



# EXTENDED SERVICES

8th Edition



NEWSLETTER

Hello and thank you for reading our latest Extended Services newsletter. We have lots of exciting activities planned for the next few months, which we hope the children will enjoy taking part in and sharing with you.

All information is available in more detail on our newly updated Tuxford Family Collaboration (TFC) website [tuxfordfamily.co.uk](http://tuxfordfamily.co.uk). Alternatively, we work closely with all your schools to communicate activities, all of which are promoted through your school notice boards, letters from Heads Teachers and their own websites.

## FAMILY ADULT LEARNING

### AUTUMN TERM

#### Allotments – Learning the basics and having fun!

The Family Learning allotment course, led by Martin Gillott, Dukeries College, is now fully underway. Twelve learners (parents and children) are meeting every Tuesday after school to learn the basics of managing an allotment including: design, building or pathways, preparation for winter and sowing seeds and fruit trees ready for spring. The community allotment scheme is supported by Tuxford Town Council, who granted the use of

the plot for school/ community use. We are all very proud of this hard working group of parents and children and look forward to watching them reap their rewards with some lovely produce next year. If you would like to get involved please contact Nicola Manning on 01777 870001 ext 571.



### SPRING TERM

#### Numeracy and Literacy

In response to our Parent Audit we are planning on running Literacy and Numeracy sessions in four of our primary schools (open to all) to help parents who would like to refresh/improve their Maths and English skills. We hope to provide all parents with further information on the course content and type of qualification before the end of term.

### Paediatric First Aid

A Paediatric First Aid course is being run on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> November, 09.00-5.00 at Trent Villages North SureStart Centre. The course is accredited and relevant for anyone who is interested in learning about first aid including: childminders, work related or simply for all important emergency family first aid – particularly those with young children. The competitively priced course costs £53.50 for the two days which includes the examination and administration fee or is free if adults are on means tested benefits-£5.00 admin fee to be paid. Places are limited. Please contact Nicola Manning on 01777 870001 ext 571 to secure your place.



# **PARKOUR** ACTIVITIES COMING UP

Parkour or free-running is a form of athletics which incorporates movements over obstacles to reach a final destination. It is a different kind of mentally and physically challenging activity that the older primary school children will enjoy. The sessions will take place at school either in the school hall or outside (weather permitting), using gym equipment. It is our intention that Parkour will promote self development, creativity and self expression in the children by challenging them to find their own way across/through the obstacles course. The first session will run at Tuxford Primary before Christmas.



## **NEWARK AND SHERWOOD COOKING SESSIONS**

Our Newark and Sherwood Primaries are taking part this term in 'Eat Smart, Play Well' sessions funded by Nottinghamshire County Council. Those that are taking part will enjoy two 90 min cookery sessions after school with Play Workers. During week 1 the children will be shown how to make Chinese Stir-fry, whilst on week 2 they will be making flapjacks to take home. Craft activities will also be led at each session. We hope that the children all enjoy the sessions and bring home some lovely creations!



### Newark and Sherwood Cooking Sessions

- Sutton on Trent – 19<sup>th</sup> October and 2<sup>nd</sup> November
- North Clifton - 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> November
- John Blow – 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November
- Queen Eleanor 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February
- Norwell 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> January
- North Muskham - TBC

To book on to a course please contact your school reception.

## **CHRISTMAS CRAFTS**

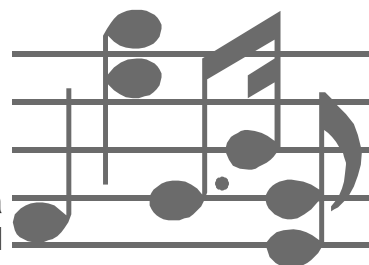
Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust will be visiting our Bassetlaw schools this half term to make Christmas Wreaths, made of willow, ready for hanging on your door for Christmas. Sara Smith, Education and Community Manager will lead up to 25 children in this lovely, festive activity.

### Dates:

- Tuxford – 14<sup>th</sup> November
- East Markham – TBC
- Elkesley – 15<sup>th</sup> November
- Gamston – 9<sup>th</sup> December
- St Matthews – 14<sup>th</sup> November
- Dunham-on-Trent – 16<sup>th</sup> November



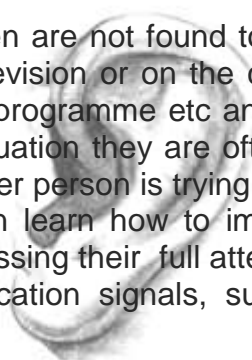
## LISTENING SKILLS



This school year, the Extended Services team are focussing on a 'listening' theme and will be arranging providers to come in to school to help the children develop their active listening skills.

'Active Listening' is a skill and is particularly important to young learners to master. To listen actively requires the listener to understand what is being said to them, interpret the information and then evaluate what they hear. Learning to listen actively can have a huge impact not only on childrens' learning ability, but also on improving personal relationships through reducing conflicts, strengthening co-operation and improving understanding.

