



Linking Schools and the Community

A summary of the year and what a year it has been!

Since gaining several new schools to make up our consortium of seventeen, we have been working hard together, building relationships, linking with partners to enable children and their families to have access to all that extended schools can offer.

Fleetville Junior School remains the Hub School leading and championing this challenging agenda. It has been a busy year with a lot achieved, but an awful lot more to do. We are sure you agree that this school is playing a significant role in the community.

Below are some of the things we have done ...we hope you are proud of your school!

Childcare

A variety of holiday schemes have been introduced through partners and by Nexus.

Gym Days – 6 events, 188 children attending

Dance Workshops – 3 events, 66 children attending

Self Defence – 3 events, 64 children attending

We have worked closely with the Youth Service, District Council, Sports Partnership, Charters Health Club and Kool Kidz to ensure children have access to high quality childcare during the holidays.

After School Childcare

A new provider was set up at Oakwood Primary – Jousters now running well.

Fleetville After School club now has a new Playleader and staff structure.

Re:Play and Lindees are in touch with needs of parents.

Kool Kidz or Re:Play may be asked to trial a new after school club next year.

Young People 14-19 years

A variety of activities

Junior Football Organisers Pre-Level

Coaching Course – 24 students attended

Eco-Action Day – Over 55 sixth formers

First Aid Teens (Oct) – 12 teenagers

First Aid Teens (Feb) - 24 teenagers

First Aid Teens (Jun) – 20 teenagers

Drop 'n Dodge – trialling this Summer

A large survey has been conducted with our young people and Jo is now working closely with the Youth Service and The Pioneer on future projects.

Dads Lads and Lasses

This programme has grown from strength to strength to the extent we have separated into two age groups. **Dads have attended the following sessions with their children:**

Football (Sept) – 49 Dads + children

Rugby (Nov) – 51 Dads + children

Multisports (Jan) - 17 Dads + children

Charters Multisports (9-14 yrs -Feb) – 13 Dads + children

Rugby (April) - 35 Dads + children

Charters Multisports (9-14 yrs – Apr) - 16 Dads + children

Gaelic Football – 15 Dads + children

Woodwork (July) – 30 Dads + children

Our Dads attend our activities with great enthusiasm (even when asked to run one mile) – thanks to them all!

A Grand Day Out – a great morning held for grandparents and their grandchildren - enjoyed by all who attended

Parenting

Nexus has offered several parenting courses:-

Communicating with Teenagers (Sept) – 12 adults

Communicating with Teenagers (Feb) – 11 adults

Dealing With Anger – 15 adults attended

Living with Teens – 8 adults attended

Stress Busting Workshop - 6 adults attended

Transition Workshop – 8 adults attended

Parent Support Worker

Nexus has trialled this new post offering support to parents in the consortium. Sarah Ellis has met a high number of parents and staff with good results. This post will be full time in the Autumn

Successful Funding

A number of applications have been written by the ESCO, successes being:

- Childrens Targeted Service Fund - £3000 for Beaumont Young Carers
- Youth Opportunities Fund - £2730 for Sandringham Young Carers
- The 948 Sports Foundation - £500 for Dads Lads and Lasses
- Community Chest - £400 for Dads Lads and Lasses

Community Event – Minority Ethnic Groups

An event was held on 1st July for non-English speaking adults in the community to establish their learning needs. This was incredibly successful particularly in light of new partners working together. Approximately 80-100 adults attended.

Protective Behaviours

We have run three training sessions for staff to implement this in our schools. This programme is for the benefit of children and adults.

50 members of staff have been trained.

Young Carers

This is a group Nexus is keen on supporting. We have run assemblies and started support groups in the following schools:

Beaumont – started April

Sandringham – to start September 2008

Nexus to Pilot a project in primary schools for Herts CC in September.

Information Events

Several events have run at different schools including:

Internet Safety (Feb) - Over 50 adults

Alcohol Awareness (Apr) – 10 adults

Drugs and Alcohol Evening (Apr) – Over 60 adults

Family Learning

A variety of activities have been offered to all in the consortium:

First Aid (Sept) - 14 adults, 21 children

ESOL - 8 learners achieved Entry Level 1 & 2

Family Cooking (Oct) – 9 adults, 10 children

Numeracy Level 1 & 2 – 8 adults

Numeracy Taster & Course – 11 adults

Numeracy Level 2 & 3 – 15 adults

Nutrition Night (Feb) - 16 adults + children

Mums Keep Fit (May)– 10 adults, 10 children

Self Defence (July) – 10 adults, 13 children

Family Jamming (July) – 25 adults + children

Schools Meeting the Core Offer

An Awards event was held in February to acknowledge those schools offering extended services. In our consortium, these now are:

Beaumont School

Fleetville Infants & Nursery School

Fleetville Junior School

Sandringham School

STAGS

Verulam School

Wheatfields Infants & Nursery School

Wheatfields Junior School

Adult Learning

A variety of activities have been offered to all in the consortium:

Digital Photography (Sept) – 15 adults

Nextstep advice sessions

Benefits Advice sessions

Practical Parent Helpers – 15 adults

Helping In Schools (Apr-Jul) – 16 adults

BeauSandVer Community Programme – working in partnership to deliver to families

Nexus would like to thank all the parents, children and members of the community who have supported us over this year of change and challenges.

Your Extended Schools Co-ordinator (ESCO) is Jo Maher and she is available to assist you with any queries or concerns you may have. Please feel free to contact her on 07939 111152.

Jo and the Nexus team are looking forward to the next year.... let's see what new challenges and opportunities it brings!