

# Extended schools newsletter

Summer term newsletter 2009

## Welcome to the first edition of the Battersea Cluster Extended Schools Newsletter



**Hello!** My name is Emma Marks, I have been working as the Extended Schools Coordinator for the Battersea Cluster of Schools since September 2008. I have enjoyed getting to know the people of Battersea, the staff and teachers within the schools, the people working to support your community and most of all the children and their families.

I hope that after reading this Newsletter you will have an idea of the sort of services offered by Extended Schools to families in Battersea. There are lots of exciting things happening in and around your schools and opportunities for all of you to get involved.

You can contact me at [emmmarks@batterseaparkschool.org](mailto:emmmarks@batterseaparkschool.org) or you can phone me on 020 7622 0026 ext. 270

### The Battersea Cluster:

Wandsworth has grouped 15 schools together to form the Battersea Cluster so that they can work together and involve local communities.



Year 5 pupils at Christchurch School prepared a delicious fruit basket as part of a 2-day workshop session provided by FACET (Foods of Africa & the Caribbean Educational Trust).to learn about healthy food and diet. .



Family learning - mask making

## What do Extended Services mean for you and your school?

- More activities for young people
- More options for parents and children in times of need
- Opportunities for parents and children to learn together.
- Greater access for parents and children to voluntary and community groups.
- Information about access to activities for your child in term time (breakfast clubs and after school activities) and holiday activity schemes specific to your local area.

# Extended schools supporting parents and families

Everyone knows what an important job being a parent is - but it isn't always easy! Supporting parents is a high priority for Extended Schools, if parents feel supported then they will feel more able to help and encourage their children as they develop.



Parents from local schools sharing experiences

## Parenting groups coming soon to a school near you!



Since January 2009 groups of parents have been coming together in school libraries, music rooms, children's centres and community centres to share experiences of being a parent. Support and useful tips were offered by Parent Support Workers from national charity Parentline Plus. The groups have proved very popular with titles such as 'Bringing up Confident Children' and 'Living with Teenagers.' More groups will be running for parents from Battersea Schools over the next months.

"It was great to talk and listen to other parents. All the parents are from different parts of the world. Our concerns are the same."

"It's been fantastic! I learned how to listen. I learned how to let my children do more by themselves. They're more independent, I don't shout, I don't scream"

## Family Action



Battersea Family Support: Schools based project

Supporting school aged children and their families

Parents do you need support or feel that you can't cope with:

- Children's behaviour
- Parents feeling they can't cope
- Relationships with children
- Routines and positive rules for children
- Getting children to school on time
- Managing the household, for example budgeting

Family Action works with families who have a child at school in the Battersea area, we provide practical and emotional support, advice and information.

We are available term time and in the school holidays, for support and advice.

Our family support workers can visit you in your home, or if you would prefer, at your child's school.

If you think that you may benefit from our service, please contact us on (020) 7622 1619, or talk to your child's school for more information.

## Parents Matter at Battersea Park School

Battersea Park School recently put its parents in the spotlight by inviting them to 'Parents Matter' - an evening event which provided information and advice to parents of teenagers, as well as offering food, free massages a 'Smoothie' Bar and entertainment. Over 16 local services and charities attended, including Family Action, Connexions, Extended Schools and the Family Information Service. The evening also included a talk from national charity Parentline Plus about 'Living with Teenagers' The event was very well attended the feedback from parents was extremely positive.

"Excellent Evening, please hold

more events like this, thought it was great to meet other parents!"

"Really a very good informative evening. All schools should have to do this."

Deputy Head teacher Rachael Ellis said

"Our Parents Matter event was a great success and we will definitely be running another event for parents in the future"



## W.O.W mums - Women of Wandsworth

W.O.W was started in 2007 BY mothers FOR mothers and children, they organize social events and outings for children and adults and music, sports, Tai Chi and art lessons.

On Fridays they meet in Katherine

Low Settlement Community Café on Battersea High Street at 11 o'clock to meet new people and relax with a cup of coffee or tea. All parents are welcome to join them or read their regular monthly newsletters on [www.wowmums.com](http://www.wowmums.com)

# Battersea cluster community focus

In each issue of the Battersea Cluster Newsletter we will focus on a few of the many activities that are available to families in Battersea in and around schools.

## Free Saturday FA qualified football coaching sessions

JSFC (Junior Schools Football Challenge) run two sessions on Saturday mornings during term time; one for younger children, 5-7 years old, at 10.00am and one for older children, 8-11 years old, at 11.00am - at Sacred Heart Primary School in Este Road SW11.

All children, whatever their abilities, are welcome at the sessions. Simply turn up in

suitable clothing and shoes, with a drink. For more information, please contact Bill Evans (Head Coach) on 07799 718093 or email Annie Miles (Secretary) on [annie.miles@btinternet.com](mailto:annie.miles@btinternet.com).



