

Playing for Success

Newsletter



April 2008 – Issue 3

Good Morning

Only a few days until the National Conference which will mark the end of the 10th anniversary year of PfS. The 10th Anniversary film is on YOUTube - if you wish to look at the DVD the link is <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=iMgM7MrwJIU>

The team is looking forward to meeting you all at Stratford. Have a great conference.

Rex

Centre News

Louise Bartholomew the centre manager at the Ice Zone Study Support centre has been selected as a representative to sit on a focus group for education staff involved in improving attendance, exclusions and alternative education.

Blyth Spartans AFC held a "Read all about it" event on 16 April. Despite the club's PfS centre being half way through its construction, the centre manager organised a free family fun day at the Spartan's social club, to mark the year of reading. The event included literacy activities which aimed to encourage children and adults to pick up a book. These included storytelling and puppet shows, bookmark making, a town crier competition, readings from team captain Peter Snowdon, as well as football coaching, arts and crafts activities, healthy food samples and competitions. The day was free to the 105 families that attended and over 200 adult quick reads and 200 children's books (donated by the local W.H.Smiths and the National Literacy Trust) were given out on the day as well as boot bags and water bottles. Centre manager Mark Lillico hopes that the event will be a taste of things to come for the local community which is already getting behind the new centre. For further details contact Mark Lillico at the centre.

Worcester Warriors study centre has produced its latest newsletter covering its including a gifted and talented Easter programme. The centre's latest presentation event was attended by Peter Luff MP, Member of Parliament for Mid-Worcestershire.

Spurs Learning Zone PfS evaluation report 2007 – 2008 has been circulated. For details contact David Lyall at the centre.

Staff Changes

New centre manager

Andy Ducat has been appointed centre manager at Luton Town FC. His email address is andy.ducat@luton.gov.uk Andy will be at the National Conference.

Job Vacancy

St Helens LA and St Helens RLC are looking for a centre manager - Pay NJC scale points 41 to 44. Job outline as follows -

In association with the DCSF Playing for Success Initiative we are looking to establish a Study Support Centre and are appointing a Centre Manager who will lead and develop the St Helens Playing for Success Project and implement programmes of work to support the development of high quality study support and out of school hours learning. The successful post holder must be a qualified teacher, have an interest in out of hours learning, a knowledge of Key Stage 2 & Key Stage 3 Numeracy and Literacy and an understanding of the range of issues which affect vulnerable young people. The post holder must possess excellent communication skills and the ability to work effectively under pressure. We are looking for an enthusiastic, self motivated and creative individual who is willing to work flexibly. For further information please contact Joyce Berry, Assistant Director on 01744 455400. We are looking to hold interviews w/c 26 May 2008.

Resource Update

VCUBE TV COMMUNITY CHANNEL

You are cordially invited to attend the launch of the VCube TV Community Channel on Thursday 29th May 2008 at Aston Villa Football Club in the Dave Targett Suite. Please park in the North Stand car park and ask for Lucy Stride or Jonathon Aldred at North Stand Reception.

VCube TV Community Channel is a partnership between Heart of Birmingham PCT, Aston Pride, and *Playing for Success*, Iris Production, Data Pacific and Aston Villa Radio Community Interest Company. VCube is an innovative web based TV channel that will showcase the very best of Birmingham's community, educational and healthy lifestyle projects.

The event will be from 10.00am to 1.00pm and will enable you to find out more about this project and the opportunities that will be available through the VCube channel.

Itinerary for Thursday 29th May

10am Arrive

10:30am Key Note Speakers

Simon Topman - Chairman of Aston Pride

Jackie Chambers OBE - Director of Public Health of Heart of Birmingham PCT

Robin Russell - Chief Financial Officer of Aston Villa Football Club

11am Questions from the floor answered by

Dale Guest (Aston Pride)

Steve Cridge (Iris Production),

Kevin Haywood (HOB PCT)

Richard Hollingsworth (Data Pacific)

12pm Lunch

Please could you email me if you would like to attend.

jonathon.aldred.staff@pfsbham.co.uk

We look forward to seeing you on the 29th May.

Yours sincerely

Jonathon Aldred

Aston Villa FC

PfS Centre Manager

Aston

Birmingham B6 6HE

07966 987358

Reading FC loves Reading

Reading FC has produced a DVD which will be distributed across all Reading nursery and primary schools to enable pupils to watch with their parents at home. It encourages parents to contact the school to ask for any extra help they need to support their child's reading. It has been funded by Reading Borough Council, Reading Study Centre and the Premier League through the Reading Stars programme. Details from jenny.jones@reading.gov.uk. It was produced by Epiphany Films who have done work for PfS in the past.

