

1,000 likes
One year
membership



Issue 11

Parallel London team raise over £3,000...



A team of 26 people, Thomley staff, friends and families took part in a wheel, walk or run covering up to 10km.

Based at the Olympic Park in London, this was the world's first mass participation running event - and what an inspiring day it turned out to be.

Not only did all our team take part over various distances, they managed to raise a collective profit of over £3,000.

Parallel had something for everyone, a sensory trail, various stalls and information tents to support disabled people, music - a proper festival vibe. What an amazing day we had.

A massive thanks to all of those who sponsored our participants, and of course, the participants themselves for being a part of it - same again next year!!

Upcoming workshops...



Viking Day Saturday 8th October

Not a normal day at Thomley! The Noremen will descend on Thomley and the Hwitemearum re-enactment Group will show us what it was like to live as Vikings. You will be split into three groups when you arrive after a briefing. You will then take part in three different workshops in your groups before lunch.

Lunch: Bring traditional Viking food - Bread (crusty rolls or flat breads) - Meat: Beef, Ham, Chicken, Sausages - Veg: Beetroot, Carrot, Celery, Lettuce, Onions, Radish, Mushrooms, Cucumber - Fruit: Apples, Pears, Blackberries, Strawberries, Plums, Peaches - Sweets: Scotch pancakes, Oatmeal biscuits, Flapjack

The Ball pool and Playrooms will be open at lunchtime only to play in – locked either side of this period.

After lunch everyone will meet up and watch a presentation on Weapons & War. There will then be a drill session for everyone outside – weather permitting.

Finally a question and answer half an hour at the end.

Giant bubbles

4th, 5th, 6th, 22nd Oct & 12th Nov

Can you blow a bubble that's bigger than you??

Music Workshop

24th October

Join music therapist Dave Noble as we make music together and even get to take home the CD!

Lantern making

27th & 28th October

Help us make lanterns spelling the word 'Thomley' for our pavilion launch - great wood workshop with the ever-popular Paul.

Pumpkin Workshop

28th & 29th October

Bring your own pumpkin and we will help you carve it ready for Halloween!

Summer Holidays...

Thank you to all 1,200 young people and their families who came to visit us over the summer - it was great to catch up with you all!

From the great successes of camping on an early summer evening, hanging out at our weekly summer youth group, blowing huge bubbles at our bubble workshops, to our family "Moustache bash" fun day, it has been a memorable summer.

It's also been great to hear your feedback about our new additions to our staff and volunteer team. Highlighting your views have really helped us to continue to develop our service and plan the changes in future, to make your visits even more special.

We will be posting pictures and plans for how we see the outdoor play space being developed. We will provide a variety of ways for you to tell us what you think too.

We look forward to seeing you throughout the rest of 2016 and hearing your feedback about the changes we are making to site.



And the NEW champion...

Last year's champion Calvin Cooper has been knocked off of his thrown and the new go-kart champion for summer 2016 is.....Harry Green! Congratulations! Below is a photo of the man himself as he started that memorable lap. For signed copies of this photo please contact Harry's agent directly.



Message from Hayley...



For those of you who aren't aware I will be finishing my time at Thomley in November after working here since 2010. To think that five years has passed simply amazes me!

There have been highs and lows along this journey and one or two stories to tell, but I would like to say a massive thank you to all the families, young people and adults for letting me be a part of your lives over the last five years and for making my role so rewarding and fun. I would like to also thank my amazing play work team of both staff and volunteers who have supported

me to create an environment and provide activities that are inclusive, creative and unique for each individual. I look forward to seeing you in October Half Term which will be my last week of working with you all. I will miss Thomley and all who visit and support us, but I wish you a future that is... in the words of a Hayley... Awesome!!!

Staff changes...

The team here has been very busy since our last email and here are some staff changes we thought you would like to know about.

Claire has now left Thomley to do something different, we of course wish her well in her new pursuits.

Hayley has decided that she all needs to take some time for herself and family. She will be finishing with us on the 1st November. We do hope to see her here from time to time and not lose touch completely.

This means that you will see some new faces:

Lee (pictured) has recently joined us as our new full time receptionist.

She has worked across a number of organisations and brings with her great skills and has that personal experience of disability. No doubt, you will get to know her, introduce yourself on your next visit!



Kelly – will be joining us on the 26th September as Trust and Major Donor Fundraiser. She will mainly work from home but she will spend time here to introduce herself. Kelly comes with a wide breadth of experience in all aspects of fundraising.

Colin – will be joining us on the 17th October as a Partnership Manager Fundraiser. He will be based between Thomley and home and likewise will spend time to introduce himself. Colin also comes with a wide breadth of experience in all aspects of fundraising especially in the corporate arena.

See some not new faces but in a new role!

Joe – who has been doing our marketing and PR work and is face behind our Facebook page will take over the role of Service Manager from Hayley when she finishes in at the end of October. He would welcome your ideas on how best to develop the play and leisure activities so please do let him have your ideas.

Please join us in saying congratulations and a warm welcome to Thomley.

The pavilion is now nearing the final stages, how exciting!

As you see, we are now getting there. We are on track for the building to be completed by the 7th November. It should be ready for use shortly thereafter, just let us get some of those niggling snagging issues out of the way first! We would like to use this space to provide small concerts, shows, etc. If you have any ideas or connections that could help us achieve this, please let me know. It is also available for birthday parties should this be of interest to you.



Countdown to the launch...

The launch of the pavilion (as we've told you many times!) is on Saturday 26th November. There will be two events on the day, our Christmas Market from 10am-3pm and an evening of celebration from 7pm-9:30pm.

There are roughly 40 stalls in the daytime, with lots of fantastic activities, a talk from Paul Isaac and of course Santa is here in his very own grotto. This is a free event and we hope to see lots of you there!

We are now inviting families to reserve a place at the evening function too. Everyone is welcome, however we need to know in advance for numbers. So if you would like to come and enjoy a drink, some nibbles, music, speeches and maybe some carefully selected fireworks, then please get in touch with Joe to reserve your places on:
joe@thomley.org.uk or 01844 338380.