



Well straight back into a new term and we're slowly getting back into the swing of things after a very busy summer and already starting to think about Christmas! Although the newsletters cover all important information, please remember that our website also has all current information on prices, closures and activities! We look forward to seeing you all soon.



Important changes at Thomley - Revision of recommended donations

In response to your feedback given in the summer evaluation, we will be increasing the recommended donations for visits to Thomley from the **1st October 2009**. These are as follows;

Daily donations -

- £6 for 1 child per day
- £12 for 2 children per day plus £1 for each additional sibling (e.g. a family of 3 children would be £13)
- We do not request a donation for children less than 2 years of age; however we do request a minimal donation of £6 per family
- Any child attending as a friend of the family is encouraged to offer a separate donation



Annual memberships -

- £110 for individual child
- £220 for 2 children (plus an extra £10 for each additional sibling)

N.B Recommended donations are flexible and families will not be turned away if costs are prohibitive. Please feel free to discuss with us if this applies to you.

Important information

Evaluation feedback... Your responses are helping us to evaluate the past year and future plans, thank you. We will provide a summary of your responses in the next newsletter

Remembering your booking dates... We are very pleased that many of you are now regular Thomley visitors. As a result school holidays are extremely busy. Although we do recommend you book early, over the summer we found that many families either forgot the dates they had booked, or failed to cancel their booking if they were no longer able to come. Consequently **239 children** on our waiting list missed their opportunity to enjoy summer activities at Thomley.

We appreciate the difficulty in remembering to call, especially if related to family illness or an emergency, however your spaces would enable other children to visit instead... so please remember to let us know if you are unable to come.

Group bookings... As detailed in the last newsletter, our group bookings procedure has now changed. For more information on booking requirements, please visit the website.

Complaints and concerns... Over the summer, a few families raised concerns regarding issues that had effected their overall visit, primarily conflict between ages and unsupervised children. We strive to resolve any issues brought to our attention and encourage families to let us know if they are unhappy or concerned. If any issues arise during your visit causing concern to you or someone else, or if a child needs to be more closely monitored by a parent/carer, please find a member of staff. We will aim to resolve any issue immediately.

Upcoming dates

Open 10am-3.30pm

October Holidays

Tuesday 27th Oct -
Saturday 31st Oct

Pre-School Days

13th October
10th November

Adult Days

6th October
3rd November

Quiet Days (Max 30)

26th September
31st October
28th November

Teenage Day

Tuesday 27th October
(younger siblings welcome)

Dads Day

3rd October (open to all)

If you are coming with fewer than originally booked, please let us know so we can offer your place to others.



Summer holidays and Open day!

With giant tortoises and bubbles, carnival painting and drumming, summer at Thomley was as busy and exciting as ever! Whether we were inside or out, the weather didn't stop us having lots of fun and adventure. With our theme of 'Days Out', we had a range of workshops, sports, arts and craft making each trip to Thomley unique, whilst families enjoyed the usual soft play, sensory room and cycle track. We were also able to buy a brand new range of bikes and helmets for all different ages... so if you haven't already tried our 1km cycle track, now's the time!

We finished the summer holidays with our Annual Open Day, where we welcomed 'Edd & Ben the Marathon Men home from running 12 marathons in 13 days to raise over £10,000 for Thomley. Its not too late to sponsor them on www.justgiving.com/thegreatcrosscountry, we think they deserve it! The Open Day raised over £1,200 and we were lucky enough to have all day sunshine! Erm... we did however forget to draw the pound in a bucket... but the lucky winner was Nicki Barnard!



Christmas Craft Fair - Saturday 21st November - 11am-3pm

Join us for our third Christmas Craft Fair where everyone is welcome, with free admission and an open (but supervised) gate. Over the past 2 years, we have raised more than £1,500 from our craft fairs. These have proved to be a great day out, with all our usual activities plus lots of stalls ranging from cards, cakes to crafts. We will turn the chill out room into a 'food hall' and the art room into a 'crafty corner'... so look no further for all your Christmas presents and stocking fillers!



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 on 01844 338380 or email milly@thomleyhall.org for more information.

Wish list...

- Coin counting machine
- Small fridge
- Fire resistant sofa's
- Gazebo / Marquee
- Industrial floor cleaner/scrubber!
- Hand mixer
- Double knitting wool
- Chicken wire
- Old carpet
- Picnic rugs
- Folding tables
- Ear muffs
- Plain cotton fabric / old bed sheets

A massive thank you to everyone for all donations recently received

Horticultural area update...

We've finally been able to get underway with the garden project, with lots of help from some very wonderful individuals!!! A Thomley parent (who is also a landscaper) has helped get the project off the ground, alongside our garden designer Chrissie. We also had amazing support from our local Co-op group (in Oxford) who came over 2 days, with 7 volunteers in total. We've made an excellent start but there is still lots (and lots!) to do...so if you have any spare time or gardening resources, we'd love to hear from you.

Admin volunteers needed...

Do you have competent skills in administration and use of computers? Even better, do you have fundraising and/or PR skills? If so, please contact Claire on claire@thomleyhall.org

Borrowing books...

Thomley has many useful resource books intended for use by parents/carers. We have now published the 'Library Catalogue' on the website detailing titles and a description of each publication... <http://thomleyactivitycentre.org/visitor-resources/parents-corner/>

Thomley Baby News!!!!!!!

A massive congratulations to Dawn, who gave birth to, Bess, a beautiful baby girl on Sunday 13th September. Hopefully you will see them when they visit... we are all looking forward to a cuddle.

HOW TO CONTACT US



www.thomleyhall.org

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