One of the main problems when children are not found to be listening is visual distraction – particularly when they are watching television or on the computer! In this case it is natural that they are thinking about the game, programme etc and not listening to the person in the room. Similarly, in a confrontational situation they are often thinking about what to say next rather than taking on board what the other person is trying to communicate. Active listening is therefore a way of helping our children learn how to improve the quality of their listening through responding to the speaker, focussing their full attention on what the person is saying, including reading non-verbal communication signals, such as body language to improve understanding.



The children will be taking part in a number of really exciting activities in order to develop even further the listening skills they have developed at home and in school. Workshops will begin in the New Year and will include the following activities:

**Active Listening Workshop** – led by school using games, role-play, language and verbal and non-verbal communication to develop active listening skills.

**Film/media Workshop** – Interaction Film, led by Colin Wells, actor (the Bill, Hamlet) will be leading a one-day film making session where the children get to experience script writing, acting, directing, sound management and being a production runner. We also hope that this exciting day will also give the children as taste of what it is like to work in the media world.

**Local poet**, Chris White, will be inspiring the children with his quirky, comical use of language.

**Learning sign language and non verbal communication** to help with interpretation and all types of communication



**Percussion Music Session** - Fun, music steel drumming sessions for the children to use all their finely tuned listening skills. Hope their ear-drums survive!

## PAIRED READING

Post 16 students at Tuxford Academy as part of their enrichment activities have undertaken training to enable them to listen to pupils read in all the TCF schools. They are visiting three primary schools Sutton on Trent, John Blow and North Muskham over the next half term starting Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November. The students are excited about being able to visit the primary schools and hope that they will be able to pass on their enthusiasm to the young pupils they will be working with.

## PARENT SUPPORT COFFEE MORNING

Just before the end of term, Tuxford Academy's Parent Support Group held a Coffee Morning for parents/carers of our New Year 7 students. The intention of the meeting was to encourage parents to visit the school again now their children had started, voice any concerns/questions and to meet other parents. Over 30 parents attended the gathering, which was a fantastic response. Thank you to all those parents who attended. Tuxford Academy really values your input and support and will do their very best to follow-up your comments. If any parent would like to join our parent support group or would like further information please contact Nicola Manning, Extended Services Co-ordinator on Tel: 01777 870001 ext 571. Our next meeting is on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November, Tuxford Academy at 11.30am.

## DYSLEXIA ROAD SHOW

Please come along to this great free, informal event, supported by The Dyslexia Association and Oona Oakland (NCC Dyslexia Consultant).

The event has also been sponsored by Notts Community Foundation and has lots of stalls, activities and information providers. Hope to see you there!



## LOCAL ADULT LEARNING COURSES

Dukeries College – contact Helen for further information or to book on tel: 01623 860304

- Kick Boxing, Wednesday – 7.00-9.00pm, start date: 11.01.12
- Pattern Cutting and Making and Outfit, Wednesday, 6.00-8.30pm, start date: 11.01.12
- Spanish for Holidays, Wednesday, 6.30-8.30pm, 11.01.12
- Manual Book-Keeping Introduction, Thursday 6.00-9.00pm, Start date: 23.02.12
- Word Processing Next Steps, Friday 10.00-12.00, Start date: 24.02.12
- Painting Nature and Animals, Tuesday 7.00-9.00pm, start date: 10.01.12
- Chinese Cooking , Wednesday 6.30-9.00pm, start date: 22.02.12
- SureStart Courses, please contact SureStart team, Tuxford for further information on tel: 01777 872061
- Numeracy Course, introduction Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January, start date 13<sup>th</sup> January for 8 weeks, 09.15-11.15am
- Big Cook Little Cook, 5<sup>th</sup> January, for 4 weeks, Thursday 1-3pm

## FUNDING DEVELOPMENTS

The Extended Services team are constantly trying to capture opportunities to bring in funds to school in order to provide further opportunities and extra life experiences for our family of schools.

This summer we are pleased to announce that [Sutton-on-Trent Primary](#) received **£7,600** for the creation of a sensory garden. A sensory garden is outside area which appeals to the children's five senses. Sutton-on-Trent Primary were successful in their bid for the money to build a garden that would not only appeal to the children's senses but would also provide a place to go to chill-out, build social friendships or have valuable one-to-one time with teaching staff. The garden is even hoping to incorporate a special yoga area for a little stress-relieving exercise! Head teacher, Ellen Gascoigne is very excited about the project and the impact it will have on the children. The project is due to start construction in spring 2012.

We are also pleased to announce that [Elkesley Primary](#), supported by Extended Services, have been awarded **£5,065** for IT equipment in their new community room. This will provide extra IT access, along with family, adult and community learning opportunities for this lovely, rural village. Congratulations Elkesley!

John Blow – submitted a bid for a 'Magical Wonderland' Sensory Garden.

## Website



Have you visited the Tuxford Family Collaboration website? On it is lots of information on Activities/Clubs, Parenting Support, Our Family of Schools, Community Information and Childcare. Please visit [www.tuxfordfamily.co.uk](http://www.tuxfordfamily.co.uk) for Extended Services Information or alternatively call Nicola Manning, Extended Services Co-ordinator on 01777 870001, Extn 571.