

This newsletter gives you an update on PLAY@Churwell and PLAY@Asquith - the Before and After School Clubs and Holiday Playschemes run by Churwell Out of School Group.

OFSTED inspection

We were inspected by OFSTED at the end of March and were awarded an overall rating of 'Good'. This was the highest rating available. A copy of the report is attached. You can download copies of the report from www.ofsted.gov.uk/childcare.

We are very pleased at the recognition this gives to the quality of our childcare. The report made one observation about procedures – we now ask parents to sign the medicines record. We also would like to remind you that there are no refrigeration facilities so please be careful about the content of packed lunches for playschemes. See your Parent/Carer Handbook for information.

Staff news

Welcome to Louise Parks who joined us in January as a Trainee Playworker. We also have two new seasonal playworkers – Louise and Joanne – who will be helping out over the summer together with Harry and Nicola.

Developments

Asquith School is building up year group by year group. We are now based in the Year 5 and 6 classrooms to free up the space for Asquith's Year 3 pupils in September.

We are working with Mrs Curtis and the Governors of Churwell School to set up a base in Churwell from September for

use during termtime. Depending on the space available it is likely we would continue to use Asquith School for some of our current Churwell children and continue with our 'Walking Bus'. When we have more information we will let you know what is proposed and ask for your views and preferences.

Churwell Out of School Group is an unincorporated association run by a Management Committee. In simple terms this means the group does not exist as a body in its own right. We have been advised that a different type of organisational structure may be better. We are looking at becoming incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee. This would be a not for profit organisation run by a Board of Directors. As parents of children registered with Churwell Out of School Group you are members and would have the opportunity to vote on changing the Group's status. More information will be provided shortly.

Advance notice of fee changes

In Sept 2004 we were able to keep our fees at their Sept 2003 level with the help of some grant support. In Sept 2005 we will need to increase fees to cover increasing costs. We are also restructuring the afternoon sessions to two options. We are unable to maintain a one hour after school session as this is proving to be uneconomic. The revised fees will be:

Before school from 7:45 a.m	£3.50
After school to 6:00 p.m	£7.50
After school (2 hrs)	£5.50
Holiday playscheme (from July 2005)	£18:00