

# Our Place

## Issue 14



### We made the news; BBC Oxford showcase our work...

Early this March we held a family night which consisted of a Cartoon Workshop by Clive Goddard and an Autism Conference by Paul Isaacs. It was a fantastic evening, enjoyed by new and regular visitors of Thomley.

BBC Oxford came along and filmed all aspects of the evening, including talking with families and explaining the purpose of Thomley, and the impact of our new pavilion.

**Paul's next talk will be about 'Autism and Education' on Friday 19th May**



To view the clip, go on our Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfThomley>

# Upcoming workshops...



**Henry's Diablo Skills**  
Monday 3rd April, 1:30pm & Saturday 22nd April, 1:30pm  
Henry did some circus training, check out how good he is and have a go yourself!

**Giant Bubble Play**  
Tue 4th, Wed 5th, Wed 19th, Sat 29th April  
Sat 13th May  
Giant bubbles for everyone, have a go yourself too with the help of our staff.

**Cricket workshop with Will**  
Friday 7th April, 2pm



**Ignite Sport**  
Tri Golf, Saturday 8th April, 1-2pm  
Also here on Saturday 6th May  
Ever had a go at tri golf? Have a try!

**Hockey workshop with Tom**  
Monday 10th April, 2pm  
Learn individual and team skills, then put them into practice in a match!

**Football Coaching with Joe**  
Tuesday, 11th and 18th April  
11am-12pm & 1-2pm  
Joe will take football skills for all ages followed by afternoon games, please pre-book!



**Animal workshop**  
Tuesday, 11th April, 1-3pm  
Come and see a variety of exotic animals!

**Rugby workshop with Will**  
Friday 14th April, 1pm  
How far can you pass, kick, and run with the ball? Put Will to the test.

**Soundabout**  
Saturday 20th May  
Please book your music session in advance

**Multi-sports with Tom**  
Friday 21st April  
Our playworker Tom will take a Multi-sports session, from 11am-12pm & 2-3pm.

# Exciting new equipment...

## Trampoline

After years of asking, we finally will be getting a trampoline. We thank you for your patience, and more importantly your feedback - especially the feedback we recently received on Facebook - lots of you commented and made it clear we needed to get one that was built into the ground.

Well, we have now bought one of these which is VERY exciting! With special thanks to a family of ours, Julie, Jim and Amy. Who donated towards the trampoline in memory of Amy's grandfather, Bert Hinton.

The trampoline will be in by the end of April, but it may just get done in time for Easter. This will be bookable at reception rather than a free-for-all.

## Archery Set

**We have also got an amazing new archery set.**

This is on the workshops planner a few times over Easter - give it a go if you're here on one of those days.



## Playstation 4 (with Fifa 2017 & Lego Batman games) and a Classic Sega Megadrive

We wanted to refresh our gaming in the teenage den, so we've managed to get new classic and modern gaming equipment.

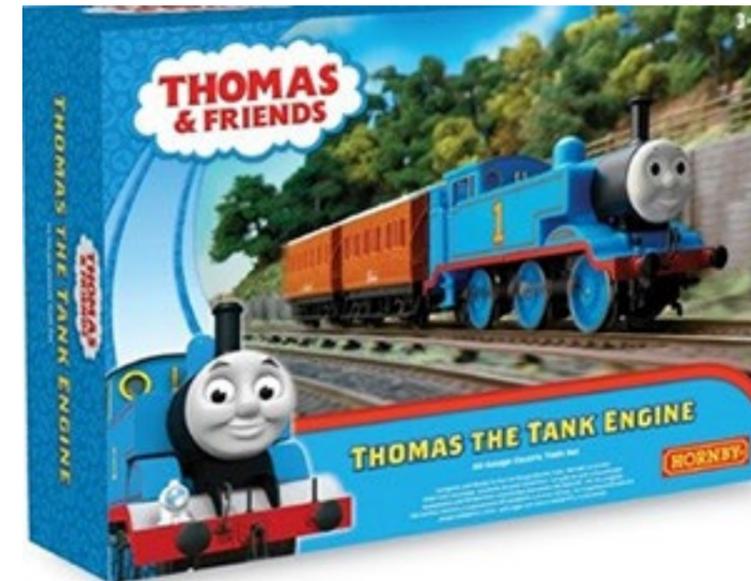
Try them out on your next visit, and if you need help getting the console you want going, just ask!



# New Construction Room...

The Construction Room should be finished for the Easter holidays. It can be found by going through the Imagination Room. The idea of the room is that any age and ability can build, create and construct Lego, train tracks and more.

We have bought some Hornby trains which we are sure will be very popular, plus you will see a lot more Lego than Thomley has ever had; we now have boxes of starter packs and a couple of places in the room to showcase your work - what can you make for our display on your next visit?



