



# RIVERSMEET CONSORTIUM OF EXTENDED SCHOOLS

## NEWS

AUTUMN 2010, ISSUE 8

### Welcome....

...to the first newsletter of the academic year and our third year as a consortium of schools. We hope you and your children enjoyed a good summer break– despite the lack of sunshine! All those children who attended any of our activities certainly seemed to have fun- as is evident from the photos and feedback below. Overleaf you will find details of activities for this term. We hope we have something for everyone but if you would like to have the chance to influence the activities we offer please join us at our Parent’s Forum in November.



### That was the summer that was....

A busy programme of activities was available to all children and young people across our area. Activities offered by our partners included Playschemes at William Penn and Yorke Mead, Multisports with Apex at Harvey Road and St John’s, football with Watford FC’s CSE Trust and a range of adventurous activities for secondary pupils with Connexions. As a consortium, our offer included the ever popular Animals About encounters, art and craft sessions with Lizzie Reakes and a range of drama workshops with HENS theatre group. We are aware that there are still some families in our area who did not receive information about these activities, or who received it too late to make a booking– if this is you, *please* let us know!



Painting on Canvas was super fun and creative!



Animals about was absolutely awesome!



Hannah Montana was really good and I want to do it next time!

### NEWS FROM OUR CHILDREN’S CENTRES

- **Rickmansworth Children’s Centre, Shepherd Primary School-** now in its third year the centre goes from strength to strength, with 2 outreach workers now in post supporting local families. Services include a drop in session at Maple Cross Primary, a monthly dad’s group on Saturday mornings and Baby Massage.
- **Chorleywood and Loudwater, Chorleywood Library-** the centre was officially opened on Saturday 11th September. As well as running services across the community, you can now visit them at any time at their new office in the library.
- **Croxley Green-** whilst the building of the centre is yet to start at Yorke Mead, the centre manager, Delia Morris and their outreach worker, Vicky Greig, are busy running services across the area and offering families one to one support.

**Visit their websites for details on everything they offer– find the links on our website!**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS– AUTUMN 2010

ACTIVITY	DATE & TIME	VENUE
<b>Cyber Safety</b> Information sessions for parents on keeping your children safe	Wednesday 22nd September, 7.00– 8.00pm Thursday 23rd September, 7.00– 8.00pm	Christ Church C of E School, Chorleywood St John's R.C. Primary School, Mill End
<b>Family Fun Afternoons</b>	Saturdays, 2.00– 4.00pm 25th September 23rd October 27th November	Harvey Road Primary School Maple Cross JMI School St John's R.C. Primary School
<b>Getting Together Event</b> Advice from professionals– no appointment or referral needed	Wednesday 17th November, 5.30– 7.30pm *Please note the new time	Harvey Road Primary School
<b>Dealing with Anger Workshop for parents</b>	Wednesdays, 7.00– 8.30pm 3 weeks, starting 6th October	
<b>Supporting children through loss Workshop for Parents</b>	Mondays, 7.00– 8.30pm 3 weeks, starting 8th November	Rickmansworth School
<b>Parent's Forum</b>	Tuesday 9th November, Refreshments from 7.00pm, meeting to start at 7.30pm	

**FOR MORE DETAILS ON ALL THESE, INCLUDING BOOKING DETAILS, AND SO MUCH MORE...**

[www.hertsextendedschools.org.uk/riversmeet](http://www.hertsextendedschools.org.uk/riversmeet)

### **Message from your Extended Schools Coordinator:**

As I move in to my fourth year as the coordinator for the consortium I am confident we are now getting more right than we do wrong. That said I am aware that there are many of you who feel we are still not offering the activities or services you and your family would like to see. If this is you, please join us at our forum in November. As well as giving us the chance to meet with you and find out what you'd like us to offer, it also offers you the opportunity to meet parents from other local schools, to share experiences and ideas. See below for details.

Our fourth year also sees a fourth person join Tania, Judith and me. Preeti Mehta will offer us all valuable administrative support and will handle all activity bookings, so may well be in contact with many of you. As ever, please check our website or get in touch if you'd like any more information on anything at all Extended Schools' related!

**Best wishes, Helen**

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### **Parents' Forum– Wednesday 10th November, from 7.00pm**

**We promise this won't be nearly as formal as its title may suggest!** The aim of the forum is to bring as many parents from as many different schools together. We hope this will give us the chance to hear your thoughts on all things Extended Schools' related, but specifically about the type of activities and services you'd like us to run and when and where! It will also give you the chance to share fundraising ideas, agree dates for your PTA events to avoid clashes and celebrate your successes! Whatever your background, interest, school, age or gender please do join us! We plan to meet every half term but don't ask you to commit to anything. The venue for our first meeting is confirmed to be 'The Elton John Suite' at Vicarage Road Stadium. Please call Helen or Tania on 01923 726923 for more details or to let us know you're coming– this is important so we can plan refreshments!