Building work update

Building work is progressing well with the library scheduled to reopen in early 2010. All internal fixtures, fittings and walls have been removed and bricklayers are in residence to construct the new lift shaft, staircase and internal walls.

The refurbished library will encompass a large ‘living wall’ graphic which will cover the rear walls of both the basement and sub basement. The theme for this design will be the environment, helping it to compliment the green roof being installed to the rear of the library.

A full programme of learning opportunities will be available at the library learning centre (in the sub basement of the library). A training provider has been appointed to deliver individually tailored learning programmes for library users. More details to follow soon.

A community space will be available for hire in the new library along with 2 small interview style rooms. Details of how these spaces will be managed (including pricing) are currently being discussed. If you would like to feed into this discussion please contact Laura Hannan.

Temporary Library

The temporary library based at 97-99 Church Street (a former butchers shop) is proving popular with library users. Since January 2009 this street facing double shop unit has seen visitor numbers increase by 20% over the same period last year. Options are now being explored to make improvements to the entrance way of the refurbished library, to help maintain these high visitor numbers.
Opening Hours

Church Street Library is currently open 55 hours a week including Saturdays. Library opening hours are being reviewed alongside the refurbishment to ensure they meet customer needs.

The following 3 options are being considered for implementation

- Early opening Monday-Friday (8am-9.30am)
- Late opening Monday -Friday (7pm-10pm)
- Sunday opening

During the next few weeks an extensive programme of consultation will take place with library users and the local church street community to identify what changes people would like made to current opening hours. This information along with customer usage data will be used to inform the new opening hours.

Facilities at the refurbished library will be available to allow the sub basement floor containing the learning centre and community space to be used out of library operating hours.

Young Advisors

Church Street Young Advisors and members of the library Chatterbooks group have been helping with the design of the youth space which will be included in the basement of the refurbished library.

To help gain ideas a group of young people visited 3 youth libraries across London - Ideas Store Chrisp Street, Peckham Library and Wood Green 1319 space. Wood Green library was the preferred space due to stock, size, staff and furnishing.

Following the away day additional magazine stock has been purchased for the library and a number of ideas have been put forward for the youth space including: purchasing a Wii games console and holding tournaments, buying a selection of Manga magazines, incorporation of comfortable sofas and provision of study area.

View more ideas and information on the young advisors facebook group my ‘book’ space at www.facebook.com

For further details on the transformation of Church Street Library please contact
Laura Hannan, 020 7641 3270
lhanan@westminster.gov.uk

EVENTS

Family Story Time
For National Family Week the library is holding a Special Family Storytime on Wednesday 27 May at 11.00am. Come along and join in!

Knitting Group
Saturdays 10.30am to 12 noon
This group has been running since mid January 2008 and includes experts and beginners. It has already drawn in knitters from their teens to their sixties

Summer Crafts
Make a pair of flip flops! And other summery stuff.
Friday 29th May 2.30 - 3.30
Age 5 – 14

Regular Events
Monthly Readers' Group last Friday of every month 10.30am - 12 noon
Bengali Women's reading and writing group - 10am - 12 noon Fridays
Homework Club Thursdays 4-5pm (term time)
Under 5 sessions Thursdays 10.30 am – 12 noon

For more information on events taking place at Church Street see www.westminster.gov.uk/libraries/findalibrary/churchstreet