



Important reminders

Please be aware that Thomley will be opening from **11am** on Sat 19th June and 3rd July due to staff training. Thomley will also be **closed** between the **2nd - 10th September** for essential maintenance and will reopen on Saturday 11th September for the Community Day.



2010 bookings and proposed changes



Thank you for your patience in receiving the 2010 summer planner. We are aware that many days are already full or have limited space available due to pre bookings. We understand that this can be very frustrating but Thomley has become increasingly popular. We have decided to create more fair and accessible booking procedures for 2011 which will be published in the next newsletter. Future bookings for 2011 will not be taken until these procedures have been implemented, to ensure that our systems support the increasing levels of bookings and enquires.

As the centre is so busy, we have also noticed that many families do not benefit from workshops in the holidays. Consequently we plan to offer workshops on occasional Saturdays throughout the year... so watch this space.

As highlighted in previous newsletters, we have decided to change the way community days (inc. toddler days) are organised. Part of Thomley's ethos is to **'raise awareness about disability'**, by encouraging disabled and non disabled children to play together. In order to achieve this, we have decided to **implement a ratio of community families: disability families** to ensure integration and learning. From January 2011, we will offer 30 spaces to disabled children and their siblings and 30 spaces to community families on these days. Booking procedures on these days will also be detailed in the next newsletter.

Upcoming dates

Open 10am-3.30pm

Summer Holidays

Wed 21st July - Wed 1st September

Pre-School Days

13th July & 10th Aug

Adult Days

6th July, 3rd Aug & 24th Aug

Quiet Days (Max 30)

26th June & 31st July

Teenage Day

27th July, 14th Aug & 31st Aug

Dads Day

21st Nov (All families)

If your booking changes, please let us know.

Fond farewell from Milly.....

It is with great sadness that, after nearly 5 years at Thomley, I am leaving in July for pastures new. Not just any old place though...I'm hopefully moving to Florida for a year! My husband has been offered a wonderful job out there and we have decided that this is an opportunity not to be missed. It has been an amazing privilege to watch the children and the centre grow up over the years and to have been part of so many special moments within the families' lives. Thank you to all who have made my time at Thomley full of laughter and smiles.

With lots of love & hugs *Milly* xx



P.S As my last day will be 22nd July, why not join us for bubbles, bouncy castle and fancy dress??

As a result of recent staffing changes we are now recruiting for 2 new posts.....



Activity Centre Manager (Full-time, £25,000 - 28,000)

As a competent service manager with significant experience of working with young disabled people and their families, you will manage the daily operations and staffing of the centre, and develop strategies for future services.



HR and Health & Safety Coordinator (Full-time, £22,000 - 25,000)

With significant generalist personnel experience, you will ensure compliance with personnel and health & safety legislation; undertake administrative procedures relating to recruitment and daily staffing; optimise volunteer opportunities; develop and deliver training programmes.

Closing date: 02.07.10.

For details see: <http://thomleyactivitycentre.org/about-us/staff-vacancies/> or contact Claire on 01844 338380

June Holidays - West End Shows

From Queen to Mamma Mia, we rocked the June holidays with themed activities from popular Broadway shows including Lion King, Wicked and Stomp! Highlights from the holidays included the 'Grease' style car race around the site, costume designs and dress up with Di (although I think the staff enjoyed this workshop just as much!), variety of outdoor sports including kwik cricket, football and Mary Poppins parachute games!



Site Update



Sand pit.....

Our new outdoor sandpit had it's first trial run over the last holiday, proving to be one of our most popular new additions! All of our families got completely stuck in, creating fabulous sculptures, castles and holes! From the experiences over the holiday, it is **essential** that all children and young people using the sandpit **must** be supervised by a parent/carer. Please let a member of staff know if children are playing unsupervised in this area, to enable us to keep everyone safe.

Horticulture area.....We now have running water and a brand new wheelchair accessible potting table! Next stop, wedding and paving....so keep your eyes peeled for new developments in this area!



We've reached our target!!



Thank you to all those who have saved and contributed towards this year's Tesco scheme and I'm very pleased to report that, even after a slow start and only 2 months to save, we've reached our target of 10,000...so we can now order everything off our wish list!!



Christmas Craft Fair - Saturday 13th November



Look no further for all your Christmas presents and stocking fillers!!!

After last year's success, we hope to have a mixture of craft, toy, jewellery and food stalls for 2010. If you, or anyone you know, would like to hold a stall please contact Dawn on 01844 338380 or email dawn@thomleyhall.org for more information.

Fundraising Update.....

We would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to the pupils and staff of Cokethorpe Junior School in Witney who recently took part in a sponsored walk in aid of Thomley and the Footsteps Foundation. Collecting a sticker at each half kilometre checkpoint, one child managed twelve and a half kilometres in the hour and the youngest children managed three and a half kilometres each. The total distance covered by staff and pupils was an amazing 460 miles - further than from Cokethorpe to Paris!



The final amount raised was a fantastic £2800 and Maureen Marchbank who organised the school event said, *"The children really enjoyed the challenge and were even more thrilled to be able to hand over cheques of £1400 each to our two chosen charities."*

This months wish list...

- ★ Parasols
- ★ Petrol mower
- ★ Plastic animals
- ★ Guitar
- ★ Headphones
- ★ Double knitting wool
- ★ Toaster for gluten free food
- ★ Plain cotton / old bed sheets
- ★ Sturdy sand pit toys inc. spades
- ★ Plastic storage boxes
- ★ Wooden style picnic tables
- ★ **Lots of cakes for our open day!**



Art in Action - Traffic warning

Each year we warn families about the Art in Action weekend held at Waterperry (nr Wheatley). This year the event is from **Thursday 15th July – Sunday 18th July.**

We recommend that you take an alternative route if you are visiting us over that weekend.

Refreshments...

We're now ordering refreshments on line and would like to know if there are any products you'd like to see available in the kitchen, specifically for dietary requirements. If so, please email cecilia@thomleyhall.org



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