We will also put on workshops, such as Lego building, creating scenery for our train track, and Airfix model plane building - to really fill the room!

We will also move some of our existing trains from the play-rooms to the construction room, just so you know where to find them on your next visit. We hope you enjoy the new space!

# Reception is on the move...

Reception has appeared in many places over the years at Thomley, and we now think we've found a new, and perfect home for it!

The plan is to have reception moved to the lobby (entrance area) of the pavilion, next to the lockers. This will enable the current reception to become an office and more importantly enables the Manor Building to become solely for teenagers and adults.

We hope to have this in place for Easter, so be prepared!

# February Fun...

What a great half term we had! Luckily it remained dry so we managed to get out and make the use of the Thomley grounds. Thanks for taking part in our football coaching (back in Easter), bow and arrow workshop (despite the wind!!) and all of our other activities.

A special thanks also to those who chatted with Zoe from Children In Need, she reported back that she had 'a lovely day' chatting with people and hearing about the positive experiences you have here with us.



# Next Family night...

Thomley presents 'Bonkers Bunny Bingo' Allow us to eggsplain...The whole family can take part in our eggstraordinarily eggcellent game of bingo, with eggsquisite prizes up for grabs.

Don't eggignore what else we are offering you on this very eggsceptional evening:

We will be eggspressing our creative side and decorating eggs. If you are more physical and need to eggercise we have our eggstreme egg racing obstacle course, which we know you will be eggstatic to take part in! We would also like an eggsample of your handy work so come in your home-made Easter bonnet and you could win a prize!

We are not eggsaggerating this is going to be an evening of fun, and will crack you up, so we will accept no eggscuses, get booked in now!

# Camping at Thomley...



**It's back! This year we have doubled the amount of camping sessions - woohoo!**

Our first one of the year is Friday May 26th to Saturday May 27th and we will have a food offer too this time. £5 for children, £6 for adults will get you a ticket for:

A pizza or burger or hot dog or pork bap, with salad, potato salad, coleslaw, a bacon or sausage bap in the morning, and unlimited squash. There will also be a side menu of: Fruit kebabs, ice creams, crisps, cakes and drinks to buy.

We are asking for a donation of £10 per head for camping (adults and children).

The next dates will be in June, July and in the middle of the summer (as families requested). Some will be on a Saturday night rather than a Friday night, that way we can still open on the Saturday to other families who don't want to camp!

# Easter Holidays

You may have already noticed that Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire have different weeks off at Easter - ahhh! Fear not, we are open on all three weeks and there will be a day to suit everyone.

We apologise to some of our adult / preschool visitors who may have a slightly disrupted service, however there should still be another day that week which you can come on.

# Parallel London 2017...



**Last year, families, staff of Thomley and young people all joined forces to walk, wheel and run at The Olympic Park in London.**

We raised thousands of pounds for Thomley in the process last year, and we are going again this year.

To join us on Sunday September 3rd, get in touch with Joe: [joekitchen@thomley.org.uk](mailto:joekitchen@thomley.org.uk)

# We are recruiting...

## Fundraising Marketing Officer

Part time

(£22,000-£25,000 pro rata)

24 hours per week, generally Monday-Friday

Closing date: 26th March 2017

The role will include delivering the Fundraising & Marketing strategy, preparation of materials and to be the focal point of the production of promotional material. The role will involve using various Social media platforms & local press and radio outlets.

## Full time receptionist

Full time

(£15,000-£19,000)

Monday-Friday or Tuesday-Saturday, 9am-5pm

Flexible working hours will be considered

Closing date: 17th March 2017

The receptionist role will include standard reception duties and administration support. The role is working closely with our families before, during and after their visit to us.

*For the full job description for either role, please visit:*  
[www.thomley.org.uk/staff-vacancies/](http://www.thomley.org.uk/staff-vacancies/)

For any further information about the role please contact Stan:

[stan@thomley.org.uk](mailto:stan@thomley.org.uk) / 01844 338380

# Thomley mini bus...

In the past we have offered the minibus to schools and groups who struggled to get transport, or make their way to Thomley. We would like to open this service up to anyone who needs it. We have reduced the rates of this significantly, to basically just cover our fuel costs to pick you up and take you back.

You can book the mini bus for a small group of you, you and your child, or a larger group that are keen to come and spend the day with us. We are also looking at advertising a pick up from a central location in various towns or villages on set dates.

**If this would benefit you, or you would like to book the minibus, please get in touch with us on: [bookings@thomley.org.uk](mailto:bookings@thomley.org.uk)**  
Any suggestions or requests please feel free to get in touch.

