

# School News

## Issue 2

### Transport service

**Our new 16-seater, wheelchair-friendly minibus is available to schools and groups within a 35 mile radius of Thomley.**

The minibus will initially provide transport for just schools and groups but once it is up and running we will hopefully extend this service to families, offering a pick-up service from key towns close to Thomley.



Red Kite Children's Centre from Thame were the first people to take advantage of the service when they came to us in the summer holidays.

If you want to book the mini-bus for an upcoming visit, please get in touch with us for availability, prices or any further details by replying directly to this email.



# We are recruiting...

Teaching assistants, teachers, students or anyone interested in a career in education or disability, we want people like you to become Playworkers for us.

We are offering work during school holidays and at weekends (hours which may suit teachers or teaching assistants looking to earn extra), and an opportunity to gain new skills and experience working with varying disabilities.

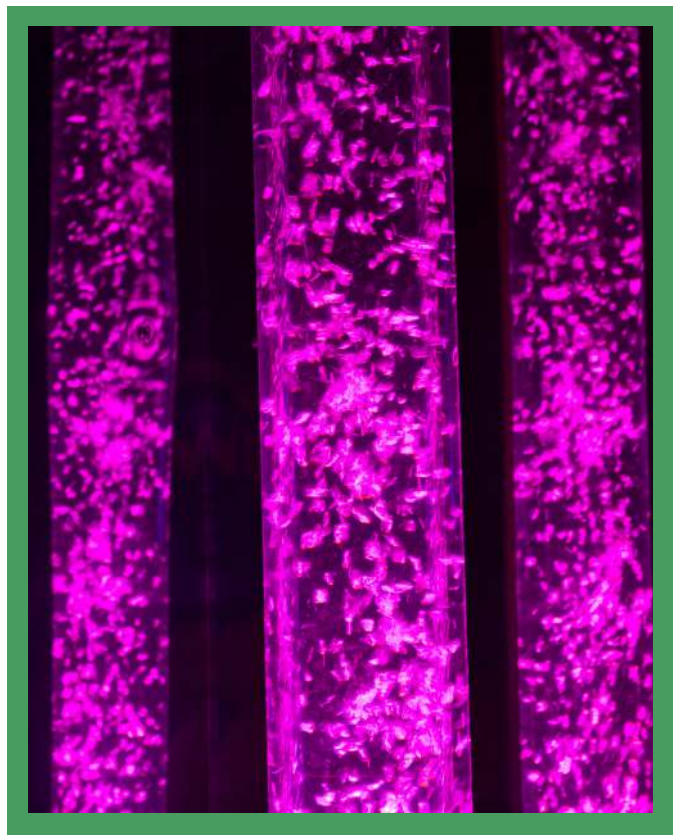
We have a fantastic team of casual staff, of all ages and abilities, but we are always looking to add to our dynamic team. If you're interested in finding out more, please contact Stan on: [stan@thomley.org.uk](mailto:stan@thomley.org.uk) or call: 01844 338380 Ext. 103



**Gemma (right) is training to be a teacher and works for Thomley as a Casual Playworker. Why has Thomley been good for Gemma?**

*“I’ve worked as a casual playworker at Thomley for four years now and love it! I am training to be a primary school teacher so it has benefited me so much in relation to my career and also helped me grow in confidence. Everyone is super friendly and approachable. Thomley is a really nice environment to work in with lovely people.”*

# Offers for Schools...



## Free sensory session....

Any new school booking during October and November will receive a FREE session in our multi-sensory room, where you can relax on the massage matt, play with the colour-changing bubble tubes or hang in our swinging chair.

Quote code: 'SensorySchool' when booking to take advantage of this offer.

## Book bag vouchers...

Every child that attends with their school will get a Thomley voucher to take home, meaning they can have a free pass to visit Thomley in their own time and bring family or friends too.

## School date changes for 2016...

We are making a few changes to our term time schedule. For schools, you can still come and use Thomley on Fridays, there are no changes there!

However, we are shuffling our other term dates, meaning you can bring your class on the following days:

Tuesday: students aged 16 and above only (Adult Day)

Wednesday: students aged 6 and under only (Preschool Day)

Thursday: students aged 16 and above only (Adult Day)

Friday: students of any age

## Book now...

Remember that booking is essential. Please email Courtney on: [bookings@thomley.org.uk](mailto:bookings@thomley.org.uk) or call her on: 01844 338380

We are now taking bookings for schools and groups for the Autumn and Winter terms. For our full range of activities for term time and the school holidays see our online calendar here:

<http://thomley.org.uk/calendar/>



# Thomley on Film...

We have been working on a new short film about Thomley to promote the centre to new families and help to show our work to potential funders. We've made two versions of the film: a shorter one for our website and a longer one for events and presentations. Have a look on the link below.

We're launching our new films alongside a fundraising campaign to help cover the cost of our holiday activities. We hope you like our new films as much as we do and that you will share them and make people aware of our fundraising campaign too. Our thanks to Torquil Boyd for producing these films and to our corporate sponsor Quanta, for funding the project.



# Preparing for change...

As per our Director's announcement of 9th July, Thomley will be recruiting a Chief Executive Officer to start early in 2016, as Claire shall continue to fundraise part-time. In preparation for Thomley's continuing development over the next 5-10 years, Trustees have decided to split strategic responsibilities from operational management. Our new CEO shall take strategic responsibility and drive forward the development of our services, whilst Cecilia Guntrip oversees operations. Cecilia has worked for Thomley for seven years and these changes to her role will take effect immediately, to ensure continuity and a smooth transition as Claire hands over her to the new CEO.

# NEW Games Room...



Now open to people of all ages, this room has an air hockey table, board games, and a Wii console. This means our teenage den can be kept for teenage and adult visitors only, so they have their own space to spend time with their peers. To make use of our new games room, speak to our staff and we will book you a session.

# Christmas Craft Fair

Saturday 7th November, 11am-3pm

**FREE ENTRY** - cakes - hot food  
presents - activities - raffle



If you or anyone you know is a crafter and would like to have a stall, please email Amy:  
[amy@thomley.org.uk](mailto:amy@thomley.org.uk)

If you have unwanted gifts for our tombola or can get prizes for our raffle, please email Anna:  
[anna@thomley.org.uk](mailto:anna@thomley.org.uk)