



Issue 23 October 2010

## Newsletter

### Chat room re-vamp

I thought we could do with a new chat room thread for the benefit of those old and new. It has been quite busy recently in the chat room and it would be nice to keep it going strong again. I thought a bit of a reminder of times and so on would be a good idea. Please not some times have changed

#### Chat times

Monday 9pm – General chit chat. ASD and non-ASD topics, whatever anyone wants to talk about.

Tuesday 9pm – ASD chat. Although other topics may be discussed ASD matters take priority and will be discussed if brought up.

Wednesday 9pm – General chit chat. ASD and non-ASD topics, whatever anyone wants to talk about.

Thursday 9pm – ASD chat. Although other topics may be discussed ASD matters take priority and will be discussed if brought up.

Friday 10pm. Pub night. A fun night, No ASD chat. May include adult topics.

Sunday 9pm – Relax night. Light hearted topics (both ASD and non-ASD).

Last Tuesday of the month 8-9pm – New members chat. For new members only (moderators and helpers will be present). A chance for new members to get use to the chat room and discuss anything they like.

Second Thursday of the month – Debate night. A topic will be proposed (on this tread) for members to debate.

Other chat sessions – Other chat sessions will be advertised on this thread. These may include specific topics to be discussed, guest speakers, Q&A sessions. Please check this thread on a regular basis for up and coming events.

Remember these times are not exclusive, the chat room is always open, having a few set times just allows people to have an idea of when people might be around. Also remember you never have to go in to chat, it's a totally optional thing.

The rules about the chat room and these are posted below as a small reminder and to help anyone that is new.

## Rules

- It's up to you if you allow people to use your real name or your children's names. Some people do some people do not.
- Swearing does happen but please keep it to a minimum as some people do not like it and we must respect that.
- General polite manors are a must. People can express views but forcing them on other people is wrong.
- Try not to be too personal. We all come and have a rant, moan and cry but some things need to stay private. It's ok to say your angry, hurt, depressed and so on. Just use your judgment.
- Any bullying will result in action from the moderators and admin team.

## More Rules For Debates

- The debate stays in the room.
- Everyone is entitled to their own opinion and nothing is to be taken to heart.
- Members do not have to join in and as with the chats members can just view and don't need to post.
- Examples and personal examples are fine but people may not agree with them. This does not mean they do not like you or are not your friend it just means they see things differently to you and this is fine.
- Respect people's feelings and views. If you do not agree that's fine, state your reason.

## How to join in

At the top of the forum you will see a tab called chat. Click on this and the chat room will load. It can take a minute or two and you need to have JAVA installed on your computer. (It is free and usually pre-installed anyway but any problems just ask).

The chat room can be very scary at first. It can also move quite quick. Stick with it most people end up enjoy it.

If you have an idea for a debate then PM it to me (Munchkin).

If you have any questions, worries or concerns PM me and I will try and help or pass the matter on to a Moderator of the forum or an Administrator of the forum.

The chat room is always open and anyone can use it but be aware that it is not generally moderated and you cannot guarantee it private enough for very private and sensitive topics as anyone can come in.

I (Munchkin) oversee the running of the chat room so if you have any ideas, problems or questions feel free to PM me.

Chat room moderators appear in green on the user list in the chat room. They are always available to ask a questions if needed.

Hope to see you all in there.



## New Moderators

**Welcome Lux and Kadenza to the ASDF moderating team.**

Kadenza and Lux have joined the moderating team of ASDF. I hope you can all join me in thanking them for taking on this very important role within our online community.

It takes a team of dedicated people to keep any forum going and safe. So lets extend our thanks to all the mod and admin team.

## The new front to the site

**It's looking fab!**

Many thanks to the admin and moderation team for all the hard work that has gone in to the new front end of the site. It is looking excellent and very welcoming.

Also many thanks to everyone who has completed local information for their area. There are still a few that need doing so if anyone has the time and knowledge it would be very much appreciated.

## Back to school blues

**It's never easy is it?**

It doesnt matter if your kid likes or dislikes school sending them back is never easy. Yes you may be glad of the rest, yes you might see the good it is doing them but it doesnt mean it is easy.

A lot of people are still experiencing troubles with their LEA's providing the right placements and support.

What do you do to beat the beck to school blues? Send in your comments to see them in the next newsletter.

