



# Lostsocks Newsletter

March/ April 2010 lostsocks Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 2

## The Vacancy Matching Service

The new online Vacancy Matching Service was launched recently by the LSC and Chiltern Training is finding it has been a real success in placing learners with employers. We currently have nearly 50 vacancies on the site that potential candidates can apply for. Over 100 learners have applied to Chiltern Training using the VMS and we are busy working to match up candidates with vacancies. This tool has opened up our services to a wider audience and a lot of good quality applicants are applying for positions.

**If you are looking for a new apprentice** to join your team and would like to take advantage of this free service, contact Sarah Darsley and Josie Ballard on **0118 956 6995** for more information. You can view the website at [www.apprenticeshipvacancymatchingservice.lsc.gov.uk](http://www.apprenticeshipvacancymatchingservice.lsc.gov.uk)

## New Swindon Class starts!

Chiltern Training has launched its new Apprenticeship class in Swindon. The inductions are starting on **Tuesday 16th March** with new learners signing up to the Apprenticeship and Advanced apprenticeship courses.

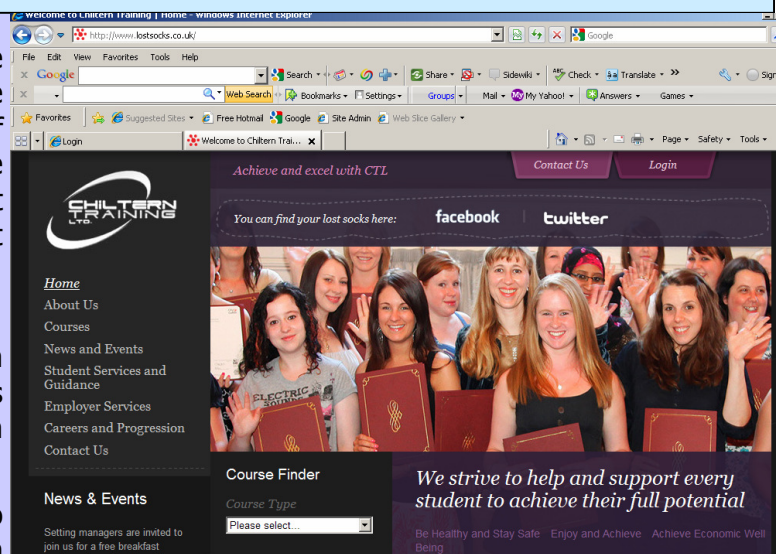
If you are in the Wiltshire area and have staff that would like to train, contact Sarah Darsley and Josie Ballard on **0118 956 6995** to request an application form. If you are looking to take on a new apprentice we are currently interviewing young people so let us know your requirements as soon as possible.

## New Website goes Live

The new website has now gone live! Log on to have a look at [www.lostsocks.co.uk](http://www.lostsocks.co.uk). You will see upcoming news and events as well as lots of information about our courses and support available to both learners and employers. Email us at [enquiries@chilterntraining.org](mailto:enquiries@chilterntraining.org) to let us know what you think.

Chiltern Training also has a new Facebook page. You can become a fan and join in the discussion forums with other learners and employers. Find us on [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) by searching for 'Chiltern training ltd'.

The new prospectus has just been printed as well so let us know if you would like a copy by calling us on **0118 956 6995** or emailing on the above email address.



Check out the new website at [www.lostsocks.co.uk](http://www.lostsocks.co.uk)

**Inside this issue:** Katy's Word, Achievers, Free Management Seminars, 16/17 Grants, Manager of the Year, Professional Development courses, Employer Case Study

## A note from Katy:



I would firstly like to welcome our new readers in Swindon and Spalding, including apprentices and nursery staff.

Last month, we started our first apprenticeship class in Spalding and our first apprenticeship class will start this month in Swindon.

We welcome suggestions from all readers as to the content of our newsletter and our website, [www.lostsocks.co.uk](http://www.lostsocks.co.uk). We have recently launched our new website and would be grateful if you could have a look and give us feedback.

In addition to our geographical expansion, we are also currently working on increasing the courses we offer and again, we would be pleased to hear from you if there's anything you would particularly like us to offer. Last month, several of our employers joined us for a very successful course on Safeguarding and we would like to thank the staff at Little Rainbows for making this suggestion and putting us in touch with the workshop leader.

This time of the year is always particularly hectic with interviews for students who will be leaving school in June/July and Sarah will be contacting all employers soon requesting details of your requirements for the autumn intake.

As always, we thank you for your continued support.

*Katy Edwards*

## Achievers for January/ February 2010

### Apprentices

Nicola Barry– Woodlands  
Danielle Benham– Pine Rivers  
Helen Cripps– Positive Steps  
Francesca Defazio– Little Tots  
Georgina Kilford– Forbury Gardens  
Leanne Le Marinel– Little Ducklings

### Advanced Apprentices

Sam Brazier– Merrydale  
Sam Allwork– Leapfrog  
Liz Crook– Our Lady's  
Laura Angus– Kiddies Cabin  
Nicole Brown– Little Learners  
Christina Clark– Alexandra Road  
Kate Cranford– Acorns  
Emma Dawson– Willows  
Tanis Faracli– Woodlands  
Siobhan Haines– Busy Bees  
Sarah Kemp– Little Learners  
Lauren King– Greyfriars  
Christine Lowri– Alexandra Road  
Katy Roberts– Little Bears  
Kaleesha Rock– Park Day  
Layla Wareham– Willows

