

Infosheet

for Schools and Volunteers

Literacy Volunteers 1996-2019



Over two decades of service to children

April 2019

Hello everyone - hope you all had a nice Easter break. We are delighted that Gonalston Farm Shop have raised £672 for Literacy Volunteers, Bleasby WI have very generously raised £400 and Sir John Eastwood Foundation kindly agreed to donate £1000 for the next 3 years. Thank you so much - your contributions are so valuable to us. If anyone belongs to a society/club/organisation who might be interested in getting involved with a fundraising event please let us know. I am always happy to come along and speak about the great work we are doing at Literacy Volunteers - just email me at Julia.gunn@btinternet.com and I will get in touch with you.

A big thank you to all LV Volunteers as we begin the Summer Term. I hope to meet you at Volunteer Network Meetings or the Coffee morning event coming up in May at Woodthorpe.

JULIA GUNN, CHAIR

VOLUNTEER INTERVIEW Elaine Orgill

I was first made aware of Literacy Volunteers and the work they do, through an article on the Nottingham City Council intranet where I work part time. Having recently moved to the area I thought this would be a great way to integrate into the local community and do something worthwhile. The training and on-going support from the Literacy Volunteers is great, it helped with planning the sessions, and many tips and ideas of how to get the best out of the time, and make it fun for the children. Being a Literacy Volunteer at Greenwood Primary School, Kirkby in Ashfield I feel more a part of the local community and that I am giving something back. The school are also very supportive.

The children seem to really enjoy and benefit from reading on a 1-1 basis from a friendly person, and it not only develops their reading skills but also their communication skills. I thought I would enjoy being a Literacy Volunteer but never realised just how fulfilling and rewarding it would be. I look forward to going every week. I would urge anyone who may be considering it, to do it!

VOLUNTEER Smita Patel

10 Years as a Literacy Volunteer!



On Monday March 4th Sue Marriott and Dawn Claypole had the great pleasure of attending Sparken Hill Academy to be part of the school's presentation to Smita Patel. Smita has been with us for ten years and is an amazing volunteer. The feedback from the school is always fantastic and her pupils regularly make

outstanding progress while she is with them. Our heartfelt thanks go to her and Mr Lilley for the amazing way he described what we do!

Dear Everyone

Welcome back to the summer term, I cannot wait to get started.

Amazingly, we are up to

180 volunteers in 124 schools in April 2019

170 volunteers in 120 schools in January 2019

162 volunteers in 112 schools in November 2018

150 volunteers in 110 schools on this date last year.

So Thank you to all our supporters, funders and volunteers for your efforts, time and funds because as you can see it is really working. I welcome all our new Volunteers and Board members and thank them for their commitment, time and ideas.

And I am looking forward to "Swishing", and "Baking" for our May month of coffee mornings.



We will be holding our own coffee morning here at Woodthorpe Grange on May 22nd from 11.00 a.m. please join us for tea, coffee and cakes and other treats!

DAWN CLAYPOLE CHIEF EXECUTIVE



The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 2006

Big Reader? BIG Futures!

This Nottingham City Council Literacy Campaign ran from January 28th until March 18th. The Council teamed up with a number of partners to promote children's literacy and among them was Literacy Volunteers. Thanks to Mellers Primary School, Joy Buttress and our Volunteers Susan, Maggi, Steve and Shannon for their help in making videos that went out on the Council's social media telling everyone how great it was to be a Literacy Volunteer and how to get involved. You can see the video on our homepage.

The impact will be measured by looking at an increase in library memberships, levels of book borrowing, an increase in the number of volunteers supporting children's reading and raising more money for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

Obviously, it was a great opportunity for us to recruit more volunteers and so far we have doubled our recruitment in the same period last year from 8-16 Volunteers.

The campaign's message included "Be Ambitious for every child. Read today - Succeed tomorrow." – Something we can all agree works.



Admin Support

Can you help out for a few hours a week?

We are looking for some **volunteer administrative support**. We need someone to support us for one morning a week preferably on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday for two – three hours. You would be based at Woodthorpe Grange and be asked to help out with basic administrative tasks such as the photocopying and the collation of our Puzzle sheets, Volunteer Handbooks, School Information booklets and Introduction packs. You may also be involved in labelling new resources and the upkeep of our books and games.

Anyone interested should call Karen or Emma on 8765474, please note we would ask would ask for references.

Literacy Volunteers Big Reader? Big future! event

On Wednesday 20th March we teamed up with Emily Landsborough from the National Literacy Trust to run an event in Loxley House (City Council) to celebrate World Storytelling Day.

As part of the global celebration of all types of storytelling we shared our passion for reading and sharing stories.

