



Youth Bus Update – summer edition September 2016

Welcome to the bumper edition of the Youth Bus newsletter – this month we will be filling you in on everything we got up to over the summer; from local festivals to getting involved with Sports Challenge. We hope you all had a great summer with your kids and have now settled back into the morning school routine.

Enjoy the read and getting up to speed with everything bus-related ☺

A successful summer

The past three months have been busy on the bus, with both new and familiar faces climbing on board to have fun and have a good old catch up with their friends. The summer break gives us a good opportunity to visit our regular villages more often, and provide the young people with longer sessions compared to during term time, which is great.



Some of our young Stoulton fans battling it out on the legendary fighting game, Street Fighter!

Some of our busiest villages over the summer were Crophthorne and Bretforton; we have managed to develop quite a dedicated fan-base at both of them and our membership list has definitely grown over the last couple of months because of this.

Don't forget, if you know someone who wants the Youth Bus to visit their village, point them in the direction of our [Facebook page](#), or pass our contact details on to them.

Crophthorne enjoyed crafting some of their own jewellery - an activity that they found requires a lot of patience!



Future engineers?

We had lots of fun over the summer but we also did our bit with regard to supporting the educational futures of our young people.



The bus teamed up with Amy – the director of META (Mechanical Engineering Training Academy) – to help promote the engineering courses that are available to young people in the local area. The courses and apprenticeships are run in conjunction with South Worcestershire College, for more information visit www.metauk.org.

Promotion included the handing out of leaflets and engaging with the public in various locations, including Evesham's Tesco Megastore. **Thank you to the Community Champion of the store for enabling this to go ahead – we realise that a bus is not the easiest thing to cater for in the car park of a busy supermarket!**

We look forward to doing more work with Amy in the future ☺

Anyone for plums?

The 2016 *Pershore Plum Festival* was once again a huge success – taking place over the Bank Holiday Weekend – there was entertainment and activities for all ages to get involved in, including the Youth Bus on the Plummy Family Fun Day.



We were honoured to welcome the Plum Queen, the Plum Princess and her attendants on board the bus; they even had time to pose for a quick photo in between their royal duties.

We were thrilled to be a part of the event again (our sixth year) and even though the rain did make an appearance, it didn't stop our young people from having fun on board – with a dominoes tournament proving one of the most popular activities, proving it's not all about technology!



The Youth Bus team cheering on the Plum Plodders during their 10K running race through the beautiful countryside around Pershore.

Even better news was that most of the young people we engaged with were those who had never been on board before, so we hope to see them again on the bus again soon. It was great to see some new faces and the festival provided us with the chance to spread the word about the work we do for young people in the Wychavon area. *And remember...*

“Think purple, think Pershore, think plums!”

Sports Challenge



We may not have been in Rio but over the last few months, but we have really enjoyed supporting **Sports Challenge Summer Camp**

2016, both in Evesham and Droitwich. We attended multiple sessions and each time we received a really good response from both the young people and the staff.

Each time we visited the young people they would excitedly ask when we would be back again (a question we love being asked) and we are pleased say that we will be back supporting **Sports Challenge** in the October half-term, so keep an eye out for us.

A new look on board the bus

Have you had a nosey on the bus recently? If so, you may have noticed a few new additions that have crept on board over the last couple of months...

Mario Kart and Star Wars cushions for our game console areas – which we have personally tested out and not only do they look super cool but they are also super comfortable!



The perfect addition to accompany Donkey Kong cruising round Yoshi Falls or learning the ways of the force on Battlefront!





Wireless Xbox controllers, along with two viper charging docking stations (we think these are Rob's favourite purchases).

New covers for the **Big Boy bean bags** – with our very own logo printed on the side of them... so please keep your feet off!



New health apps

We want to provide a safe place for young people to relax and enjoy themselves, and we also aim to support their health and well-being where and when possible. This can sometimes be difficult when working with young people as the thought of talking to people (especially adults) about their feelings is their worst nightmare. So to help tackle this barrier we have recently downloaded some new health apps on the bus's iPad for them to engage with. For example:



'Worcestershire Healthy Minds'

Developed by Worcestershire's Health and Care NHS Trust, this app has been designed to enable people to get self-help information at their fingertips about managing common mental health difficulties.

To find out more about **Worcestershire Healthy Minds** visit www.hacw.nhs.uk/our-services/healthy-minds.

Or download the app for yourself!



Youth Bus schedule – September 2016

Below are the dates of our upcoming sessions:



Tue 6 September
Evesham College
10am-1pm

Wed 7 September
Badsey
4-5.15pm

Bretforton
5.30-7pm

Sat 10 September
Peopleton Autumn Show
12-3pm

Wed 14 September
Pershore College
11.30-2pm

Middle Littleton
4-5.15pm

South Meadows
5.30-6.30pm

Fri 16 September
Great Comberton
4-5pm

Cropthorne
5.30-7pm

Thu 22 September
Stoulton
3.30-5pm

Cropthorne
5.30-7pm



Reclaim your lost property



We have been housing these two jackets for the past three months. If your child is the owner of either of these items please get in touch ASAP – via phone, email or Facebook – and we will make sure we keep them until the next time we visit your village.

As they don't fit any members of staff you have until the **1 November** to collect these items. After that we will be sending them to the charity shop. Many thanks.

Thought for the month

As you head back to school and work after the summer break, days are getting shorter and the leaves on the trees are starting to change colour, so now it's time to refocus on reaching your end-of-year goals....

