day and raised £552.
- Sales of the beautiful <u>Stanley and Maud</u> bracelet, created especially for Fundraise February, raised £1,130!

"Every penny raise for our charity makes a big difference. We are grateful to all of our supporters who raise money for us throughout the year."

If you would like to fundraise for Little Troopers, we have lots of resources to help you.

Click here to find out more

You can read more about Thom's experience of growing up in the military community here.



Your little trooper can look just like you!

We have created three bespoke, adorable outfits for little troopers to play dress up at home or school.

Whether it is the Army,
Royal Air Force or Royal
Navy you are after, we have outfits available in sizes 3-5
years and 5-7years. You can buy these outfits individually for £22.95 or in a bundle of three for £60.

Click here to visit our <u>Little</u>
<u>Troopers shop</u>.

Little Troopers Treasures FREE story recording app - find out more

Louise's Blog Posts

**Month of the Military Child** 

Little Troopers at Home











Little Troopers at School

If you are a teacher or education setting and missed our recent September school specific newsletter you can catch up HERE

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