

PLAY- POWER!

Last month 14 eager playtime buddies from Denman Class volunteered to increase their skills by completing a special days' training to become Play-Leaders. They aimed to develop their buddy skills, be able to help more at playtimes and find out new and entertaining ideas for group games.

Training began with the groups deliberating over what makes for good or bad playtimes, what skills and qualities are needed to be a successful buddy, and what difficulties they had in their roles. The children agreed on the importance of learning friendship skills at playtimes, of being offered enjoyable games to play (like-but not just-football). They understood that all children should be able to choose how to use their playtime and that good equipment and shared space really helps.

The trainees then used their energy to learn and play new games, including making up their own games with little equipment like a hoop and ball. At the end of the training everyone agreed it had been successful-

'It is an opportunity to help more in the playground'
said **Natalie Ward**.

Mrs Clark and Morland Class then had a chance to 'test drive' three of the Play-Leader's new games, (based on rugby, basketball and dodge-ball).

At the end of the lesson both Leaders and the younger children gave a 'thumbs-up' to their training

The Play-Leaders ensured everyone understood the rules and the whole class had a great time. Now our only problem is having enough playground space and being patient enough for the Leaders to plan a games rota. We're all eager to get going!

Many Congratulations to all our new Play Leaders- Bertie, Elliot, Robert G, Matthew, Meghan, Harriet, Kieran M, Aleisha, Sarah, Ciera, Louis, Natalie W, Amber and Ryan.

Article written by
HARRIET SCOTT, BERTIE TURNEY AND NATALIE WARD



PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

Our theme this term is 'Farms' including building vehicles and animals!! We will also be very busy with our Easter celebrations and are looking forward to a visit from the Easter Bunny! I hope you enjoy the pictures of some of

the children dressing up and enjoying lunch at our new Lunch Club. We are open Monday to Friday mornings (plus 2 lunchtime sessions) and take children from their 2nd Birthday. If you would like to join us or to request a prospectus, please phone Marion on 07749 245313. If you would like to join us or to request a prospectus, please phone Marion on 07749 245313.

MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

Assistant required to join our staff. 3-5 mornings per week during term time only. 9.00am to 12noon.

**No qualifications necessary
Various training courses will be offered**

If you are interested in this post please contact: Chris Ricketts, Chairperson, 2 Hyde Copse, Marcham for an application form, or tel: 391329 evenings only.

Attention all Parents

Bookstart - Free Books for Children!!!!

Do you know that Bookstart provides 3 different gifts for 3 different age ranges containing books and other goodies and it's all free.

The Bookstart **Baby pack** is available for babies aged up to 12 months. Your baby will be given a pack by the health visitor at the 8 month health check. The **Bookstart+** pack is available for toddlers between 18 - 30 months and can be collected from the library or the health visitor if your child has a 2 year check. So please go to the library and ask for your toddler's Bookstart+ pack.


My Bookstart **Treasure Chest** is available to 3 year olds and is delivered to your child's pre-school. If your child does not attend a pre-school collect your Treasure Chest from the library.

If you run a pre-school and have not given the Bookstart co-ordinator the number of 3 year olds in your setting, please contact her as soon as possible to ensure delivery by August 2007.

For more information contact the Bookstart Co-ordinator for Oxfordshire on 01865 810243 or visit the web site at www.bookstart.org.uk.

mostly books 36 Stert Street, Abingdon
March 1st is World Book Day, and children can redeem their World Book Day tokens (which most schools will be handing out) in Mostly Books before and after the date.
Call 01235 525880 or email books@mostly-books.co.uk

KICK BOXING CLASSES
THE PORTACABIN, CRICKET FIELD
If You Are Aged 11 - 16 Years Old
Why Don't You Come Along
And Join Us?
This Will Be Held Twice A Month
and Cost £3.00
Next Sessions: 5th/19th March 7.30-8.30pm
COME ALONG AND GIVE IT A GO



Marcham Society welcomes YOU

Are you interested in hearing interesting talks on a variety of local topics? Or how about a monthly walk starting with a pub lunch? We also have occasional visits, barbecues and socials, plus our very own publication, Coral Rag (on sale at Marcham Post Office). Visitors are very welcome (cost only £1), so just turn up at Marcham Church on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.45 pm. Details of talks and walks are published in MADNews, otherwise please phone Janey Cumber (391327) or Judith Fontaine (391275). For walks contact Eric & Sheila Dunford on 391439) see page 11 for the next one.

THE LIONS

For those observant residents you will have noticed one of the Lions outside the Institute is suffering damage and both need to be restored to their former glory. Work to remove the Lions will take place soon and work will be put in hand to restore and repair the damage prior to reinstallation at a future date. Please be assured the "Lions" will once again take their rightful place as prominent feature in the village.

MALCOLM DENTON Anson Trust
The Anson Trust website has been updated - go to
www.ansontrust.co.uk



If you run or are a member of a group, why not write a short report about it?