



## Upcoming dates (Opening hours 10am-3.30pm)



- 18th October - Dads day (for Dads & male carers of disabled children) - Mums also welcome.
- 28th Oct - 1st November - Halloween holiday activities - Please see enclosed holiday planner
- Saturday 8th November - Family Quiet Day - Open to disabled children, their family and friends who prefer a quieter day at Thomley. This was very popular last time so please book soon if you would like to come.
- 29th November - Christmas Craft Fair – See below and the enclosed flyer for details
- 20th December - Thomley's Christmas Party (with Father Christmas and Carols with Thame Festival Choir)
- 23rd December - Christmas holiday activities – open from 10am-3.30pm

24th Dec - 1st Jan - Thomley will be closed for the Christmas and New Year Holidays

- Friday 2nd Jan 09 - Thomley New Year holiday activities (Community day)
- Saturday 3rd Jan 09 - Thomley New Year holiday activities (Although this is the first Saturday of the month we have decided, as we are only open for limited days over the holiday, that the 3rd will be a **disability family day** instead of a second Community day)

Book early to avoid disappointment on 01844 338 380 or [bookings@thomleyhall.org](mailto:bookings@thomleyhall.org)  
If you are coming with fewer than originally booked, please let us know so we can offer places to others.

## Christmas Craft Fair 2008

Join us for our second Christmas Craft Fair, where everyone is welcome, with free admission and an open (but supervised) gate. Last year's craft fair was a huge success (despite the pouring rain), raising over £550 and we would love to beat that total. This year we will be turning the chill out room into a 'food hall' and the art room into the 'crafty corner', so look no further for all your Christmas presents!

Amongst other stalls ranging from cards to crafts, we will again be promoting our colourful winter wellies... so if you haven't already got a pair, now is your chance!



This year we hope to have a mixture of craft, toy, jewellery and food stalls. If you, or anyone you know, would like to hold a stall please contact Milly or Dawn on 01844 338380 or email [milly@thomleyhall.org](mailto:milly@thomleyhall.org) for more information.

## Can you help us??



Firstly, we would love to be able to use our horticultural plot next year, which will enable all families and groups to participate in a variety of gardening activities. However to achieve this, the area is going to need a bit of TLC so we are appealing to all budding gardening enthusiasts to help us!! Our plan is to redesign the area first (any landscape designers out there who might be able to help???) and then next year put the plan into action!!! Any support with skills, time, equipment or money would be much appreciated!!

Secondly, Cecilia has recently reorganised and compiled a catalogue of all the parent books in our library. The catalogue lists and describes all the books we have. We welcome any feedback about the books available as we realise that we may need to update some of them. We also plan to subscribe to publications and would greatly appreciate any recommendations.



### **Pre-School Days**

- 14th October
- 11th November
- 9th December

### **Adult Days**

- 7th October
- 4th November
- 2nd December

### **Dads Day**

- 18th October

### **Quiet Day**

- 8th November

## Summer Update.....



On your marks...get set...go!!! This summer we had a record breaking 1200 children join us for our Olympic theme. We opened the holidays with gigantic bubbles and then each week visited a different Olympic continent, having a go at Mexican tile painting, Italian pizza making, African drumming and lots of different sporting events! Let's not forget our memorable Thomley water fight...which we definitely think should become an annual event!!

We finished off the summer holidays with our Annual Open Day, where we officially opened our (already much loved) cycle track! We were joined by Bryan Steele, Olympic and World Championship Medalist in Cycling, to cut the ribbon and lead the children on a lap of honour!! We raised over £900 on the day and wish to thank everyone who came along or bought raffle tickets before the event.



### Wish list...

- Cakes for the Thomley Christmas Craft Fair
- Toy cars and a wooden toy garage
- Stickle bricks
- Folding wheelchair
- Wicker baskets
- Spare clothes (particularly for older children)
- Reliable kettle
- Gerbil food/bedding or treats!

### Thomley feedback.....

Since our last newsletter we have now finished compiling our next 3 year business plan which has incorporated the common priorities identified within your evaluation feedback. We have put together a summary of the business plan for you all to read (see enclosed). As the evaluation was so successful, we plan to do this each year to enable Thomley to remain family focused. However we value your feedback throughout the year, so please feel free to place any comments in our comments box, which is situated in the playrooms by reception.

### Site Update

We now have a brand new heating system in the playrooms and soft play, so we'll finally be warm this winter! A big thank you to everyone for being patient with the closures during this time and we hope you enjoy a thermal free winter!



### The Great Cross Country Run by our 'Thomley Hares'

For those who couldn't join us for the open day, we thought we'd let you know about 2 fantastic guys who are planning to run nearly 500 miles across Europe, hoping to raise upwards of £20,000 for Thomley!!!

Ed Nieberg and Ben Halliwell (who we have affectionately nicknamed the Thomley Hares!) are two friends from South Oxfordshire who have decided to take on this huge challenge, running almost 33 miles every day for two weeks! They plan to tackle four different countries, starting from Amsterdam and travelling via Brussels, Calais, and finishing in Oxfordshire.....hopefully having enough energy to end up at Thomley!!

They are currently in training for the expedition, which will take place in August/September 2009. Please show your support for both Thomley and these lovely people by visiting their web-site at [www.thegreatcrosscountryrun.co.uk](http://www.thegreatcrosscountryrun.co.uk) and contributing to their fundraising total.

Next year we are thinking of organising a number of sponsored events ...to make 2009 one to remember!! Let us know if you, or anyone you know would like (or can be roped in!) to get involved or organise an event on behalf of Thomley.

### HOW TO CONTACT US



[www.thomleyhall.org](http://www.thomleyhall.org)

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