



Happy new year!

A very happy new year to all families, groups and schools from everyone at Thomley. Hopefully the bad weather stays away and we'll see you all very soon at Thomley 😊

Apology for Christmas period

As I'm sure most of you know, Thomley's opening hours were hit badly by the adverse weather, and unfortunately we were unable to open for the Christmas party and the further 4 scheduled days. The vast amount of snow and ice weren't the only prevention to us opening; lack of water and frozen pipes adding to an icy site meant we unfortunately couldn't open. A big apology to all families and groups who were booked in, and please don't hesitate to re-book yourselves in for the new year.



Volunteer receptionist



We are looking for 1 or more volunteers with exceptionally good people skills as well as strong administrative and computer skills. Selection will be based on a brief interview and basic computer skills.

Please contact Stan Nieburg for more information. stan@thomleyhall.org

Key roles are:

- To welcome and support all visitors to Thomley, direct new visitors to full-time staff for a tour of the Centre and explanation relevant health and safety issues
- To be responsible for all signing in and booking procedures for families and database entries whilst on duty

ASD Awareness Day

Bucks Activity Project are using Thomley as a venue for an "Autism awareness day" on February 13th 2011, raising awareness about the work of BAP and Oasis. Bucks Activity Project will fill 30 spaces so we therefore have 30 left for you to enjoy.

If your child has ASD and you'd like to find out more then please call the office or email joe@thomleyhall.org to book in.

Opening hours are 10am-3:30pm and all the regular Thomley Activities will be on offer. Families and siblings are all welcome.

Saturdays at Thomley



We now are using the regular Saturday planner which is on the back of the February Half term planner...Please call or email to book before attending.

Just a reminder to families that the first Saturday of the month is a Community Saturday and now has a ratio of 50% disability families and 50% non-disability families, and the last Saturday of the month is a Quiet Day; both of these may be booked a month in advance. For other Saturdays families can book more than a month in advance and these are often great days for new families and regular families to come and play in a safe, friendly environment.

Disability Dads Day



Come and join us on Sunday 20th March for the first Dads Day of the year where Adam will be running various open sports workshops! Whether your favourite sport is football, rugby, or cricket Adam will ensure everyone's favourite is covered! All normal Thomley activities will still be on offer if sport isn't your thing!

We will also have a lunch time barbeque including hot dogs, burgers and vegetarian hot dogs. We encourage the children to also bring their friends and their Dads along too!

We are now taking bookings, please email Joe on joe@thomleyhall.org to book your space or call the office.

Upcoming dates

Open 10am-3.30pm

Pre-School Days

8th February

8th March

Adult Days

1st February

1st March

Quiet Days (Max 30)

29th January

26th February

Teenage Day

21st February

Community Day

5th February

5th March

25th February

Dads Day

20th March

ASD Awareness Day

13th February

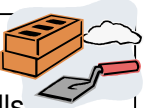
February Half term

21st February - 26th

February

If your booking changes, please let us know.

Building update



You will not recognise the Manor Hall as the entire ground floor has been completely gutted, walls moved and entire room layouts changed. It is beginning to take shape and we can already see the much more logical room layout and the expansive width of our new rooms. We hope to be able to open this new teenage facility in May meaning that our upper age limit will be extended to 19 years. Please spread the word that once completed, the spacious toilets will comply with Changing Spaces guidelines, fully equipped with a ceiling hoist, height adjustable changing bed & accessible shower etc. We can't wait to let you see it!

Makaton training

Thomley is offering training opportunities for professionals and carers, to access Makaton Training that will enable you to support young people with additional communication needs. This is a two day beginners course including manual, booklet and group discussions covering alternative ideas regarding communication. The course is running on Wednesday 9th and Wednesday 16th February from 9:30am until 3pm and the cost is £30 per candidate. To book a place please call Hayley on 01844 338380 or email her on hayley@thomleyhall.org. In the near future we will also be offering some drop in sessions to parents wishing to learn the basics of Makaton.

Please contact Hayley if this is of interest to you.

School awareness / questionnaires

For all schools who have and haven't visited Thomley in the last year, please could you fill out the attached "Schools Questionnaire". We are aiming to increase our term time usage and improve the service we offer to Schools by relating more to the school curriculum. The more feedback we get from you now will help us with ideas to suit the needs of Schools visiting us in the future. Please could all schools return questionnaires to the Thomley address or email to joe@thomleyhall.org



Calling all young people!

☆ If you interested in giving ☆ us some ideas about the new teenage space then please speak to a member of staff on your next visit or add your thoughts to the comments box in the Art room. Alternatively you could send us an email.

Royal wedding

Thomley will be closed on April 29th and 30th due to the bank holiday weekend for Prince William's royal wedding. We therefore have no Quiet Day in April 2011.

Important on site information

Please find attached the 2011 important on site information. If you could read through this before your next visit to Thomley as there are a few minor changes to last year.

February Half term

We are open for February half term from Monday 21st - Saturday 26th. It is **essential that you book** and if you need to make a change to your booking please remember to let us know as soon as possible.

Thank you!

A big thank you to Paul Kimber who is one of the contractors involved in the manor hall refurbishment project. He was so inspired by Thomley that he has signed up to run the Reading half marathon on March 20th for us. Paul has a fundraising page where you can support his fundraising efforts for Thomley.
www.justgiving.com/Paul-Kimber

Home Schooling

Thomley is interested in providing a support day for all home schooling parents and their children...If you are interested in meeting other parents please contact Thomley and if there is a demand we will include this in our term time planner for you.



This months wish list...

We now regularly update our wish list online!

Please visit <http://thomleyactivitycentre.org/support-us/> to see if you can tick anything off of our list!

Reminders

- ☆ To make a booking please call the office or email Joe on joe@thomleyhall.org
- ☆ To discuss fundraising or if you have any links with a company who might be interested in supporting us in some way, then please call the office or email Ruth on ruth@thomleyhall.org
- ☆ We will be going through all of our lost property, and whatever isn't claimed by the end of January we will keep clothes as spares or donate to a local charity shop...So if you think you've left something here please check soon!



Happy New Year to you all from the Thomley team!



HOW TO CONTACT US
www.thomleyhall.org

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