### Level 2 NVO

Jade Smith– Audlen House

### Level 3 NVO

Stacey Parker– Merrydale  
Concepcion Gale– Toad Hall  
Lydia Ham– Greyfriars  
Rukni Harees– Norcot  
Charlotte Maslin– Bearwood  
Angela Matthews– Christ the King  
Mark Maynard– Brightstarts  
Asma Rafiq– Little Learners  
Sofeea Dearing– Buffer Bear  
Lauren Follett-Smith– Toad Hall

### Level 2 Team Leading

Blair Beveridge– Busy Bees  
Laura Knight– Forbury Gardens  
Sarah House– Forbury Gardens  
Becky Potts– Willows  
Judith Clayforth– Riverside  
Kelly Ilott– Tigers  
Brenda Smith– Riverside

### Level 3 Management

Cheryl Ballard– Forbury Gardens  
Karen Brackstone– Just Learning  
Amanda Polaszewski– Forbury Gardens

### Level 4 NVO

Kathleen McKenna– Christ the King

## Free Breakfast Seminars



The next free Management breakfast seminar is on '**HR for Nursery Managers**' and will take place on **13th May** at 9am. If you would like to book a place email us at [enquiries@chilterntraining.org](mailto:enquiries@chilterntraining.org) or call us on **0118 956 6995**. If you are looking for a particular topic let us know what you are interested in. We also provide breakfast for you to enjoy!

## Manager of The Year: Sonja Fenton-Pryor

**Nursery:** Bees Knees Day Nursery **Manager:** Sonja Fenton-Pryor

**Background:** Sonja won the Manager of The Year Award 2009 at the NMT Nursery Awards. Sonja was nominated by her Managing Director at Complete Childcare where she was described as having rare management qualities and having turned her nursery around in eight months by inspiring high standards.

**How long have you been working in childcare?** I have been working in childcare for about 17 years now.

**What inspired you to pursue a career in childcare?** It has always been about the children for me. Knowing the impact you can have on bringing up children is invaluable. I have been surrounded by those in the childcare profession from a young age.

**What does winning the award mean to you?** I try not to class it as winning an award as it is my job. It was a very pleasant surprise and a privilege. All of the other nominees in the category deserved to win. The Nursery Awards are our version of the Oscars so having the formal recognition inside the profession has given me a feeling of appreciation and honour.

**What does working in childcare mean to you?** Personally for me it is about being able to touch children's lives and have a positive impact on their development and their future.

**Have you always wanted to get into management?** It was never a clear goal of mine to progress in to management. It has always been about progression and challenging myself to gain new skills. I carry the ethos that no one is perfect and there are always areas in which you can improve, I am continually learning from the young assistants in my nursery to the area manager, it is all about being open-minded in this profession.



### 16/17 Grant is a success for Employers

The 16/17 Grant that was launched by the LSC in January has been a fantastic way to assist employers in taking on new apprentices. CTL has secured over 40 of the grants for employers in the Reading, Swindon and Spalding areas. The grants of £2,500 were launched by the LSC as a way to assist employers in offering training places to 16 and 17 year olds who want to start their apprenticeships. All grants have now been allocated and come to an end on March 31st but there are waiting lists if you are interested on taking advantage of this new funding. Contact Sarah or Josie on 0118 956 6995.

### Professional Development Courses

The following courses will be running at our training centre in Reading. The costs of the training is £50 per head. For any learners currently enrolled on a training programme at CTL, the cost is just £25. If you would like to find out more or to book places, email us at:

enquiries@chilterntraining.org or call us on **0118 956 6995**.

#### **Behaviour Management**

**Date:** 14th May

**Time:** 9:30am-12:30pm

#### **Health and Safety in**

**Childcare Settings**

**Date:** 19th April

**Time:** 9:30am-12:30pm

#### **Facilitating Effective**

**Outdoor Learning and Play**

**Date:** 18th June

**Time:** 9:30am-12:30pm

## Employer Case Study: Tigers Day Nursery, Thatcham, Berks

**The New and Improved Facilities at Tigers Day Nursery:** Tigers Day Nursery opened in 1994 in Thatcham, Berkshire and has gradually been expanding ever since. Tigers have recently opened a new barn extension to the original nursery, they have also made adaptations to the original building. These renovations have brought Tigers Day Nursery to the forefront of facilities available to young children in nurseries.



New Sensory Room

The new extension has allowed the nursery to accommodate all ages of children from babies through to 5 year olds. Tigers have also joined forces with Bowood Nursery which now share the new facilities.

The new facilities now at Tigers include a dance studio where children aged between 3 and 5 years old have a dance teacher that comes in to teach them dance lessons in their own purpose built studio, which is also opened up to all other ages. As well as the dance studio, they have built a state of the art sensory room which allows the nursery to integrate all ages with the calming influence that the sensory room provides.



Facilities at Tigers

these new facilities have allowed Tigers Day Nursery to offer children such a wide range of activities and experiences while in their nursery.

**Tigers Partnership with Chiltern Training:** Chiltern has had a successful partnership with Tigers for many years. This partnership has become so successful due to the joint working partnership that Chiltern and Tigers have.

Tigers Day Nursery have expressed how they enjoy the training in childcare that CTL offer as they see the apprenticeships as invaluable for those wanting to work in childcare. They believe on the job training is essential to gain a comprehensive understanding and the initiative needed to work in the childcare environment.



Tigers and Bowood Nursery