Parents and pupils at Christchurch school take part in the morning Tai Chi session run by Fit4Kidz

## Wandsworth Citizen Advice Bureau



Is now available at three Battersea Primary schools!

Where and When?

- Thursday mornings during term time
- Between 9.30am–11.30am
- Falconbrook: Chesterton: Sir James Barrie Schools
- AUTUMN TERM DATES TO BE CONFIRMED

The Wandsworth Citizen Advice Bureau service can provide independent advice on:

### Your Family:

Health, Housing, Education,

### Your Daily Life:

Consumer affairs, Travel

### Your Money:

Benefits, Employment, Tax, Debt

**Your rights:** Immigration, The Law, Civil rights, Discrimination

Phone Emma Marks for more information.

## Extra activities in schools

Schools across the cluster have offered numerous extra activities to children and families

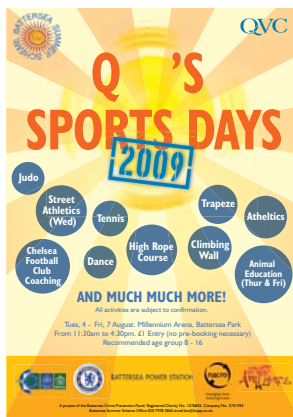
- After school clubs from drama to boxing run by both school staff and outside agencies
- Family Learning Activities in literacy, numeracy and ICT in a number of schools
- Language Classes and ESOL run by Aspire at Chesterton School
- Family Tango at Battersea Park School
- Children from Westbridge Primary school accessing state of the art ICT facilities at Salesian College.
- 'Every Choice Matters' workshops for teens looking at issues around gangs and knife crime.
- Saturday school at Shaftesbury Park
- John Burns School opening part of its playground for community use
- Falconbrook Summer Carnival

And much much more.....

**Ask at your school office for more information on how to make use of these services or phone Emma Marks on 0207 622 0026 x270**

# SUMMER FUN in Battersea

“The school holidays can seem very long for children and for their parents- especially for working parents when money is short. However the school holidays are also times when children and young people can relax, have fun, make friends and enjoy new experiences.” Local schools, Wandsworth Council and other local organisations will be offering a range of free or affordable activities towards making summer in Battersea a great time for all.



## QVC's Sports Days return for Summer Fun in Battersea Park

A week of sport and other exciting activities at the Millennium Arena, Battersea Park

Tuesday 4th to Friday 7th August,  
11.30am to 4.30pm

For young people between the ages of 8 and 16, it will cost just £1 each day to take part.

Come along to experience a whole range of sporting and artistic activities including judo, tennis, football, dance and even the trapeze. For those with a head for heights there will be a climbing wall and high rope course, plus the Animal People will be there on Thursday and Friday with some furry (and not so furry) friends. Chelsea Football Club will also be attending to offer their expert coaching skills to Battersea's sports stars of the future.

On Wednesday 5th August at 1pm, local young people will also have the opportunity to take part in Free Street Athletics, run by Linford Christie and Darren Campbell.

## Summer activities in schools

Schools across the borough will be offering their own summer activities:

- Throughout the summer affordable childcare will be offered at the John Burns Playcentre run by Wandsworth Play services.
- In the first weeks of the holiday Sacred Heart school will be running a summer school with various exciting activities for pupils from Years 2-5
- Christchurch School will be offering 2 weeks of sports activities for 7-11 year olds run by Fit4kidz and cookery classes organised by FACET.
- From 17 – 21 August Battersea Park School will be running a week's summer school for children aged 10-12 offering activities including: Drama workshops, Art workshops, Swimming, Sport and team games, finishing the week with a visit to the London Dungeon and a ride on the London Eye.
- Shaftesbury Park School will be offering 12 days of interesting and enjoyable summer school activities for 2 hours a day for children between the ages of 7 and 11.
- 27 July -7 August Salesian College will be offering activities for local children aged 10-14, including sports, music, literacy and trips out

## Summer Explosion, activities for teenagers:

Throughout the summer holidays The Wandsworth Youth service offers many different activities for young people aged

13 - 18 across different centres in Battersea. These include Music Studio, Dance, Cookery, Sports Activities, Go-carting, Drama and various trips. Look out for the leaflets that will be given to pupils by their schools or telephone Pat Ingram on (020) 8871 8112 pingram@wandsworth.gov.uk for more details



## THE BIG SHOOT

This summer in Chesterton School 30 children from all over Battersea will have the opportunity to work alongside professional filmmakers for a week, producing and screening their own movie.

For information about this and other activities included in this newsletter please contact Emma Marks on (020) 7622 0026 X270.

For more information about activities for families and children across Wandsworth contact the Family Information Service on (020) 8871 7899 or visit [www.wandsworth.gov.uk/fis](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/fis)