



Newsletter December 2009

Coulsdon & Woodcote Extended Services Team

Childcare



What is going on in the **Children's Centres?**

Byron and **Chipstead Valley** are fast becoming hubs for families with 0-5 year olds. They are not just for their own schools but for all local families. They host clinics, health visitors, family learning, free stay and play sessions and varied activities for parents as well as the children.

Byron host their Christmas party on Wednesday 16th Dec. 12.00 - 1.30 p.m. The very popular Mother Christmas will make an appearance again this year and there will be activities for the whole family. Tel. 020 8763 6285.

Chipstead Valley's Christmas party is Friday 18th Dec. 12.00-2.00 p.m. Spud and Yam will entertain the children. Call for more info. Tel. 01737.551597.

Both centres actively encourage input from parents on the services they offer. Your views are important so ask at the office about meetings and social events. Children's Centres are developing partnerships with parents and the local community to ensure their services are relevant for their families.

For information on local childcare, children's centres, and Croydon's Family Information Service all of our schools now have their own **Childcare Information Point**. Please ask at the office if you do not see it on display in your school.

Woodcote Primary School is now offering a **breakfast club**. For bookings contact the school office.

Chipstead Valley after school club is now welcoming children from neighbouring schools subject to availability.

Parenting Support

Byron hosted their second **Bring a Family Man to School Day** on 18th June and twenty nine men joined their children for the event.

Amber - "I loved it because the dads came in and my dad helped me to make the pirate ships".



Coulsdon CofE Primary School bravely followed suit by hosting their first event of its kind during Family Learning Week on 6th October. A whopping forty three men took part! One parent quoted *"Best five hours that I've spent this year!"*

Look out for the new **CWEST Notice Boards** which are now in almost all of our schools and Children's Centres. Close to the front entrances of each school. This is where you will find info about all extended services activities including after school clubs, holiday clubs, childcare, parenting support, community events and children's centre news.

Supporting Families through the Recession provides practical strategies and support to manage lifestyle changes and challenges. Counselling, life coach

workshops and community grants programmes. Call 087002222700 if you would like more information.

Croydon Drop In offers a huge range of support for young people aged 11-25 yrs. Young people or parents can talk in confidence by calling 020 8680 0404, email enquiries@croydondropin.org.uk or call at 132 Church Street, Croydon.

Smooth Moves to the Next School Stage

If you would like to find out ways to support your child as they move from one school to another we can help. A series of support sessions can give you ideas to make your child's transition from one school to another as smooth as possible, and give them the best chance possible to settle into their new school.

Varied Menu of Activities



Woodcote High School has now expanded to be an 11 - 18yrs school. This is to meet the demands of the community for the school to provide 6th form education for local students.

The school has created a new **6th Form Learning Centre** and is planning a **new tented style Sportshall**. These assets will allow even more opportunities for the local community to access the school for out of hours learning.

Projects in development will be a **Youth Cafe, ICT courses** and further fitness facilities.

The **Community Fitness Centre** is still excellent value for money. As well as the fitness suite there are circuits, spinning and pilates classes. Pop along and see for yourselves. Mon to Fri 4.30 - 9.00 p.m., Sats 10 - 2.00 p.m. Call 0208 660 6464 ext. 271 for bookings and enquiries.

Oasis academy

:coulsdon is now a fully-

inclusive, **Science & Technology with Business & Enterprise specialist Academy**, catering for students aged 11-16. The Sixth Form will open in September 2011. Oasis is undergoing a significant refurbishment programme over the next couple of years.

Sixteen local student leaders drew inspiration from Westminster recently before helping draw up a slice of education policy for their own Academy.

Following a tour of the Houses of Parliament, bumping into Lord Alan Sugar in the lobby and watching the leader of the House of Commons take his seat, students contributed to a document that will set the agenda for how Academies are shaped in the future.

The students, also met one of their local MP's Richard Ottaway at Westminster Central Hall after being led round the Houses of Parliament on tours provided for them by their host, Joan Ryan, Labour MP for Enfield North. Mr Ottaway commented "I was delighted to meet bright vibrant young people who are part of a success story."

One student commented, "The Houses of Parliament really do have the X factor. It made us realise what heritage we have and how we can aspire to greater things for ourselves. We have the potential to have the butterfly impact and we will aim to bring change for the benefit of everyone in and around our Academy."

Past CWEST Projects

Last Easter some of our children took part in a **Media Medley project hosted by Crystal Palace Study Support Centre**. The children were taught how to use Apple Mac technology to create movies and story boards and were treated to a tour of the stadium and given family tickets to a match.

Also over the Easter holidays **Woodcote High School** offered a very popular **drama workshop**.



Our **CWEST Summer Scheme, UR Special**, took place over three weeks of the summer holidays. The children enjoyed performing arts, photography and music and parents joined the children to make smoothies and pizzas, enjoy some massage, showcases and hear inspirational speakers. Big Lottery funding enabled us to offer UR Special free of charge to families. Look out for news of our summer scheme for 2010 on the CWEST notice boards.

Family Learning Week took place in October and we hosted two family fun events at Rotary Field, Purley and Grange Park, Coulsdon. Activities included t. shirt making, clay model making, various giant games, inflatable football and slides.

Following on from **Woodcote Primary's** successful after school **family cookery** course they bravely hosted twenty four families for a larger event. The hall was filled with families making fruit kebabs together. A parent commented *"This is great. Well organised and fun. Children had a great time and nice it was school based"*.

Both the libraries and the children's centres offered a variety of activities including local story telling sessions, circus games and lots of craft activities.

Chipstead Valley Primary School still offer an extensive range of swimming lessons and Aqua-fit. Pick up a programme from the school or tel. 07864.583906.



Diary Date

Family Learning Week 2010 8th - 16th Oct. Any ideas?

Swift & Easy Access to Specialist Referral

Extended Services work as part of multi agency teams to offer youth early support. Children and young people can, where appropriate, be referred to more specialised services.

Community Cohesion

We work closely as a partnership of schools to create community cohesion whereby the whole community benefit from the spread of specialist provision within our local community. We also link with local business, adult learning, libraries and City of London open spaces. If you feel inspired and have any ideas for our schools community please let us know.



Please cut this section, complete it and return it to your child's school.

What you think about CWest projects?

	<i>Good/Not so Good</i>	<i>Would like similar again?</i>	<i>Other comments</i>
Bring a Family Man to School Day			
Crystal Palace Media Medley			
UR Special Summer Scheme			
PAYP			
Drama			
Family Cookery			
Family Learning Week Activities / Farthing Downs Fun Day			
Cineclub			
Filmclub			
Salsa/Yoga			
Orchestra			
Cycling			
KickLondon at Grange Park			

Please tell us what other types of holiday activities or projects you would like to see locally

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Now please return this slip to your school office as soon as possible. Thank you

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