We gave out hints and tips about developing the literacy skills needed for reading and storytelling, guidance on reading with your child and lots of other information about how to support your child at home and at school, whatever their age.

It was great to be able to talk to so many engaged Nottingham City council workers and we even managed to recruit some potential new Literacy Volunteers.



Children's Certificate

We are going to be updating our Children's Certificate and will be sending it out to all Volunteers when we have done so.

We encourage you to use the Children's Certificate to celebrate anything great your children have done, especially at the end of their time with you. You can write on the certificate about any achievements the children have had with you, so that it is personal to them.

You can present the certificate to them, along with their folder of worksheets, colourings etc, in their class or at an assembly – discuss this with your class teacher.

We'd love to hear from you about any of your success stories with your children.

Let "May" be a Month of Cake and Coffee



Literacy Volunteers coffee morning will be at Woodthorpe Grange on May 22nd from 11.00 a.m. please join us for tea, coffee and cakes and other treats!

CALLING ALL THE BAKERS OUT THERE!

Would you be happy to hold a coffee morning in May to raise funds on our behalf, we will provide you with a start-up pack of invites, posters, recipes, and raffle prizes to get your event off to a flying start. You could do this at home; in a community venue; as part of a Volunteer network meeting or in conjunction with your school.

Please let us know if you would like to run an event on our behalf by emailing contact@literacyvolunteers.org.uk and we will send you a fundraising pack!

The whole of May is national share a story month!

More on next page

FUN AT THE FARM!

On Saturday March 30th a group of us from Literacy Volunteers ran a stand to publicise the charity as well as providing a craft activity at the SSBC event for young families at the City Farm in St Ann's. We had lots of great conversations with parents about how to encourage their child's reading, and we promoted the Storytelling Stay and Play sessions we're running in Bulwell and Aspley libraries next term. The children had good fun making Mother's Day cards for their mums, though some wanted to hide them from their mum till Sunday, which wasn't easy! One little girl was



so enthusiastic about the event that, after finishing her card, she burst out with: **"This is the best day of my whole life!"**

Thanks to Angela, Chris, Lizzie, Bridget, Lorna and Karen for helping out.

Storydens

Over March and April we have been working on a project supported by Michelle Reader, a local artist who reuses waste materials to create unique recycled sculptures.

Working across 8 workshops, in total 25 families with children aged 0-3yrs in Aspley helped design and create two recycled storydens, 'Into the Forest' and 'Under the Sea'. We used stories such as The Gruffalo and the Snail and the Whale as our inspiration for what the dens could look like, and who we might find in them.

The dens were launched over the Easter holidays with a series of storytelling sessions, and the chance for the families who built the dens to explore and use them.



Storytelling Stay and Play Sessions in City Libraries

Due to the success of the storytelling sessions in Aspley Library this term, we will be continuing to run these for the summer term and starting up a new group in Bulwell. These sessions are funded by Small Steps Big Changes and The City Family Community and Teaching Team and are for under 5s with their parents/carers, to help them towards literacy from the word Go!



VOLUNTEER INTERVIEW Judith Mewse



My first year with Literacy Volunteers....

I found LV on the internet while I was looking for voluntary work.

I attended my basic training and the AGM in October 2017. I was excited to start at my first school and so was really pleased when my Area Co-ordinator, contacted me to

say that the school closest to me needed a volunteer. My school is an inner city school and it was where my father went to school in the 1940s.

My first day certainly felt like it was in at the deep end. My contact at the school scribbled some names on a bit of paper and I was let loose on my first four children. I still get confused with the year numbering system as it is so different to when I was a school. My children are in year two and are 6/7 year olds.

I listened to my first four fab children with total pleasure and it was great to see them flourish into more confident readers. The one-to-one time with them certainly seemed to help immensely. There were obviously some challenges but Emma reminded me to have a chat with her if I was struggling.

I was gutted at the end of term when I finished with my first four children, but funnily enough they took it in their stride! After the summer break I had chance to chat with them and they still seem happy to see me this term, which is great.

My next four children again have individual personalities and literacy levels. It is a challenge each week to make the session

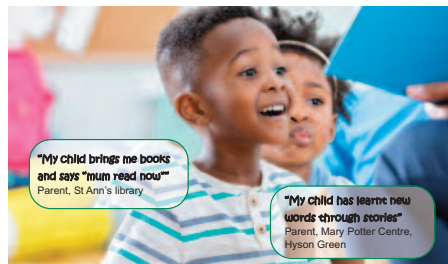
interesting, challenging and fun but it is really fulfilling. For each of my children I have a folder and I put some stickers on the front. I was so touched that one of my little boys brought me a sticker!

All of my children so far are very early in their literacy development. In time, I would love to work with older children too. I love Volunteering with LV and would thoroughly recommend it.