LEARNING GOES MOBILE or MOBILE PHONES WELCOME HERE!

Mobiles - students love them. OOKL (an anagram of LOOK) has created an innovative learning experience based on mobiles that helps students learn outside the classroom. But first the bad news. The phones can't be used to make phone calls and send texts. So what does it do then?

In simple terms. the phone has a special application on it that allows students to learn about objects and record their own observations/interpretations of things in the form of photos, audio and text. It's like carrying around an encyclopaedia, camera, audio recorder and pen in your pocket. What's best, is that all of the material students collect in the field is instantly uploaded over the 3G network to a web-space. So when they're back in the classroom or home they can look at what they collected and create a digital story.

OOKL is designed to support literacy and ICT skills for KS2 and above and is operating in venues across the UK including the National Maritime Museum, Sheffield Art Gallery, D-Day Museum and many City Learning Centres.

Prof Mike Shaples of Nottingham University was commissioned by the DCMS to undertake an independent review of the service and his conclusion was that OOKL is the best mobile learning solution he has worked with.

For more information, please visit www.ookl.org.uk or contact Dan Medicoff on 0207 278 4044 or email dan.medicoff@the-sea.com

Rex Hall note

When I heard about this I thought it might be useful for work in and around the stadium the grounds or Dartmoor. I know many of you use laptops with wireless technology and palm held computers but this is interesting.

What to do about KS3?

Dear Centre Manager. Ever got that sinking feeling with KS3 groups?

What do you do when your PCs are not working? Are decision making, improving literacy, confidence building and group evaluation just some of your PfS aims? I just might have the answer!

Why not try my 'never fail' group cards? Tried and tested over many years. Guaranteed to work with KS3! Full instructions provided for each 30 minute session. All 3 sets of 60 cards are customised with your Learning Centre branding/logo (this applies to any sport). For further information and orders,

Email manager@headingleylearning.org.uk

John Bedford (Headingley Learning Centres)

QiSS

Quality in Study Support QiSS certificates will be presented to those centres who have achieved recognition since April 2007 at the PfS National Conference 2008.

Congratulations to the following centres on successfully achieving QiSS recognition as follows:

Established Revalidation 15 May – Blackburn Rovers Football & Athletic PLC

Emerged recognition 16 May – Doncaster Rovers FC/Doncaster Belles/Doncaster Lakers RLFC and Cambridge United FC

Established recognition 16 May – Queens Park Rangers FC and AFC Bournemouth

Calendar – 2009

15 May - Quality in Study Support meeting – one centre presenting for Established Revalidation

16 May - Quality in Study Support meeting - four centres going for Established and Emerged status.

22/23 May - The tenth Playing for Success National Conference - themed Moving Forward, Achieving Excellence - takes place in Stratford upon Avon. Invitations have been circulated and the conference website is live. 55 workshops and speakers have been confirmed. The conference is now full with 350 registered delegates. If you cannot come we have a long waiting list of people who would like to do so - please tell Bracken asap. Any queries contact Sam@brackenevents.co.uk.

29 May – The launch of VCube TV Community Channel at Aston Villa Football Club. (See resource update)

4 June - There is an event at the DCSF with the formal launching of RHA Playing for Success and Double Club new contracts. There will be a similar event at the DCSF in Darlington the day before.

4 July - Quality in Study Support meeting at West Bromwich Albion (five centres presenting at Emerged)

11 July - Quality in Study Support meeting at Batley Bulldogs

17 October - Quality in Study Support meeting at Nottingham Forest

14 November - Quality in Study Support meeting at Bolton Wanderers

2009

8/9 January - The bi-ennial centre managers' conference will be held at Durham CCC. Details from Tina Dransfield or Jeanette Wood

27 February - Quality in Study Support meeting at Norwich City

3 April - Quality in Study Support meeting at West Ham

1 May - Quality in Study Support meeting at WBA

Other Items

After the National Conference a new CPD training programme will be circulated.

We are still collecting photos of young people learning for the yearbook 2008 and the web. If you have good high resolution PfS related photos please send them to Jo@rexhallassociates.com.

I have signed the formal contract with the DCSF to run PfS for the next three years. We are logging currently all the centres who have sent in reports as previously requested - business plans and evaluation reports - which will be part of our reporting process to the DCSF. Can you please ensure that you have sent hard copies to the RHA admin base?

I wish to thank the 70 plus centres whose staff attended the briefing days. I will be repeating the workshop at the National conference for which 55 people have signed up.

Rex

The next newsletter will be post conference on 30 May.