

# Parental Involvement in Children's Education

## Welcome to the PICE Newsletter

Welcome to the 4th edition of the Parental Involvement in Children's Education newsletter. Summer's here and soon school will be out, hopefully leaving everybody with more time to contemplate how to get parents more involved in the next school year.



It's also an ideal time to think about improving the newsletter, so please let us know how by filling out this form.

## LEA Spotlight - LEA PICE Conferences

The DfES held three PICE conferences this spring in **London, Birmingham and Manchester**. Delegates included Chief Education Officers, LEA Parental Involvement Representatives and School Improvement Officers from around the country.



The conferences were a great success with 92% of attendees rating the content as excellent or good.

We will be adding the slides and material from the conferences to the [Working with Parents](#) section of Teachernet.

## Hot Topic - A Day With Dad

The charity [Fathers Direct](#) held their second annual competition to tie in with Fathers' Day, called 'A Day With Dad'. Pupils were encouraged to write about their Day with Dad - a letter, a poem, a text message or a short piece of prose.



Winners will enjoy a party and a day out on the London Eye, where Margaret Hodge, Minister for Children, will present the prizes.

Last year, the children's often moving contributions were quoted by a range of organisations and also helped teachers understand a very sensitive issue - what life is like for a child without a father.

## Case Study - Brookside Primary School

[Brookside Primary School](#) found the perfect incentive to get local dads to come into school - a Male Pamper Day.

Students from Knowsley Community College and three trainee barbers provided haircuts, manicures and hand massages under the watchful eye of their tutor. Alternative therapists provided a variety of therapies including Indian head massage, Reiki, Shiatsu and Reflexology.



Read more about the event [here](#).

23 June 2004

## Fast Fact

Research indicates that pupils and parents consider homework and home learning to be an important part of school life, and the evidence shows a positive relationship between time spent on homework and achievement at secondary school level.

*NFER (2001) Homework – A recent Review of Research.*

## Good Idea

**Involving fathers** can also benefit the fathers themselves, and their families.



In fact, [engaging fathers](#) can make a significant difference to the lives of both child and father well beyond the years of school based-learning.

## Good Idea

The [IPRA Training Pack & Video](#) supports the information contained in the Materials for Schools – Involving Parents, Raising Achievement booklet (ref: PICE/IPRA)

The training pack, which includes a suggested programme for an INSET day, is now available to order from Prolog 0845 602 2260 (ref: PICE/IPRA/TP)

## Previous Issues

Didn't get to see the last newsletter? It's available to [download from the web](#) in PDF format.



### Resources - websites

#### Working with Parents



The '[Working with parents](#)' area of Teachernet aims to give schools and teachers the hows and whys of parental involvement.

It contains resources and ideas for schools, including the popular '[Involving parents, raising achievement](#)' materials for schools, [research](#) and much more.

#### The Parent Centre - Help you child to learn



[The Parent Centre](#) is for all parents and carers who want to help their child or children to learn. It is here to offer them support, information and advice about their child's learning and the English education system.

#### Parents Online



[Parents Online](#) has been created by the Department for Education and Skills to help parents understand the role of ICT in learning.

#### DirectGov (for parents)



[Directgov](#) is the place to turn for the latest and widest range of public service information. Packed with advice it also points you to the most useful online services from across government.



### Resources - for schools and LEAs

#### Involving parents, raising achievement - materials for schools

Involving parents and carers in their children's education and learning supports inclusion as well as individual and collective success. The [IPRA booklet](#) contains information and ideas to help you develop successful home-school links.



#### The Impact of Parental Involvement in Children's Education



This [leaflet](#) draws on evidence from research to highlight the importance of involving parents in their children's education.

Overall, research has shown conclusively that parental involvement does make a difference and the evidence indicates that parental involvement benefits students, parents, teachers and schools. This leaflet provides an insight into some of that evidence.

Both these publications can be ordered from Prolog 0845 602 2260.



### Resources - for parents

#### Learning Journeys



A parent's guide to the primary and secondary school curriculum. The Learning Journeys are available in three booklets - one for parents of children aged 3-7, one for 7-11 and one for 11-16.

Available in many languages and also in audio



### Ask Us/Tell Us

We're very keen to hear more from you about your work in Parental Involvement.

If you have some content that you'd like to include on this newsletter or if you want to know how to get more involved in PICE, call us on 020 7925 6124 or [email us](#).

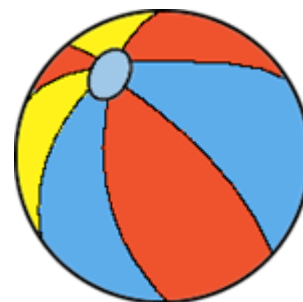


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cassette, Braille and large print version. The Learning Journeys have their own orderline - call 08000 96 66 26. Alternatively you can go to the [Learning Journey website](#).

### **Help Your Child to Learn booklets**

The Help Your Children to Learn series is written by parents for parents with lots of tips for supporting children at school.



- Getting the most from school reports
- Formal meetings with teachers
- Making the most of parents' evenings
- Making the most of time with your child
- How your child is doing at school.

Copies are available from Prolog 0845 602 2260 (quoting reference HYCL). They are also available to [download](#) from The Parent Centre.

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