Storytelling Stay & Play

Learn to love books together

For ALL pre-school children



"My child brings me books and says 'mum read now'"
Parent, St Ann's library

"My child has learned new words through stories"
Parent, Mary Potter Centre, Hyson Green

FREE fun sessions - stories, craft, songs and games

1.30 - 3.00pm
Every Wednesday
1 May - 24 July (term time only)
Bulwell Library

Riverside Centre, Coventry Road, NG6 8QJ

For more information call Lorna or Karen on 0215 876 5474

LITERACY VOLUNTEERS

Registered Charity
No. 1167297
Literacy Volunteers



Supported by
Annette
Waterfield



Mobile Libraries

Does your school have access to and utilise a mobile library in their area? If not, why not suggest it to your school. Virginia, one of our Literacy Volunteers does just so and visits the mobile library with her children and teacher every month to help them choose books to borrow. It's carefully managed at the school and is a great use of the mobile service. Virginia said "It is a brilliant tool to encourage children to find books to read they are really interested in and also to get them used to using a library." It's a win, win!



Volunteer Network Meetings

Some of this term's meetings have been about considering what an English as an Additional Language learner is, the stages of EAL development and strategies that can be used to support an EAL learner. There was an opportunity to answer specific questions and to look at EAL resources.

Nina Sidhu from the Achievement and Equality Team from The East Midlands Education Support Service gave a talk to Volunteers about children with English as an additional language. She asked questions to see how much people knew about the languages used across the world. We were surprised to learn that 92% of people are multi-lingual.

Nina discussed problems children face and gave hints tips on how we can support them. EAL children commonly struggle with comprehension – they decode, appear to read well but when it comes to discussing what they have read many do not fully understand it. The group discussed what resources we could use to help, especially word games including pairs, pictures and words, all helping to build up their vocabulary and also involving lots of conversation in sessions to enhance understanding. It was encouraging to find that many children with two or more languages go on to do well in their education due to the way their brains develop due to learning and using different languages.

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 2019

City Schools

Term begins 23rd April 2019, Term ends 26th July 2019
Half term 27th May to 31st May 2019 inclusive

County Schools

Term begins 23rd April 2019, Term ends 24th July 2019
Half term 27th May to 31st May 2019 inclusive

Derbyshire Schools

Term begins 29 April 2019, Term ends 22nd July 2019
Half Term 27th May to 31st May 2019 inclusive

WINTER 2019

City Schools

Term begins 2nd Sept 2019, Term ends 20th Dec 2019
Half Term 21st Oct 2019 to 1st Nov 2019 inclusive

County Schools

Term begins 2nd Sept 2019, Term ends 20th Dec 2019
Half Term 21st Oct 2019 to 1st Nov 2019 inclusive

Derbyshire Schools

Term begins 3rd Sept 2019, Term ends 20th Dec 2019
Half Term 28th Oct 2019 to 1st Nov 2019 inclusive

VOLUNTEER NETWORK MEETINGS 2019 - 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	Tues 30 April	09.30am - 12pm	Special VNM – Theme: Finding your Reading Super Power! All ACs	Vernon Pavilion, Vernon Ave, Basford NG6 0AP
2	Mon 17 June	10.30am - 12pm	Wollaton Emma Trowbridge	Wollaton Vale Community Centre, Rosedale Drive, NG8 2JA
3	Wed 3 July	10.30am - 12pm	Arnold Emma Collis	Arnold Library 161 Front St, NG5 7EE
4	Wed 3 July	10.30am - 12pm	Workshop Sue Marriott	BCVS, The Old Abbey School Priorswell Rd, S80 2BU
5	Fri 12 July	10.30am - 12pm	Mansfield Sue Marriott	Quaker Friends Meeting House, 119 Rosemary St, NG19 6AB
Literacy Volunteers Coffee Morning				
1	Wed 22 May	11am - 1pm	LV Coffee Morning ALL WELCOME	Woodthorpe Grange, Woodthorpe Drive, NG5 4HA

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

Tel: 0115 876 5474 Email: contact@literacyvolunteers.org.uk www.literacyvolunteers.org.uk

Chief Executive: Dawn Claypole Tel: 0115 876 5993, Administrator: Karen Ballinger Tel: 0115 876 5474, Area Co-ordinator (City N/North Notts): Sue Marriott, Area Co-ordinator (East Notts/South Notts/Trainer): Emma Collis, Area Co-ordinator (West Notts/Derbyshire): Emma Trowbridge, Area Co-ordinator (Newark): Lorna Jaggard, Early Years Literacy Volunteer Co-ordinator: Karen Burrows & Lorna Jaggard