

Infosheet

Literacy Volunteers 1996-2017



Over two decades of service to children

April 2017

Challenging times but 'Fantastic Feedback' from one of our schools!

"Just a quick note of thanks for all of the hard work that Literacy Volunteers do. As a school we have been lucky enough to have a Literacy Volunteer working with four of our pupils and they have loved their time with them. Our Literacy Volunteer has given the pupils time and space to talk about their reading and their learning. We have seen their confidence develop as a result of the volunteers care and dedication."

Edna G Olds Academy



A Very Warm Welcome Back to All Our Volunteers, Schools and Colleagues

It's quite a challenging time for us at Literacy Volunteers.

The recent changes in school budgets have put pressure on schools and added to this is the fact that we have had to increase our subscription charges because we are under pressure to charge for the full costs of what we do. Unfortunately this has meant that we have lost 11 Schools who can no longer afford our services. It's a real shame when you read the quote above and can see the difference we can make to the children we support. What I can say is that even with our increase it still only costs £2.24 per session per child to have one of our fabulous volunteers in your school. Isn't that still worth it?

If you would like to know more about what we can do for you....get in touch.

dawn.claypole@literacyvolunteers.org.uk

Dawn Claypole, Chief Executive

Goodbye and Thank you from Toni

I just wanted to say a big thanks to all the volunteers and staff who have made the last 11 years at Literacy Volunteers so rewarding and fulfilling for me. I am now able to spend more time with my mum which is wonderful. I am on a mission to visit every garden centre and tea shop in the East Midlands in order to sample and rate their cakes and pastries. I have had a complete change workwise and am now working for one of my friends who runs a tea shop in Burton Joyce (The Bluebird). I get to bake every day which I love and also talk all day, another of my hobbies!! If you ever fancy a good cuppa and a piece of cake pop in and you will be given a very warm welcome. I wish all of you involved with the Charity continued success and I take away with me a plethora of happy memories. **Toni**

Summer Volunteer Recruitment Drive: What We Need?

This summer we are going to try to recruit new volunteers and promote what we do at various open days and events across the County. I'm putting together a team of people who would like to help us out by coming to read with children and families. It should be great fun and we can hopefully encourage more people to love books and reading by showing them just what we do and encouraging more people to read together as a family.

Would you like to be involved?

We are holding some Story Reading and Story Telling training on Friday 7th July at Playworks Play Resource Centre in Nottingham, 10.30am-12.30pm. Contact Karen on 0115 8765474 to book your free place or just let us know if you want to help with our Summer events?

Area Co-ordinators Changes

Following Toni's departure we have now re-organised AC areas so with effect from 19th April 2017 the Volunteers in the Newark, Gedling and Sherwood districts now have Emma Collis as their AC. Emma has also passed a number of her city (West) schools over to Emma Trowbridge. Sue Marriott will take over schools in the Southwell area.

Emails have been sent to Volunteers who are affected by these changes and should now know who their Area Co-ordinator is and their contact details. If anyone hasn't been contacted please let us know and we can then fully support you.



The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2006

A Huge Thank You!

We would like to say a huge "Thank You" to the following Funders who have given their fantastic support and donated to our Charity since April 2016!

Funder	Amount	To spend on
Star Trust	£3,000	Games
Thoresby Charitable Trust	£1,000	6 Samsung Tablets and books
Bassetlaw District Council	£5,000	10 new schools in Bassetlaw

Charles Littlewood Trust & Lady Hind Trust	£4,000	Running costs
Whitaker Charitable Trust	£1,000	Running costs
Rothera Trust	£750	Running costs
Jones Trust	£7,000	15 new schools
Thomas Farr Charity	£2,550	Running costs
Ernest Cook Trust	£2,350	5 new schools
HSBC Bank	£500	Running costs
Helen Jean Cope Charity	£1,000	Schools in Derbyshire
Boots	£500	Running costs
GT Littlefair Trust	£400	Running costs

Volunteer Info

Hello Everyone

I do hope that you have enjoyed a happy Easter time in what seems to be an early Spring but don't the blossom and flowers help to lift the spirits?

We are experiencing a busy time for all at Literacy Volunteers with new ideas and plans being discussed on a regular basis. We are constantly having to keep ahead of the game in challenging times and again I thank Dawn, our CEO, for her tireless pursuit of this on our behalf. I must also thank David, our treasurer, whose financial acumen and quiet and measured reassurance is proving to be invaluable.

Are there some walkers, ramblers or strollers out there? Please see our sponsored walk feature. Sponsorship of yourselves, family and friends, even the dog, to help us raise some funds would be the icing on the cake. Sponsorship forms are available via a link on our website or via the office if you do not have them already. Thank you Volunteers, for all that you continue to do for each and everyone of the children that you see in school on our behalf.

Gaynor Preston, Chair of Trustees

Bookcase

Many thanks to The Bookcase at Lowdham who hosted us at one of their First Friday events!

