



Shock of patients as doctor is suspended from practice

Patients were left asking questions last month when the Cherry Tree Medical Centre in Southern Road, N2, had its licence to practice suspended for six months following inspection by the Care Quality Commission.

The CQC has not made public the reasons for the suspension at the centre, which is led by Dr Sergio de Cesare.

NHS England said patients had been informed of the move and arrangements had been made to keep services running at the centre.

An NHS England letter to patients said Dr De Cesare had been shared the reason for the suspension by the CQC and had been given time to respond to the findings of the inspection.

The letter continued: "In the meantime, our remit has been to ensure the continuity of GP services at the Cherry Tree

Surgery, by putting in place care-taking support."

The GP partners providing the interim service are Dr Anuj Patel and Dr Surendra Patel from the Wentworth Medical Practice.

One patient said she had met Dr De Cesare and he was well, despite the suspension. She said he couldn't tell her what was happening at the medical centre. Another patient described Dr De Cesare as "a brilliant doctor".

Once the CQC has finished its report into the practice and made a final decision it says it will be published on its website www.cqc.org.uk.



Sent packing: Coldfall Primary pupils and headteacher Evelyn Davies organising the aid parcels

Little packages of love

Each month, children at Coldfall Primary School get the chance to choose a core value to be incorporated in all aspects of their daily curriculum.

In February, they chose 'Love' and so they set about putting together packages of aid for refugees trying to survive the harsh winter conditions in camps around Paris and northern France.

The children organised more than 500 SNUG packs, which stands for socks, neckwear, underwear and gloves. Headteacher Evelyn Davies then helped drive them to the collection centre in Calais.

She said: "It's difficult to find initiatives where you can offer grass roots support, but this project has really captured the imagination of the whole

school. We have been discussing the plight of the many thousands of refugees and wanted to find something to help them during the winter months."

Ella Gilmour-Raznick, aged nine, in Swift class, said: "We loved putting together our packs. It made us think about what the person who will be wearing the things we bought will have been through." Coldfall was supporting Help Refugees, a charity started by two British women working with grass roots organisations to get assistance where it is most needed. Find out more at www.helprefugees.org.uk.



Ready, steady, bake! Jane, left, and a fellow cake maker on the MS Society fundraising poster.

Aprons ready! Jane is the face of Cake Break

By Jane Marsh

At the end of last year I received a surprise phone call from the MS (multiple sclerosis) Society. I have been one of the charity's regular supporters for several years, hosting annual Cake Break coffee mornings and raising over £1,700 to date. That represents an awful lot of cake enjoyed by my friends and neighbours over the years!

The call was from the MS Society fundraising team asking if I would like to be the 'face' of Cake Break 2017, appearing on promotional material and the dedicated Cake Break website. I jumped at the chance and spent a fascinating day at a studio photo shoot along with other volunteers and MS Society

staff. It was great fun.

Bake or fake

More than 100,000 people in the UK live with MS and hosting a Cake Break is a great way to support them, entertaining your friends, neighbours or workmates and raising much needed funds.

If, like me, you are interested in hosting a Cake Break, please go to www.cakebreak.org.uk, where you can register to

receive a fundraising pack and access lots of information, recipes and other helpful resources.

The theme for this year's Cake Break is 'bake it or fake it', so don't feel you have to spend hours cooking to have a successful event. You can just as easily buy the cakes you need and your guests will enjoy getting together just as much, knowing they are supporting such an important cause.

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