Toni Edwards gave a fantastic account of what we do and as a result we had four new volunteer enquiries, a monthly donation and a one off donation of £150 to buy a whole box of books for a local school! Thank you Jane at the shop and Alison and your daughter for your support for reading for pleasure and the difference good literacy makes to children's lives.

Sponsored Walk

The date is set for our Literacy Trail sponsored walk! Please come and take part and raise funds for our Charity!



Sunday July 2nd 2017 – so keep this date free. We will be walking a short section of the walk through Linby, Newstead and Papplewick, led by the lovely Bill Bottomley who wrote The Literary Trail. Water en route will be provided and we would like to all meet up and do this together so once again, ring in and book your place. A sponsor form has been emailed but we can post one if you can't open it or don't have access to our website. We will be doing about 5 miles in total. We will **meet at 10.30am at The Horse & Groom pub at Linby.**

20/20 Champions

Thank you to all our birthday Champions some of you went that extra mile to support us. We will soon be writing to you all to ask you to remain as permanent Champions in support of our work.

Children's Competition

Reading for pleasure is more important to children's successes than education or social class. The Summer Reading Challenge gets three quarters of a million children into libraries to keep up their reading skills and confidence during the long holidays. <https://readingagency.org.uk/children/news/animal-agents-book-collection-announced.html>



Our annual competition theme for your children this year is in line with Libraries Summer Reading Challenge, 'Animal Agents'. On an A4 sheet, we are ask that Volunteers working with children from 4-8 years create an Animal Detective of their own and draw a picture of it with a few words. For older children 9-11 years we are asking that your children write a short description or story about their Animal Detective. **Please remember that we must have the children's name, school and age on the back of the sheet. Deadline for entries is June 30th 2017.**

Volunteer Absence/Leavers

A gentle reminder to all Volunteers to please remember to let your school know of any times you will not be able to go into school. **It is also important to note that if you are going to be absent from school for more than two weeks that you please let your Area Co-ordinator know.** This is so that we can keep account of any subscription credits that we owe a school. They can then be credited at the end of the financial year.

Volunteers looking at finishing their Volunteering role are asked to please give their AC's a terms notice in order for them to recruit and make provision to fill the vacancy as early as possible. Thank you.

Dates for your diary

Generally, the term dates are as below but there will be variations so please check with your school and it's a good idea to arrange your start dates before the end of each term.

SUMMER 2017

City Schools - Term begins 18th April, Term ends 26th July
Half Term 29th May to 2nd June inclusive

County Schools - Term begins 17th April, Term ends 27th July
Half Term 29th May to 2nd June inclusive

Derbyshire Schools - Term begins 24th April, 2017, Term ends 21st July
Half Term 29th May to 2nd June inclusive

AUTUMN 2017

City Schools Term begins 30th August, Term ends 22nd December
Half Term 23rd October to 3rd November, inclusive

County Schools Term begins 6th September, Term ends 22nd December
Half Term 23rd to 27th October inclusive

Derbyshire Schools Term begins 4th September to 19 December, inclusive
Half Term 23rd October to 27th October inclusive

VOLUNTEER NETWORK MEETINGS 2017 - You are all invited to attend any of the meetings you can get to - they don't have to be in your area or with your Area Co-ordinator!

No.	Date	Time	Venue & AC	Address
1	Wed 3rd May	6.00 - 7.30pm	The Bookcase Sue Marriott	50 Main St, Lowdham, NG14 7BE Meet the Bookcase Children's literature expert who will be available to ask questions about the latest Children's books and to help you find books to use with your children.
2	Thurs 18th May	2.00 - 3.30pm	The Bookcase Emma Collis	50 Main St, Lowdham, NG14 7BE Same format as 3rd May.
3	Fri 7th July	10.30 - 12.30pm	Playworks Play Resource Centre Emma Trowbridge	Alfred Street North Nottingham NG3 1AE Offering Story Reading and Story Telling training. To help you with your sessions and/or you can join our team of story tellers at our summer recruitment events.
4	Mon 10th July	10.30 - 12.00pm	BCVS Sue Marriott	BCVS, The Old Abbey School, Priorswell Road, Worksop S80 2BU Theme: Celebrate new Volunteers/Schools from Bassetlaw Grant Aid Funding

Please let us know if you are coming to the above events so we can sort out refreshments and handouts. Phone Karen on 0115 8765474 or email at karen@literacyvolunteers.org.uk or let your Area Co-ordinator know.

Contact us: Literacy Volunteers, Woodthorpe Grange, Woodthorpe Drive, Nottingham NG5 4HA

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Chief Executive: Dawn Claypole Tel: 0115 876 5993

Administrator: Karen Ballinger Tel: 0115 876 5474

Area Co-ordinator (City/North Notts): Sue Marriott

Area Co-ordinator (City E/South Notts/Newark and Gedling): Emma Collis

Area Co-ordinator (City W/West Notts/Derbyshire): Emma Trowbridge