

STUDY UNITED F.C.

Issue 1

October 2002

News



Playing for Success (PFS)

Welcome to the first Study United F.C. Newsletter. The aim is to share the good news about PFS and the plans for Study United F.C. It is hoped that this will be a regular publication, keeping you up to date with our progress and will soon feature work by the young people who attend the Centre.



Playing for Success (PFS) is a

Department for Education and Skills (DfES) initiative, established in 1997 by the department in partnership with the FA Premier League, the Nationwide League, their clubs and Local Education Authorities (LEAs).

Through PFS, the DfES has established out-of-school hours' study support centres within football clubs and at other sports clubs' grounds and venues.

by their schools, as being in need of a

boost to help them get back to speed in literacy, numeracy and ICT.

The Centres are equipped with state of the art ICT equipment and staffed by a centre manager (an experienced teacher) supported by tutors/mentors drawn mainly from local further education colleges and universities. They all use a variety of teaching methods and resources, to supplement and support the learning of the National Curriculum.

The centre at Leeds United's Elland Road ground has boosted literacy rates by 20 per cent in some children.

How PFS came to SCUNTHORPE UNITED

For the past two years there has been a Steering Group that has been looking at the development of Playing For Success Centre at Scunthorpe United.

In 2001, a New Opportunities Grant was awarded to the Council for Out Of School Hours Learning. Working with 11 schools in North Lincolnshire a small ICT Suite (10 computers), in the Sponsors Lounge, has been established. This centre was awarded Associate Membership of the PFS scheme.

Launched in May 2002, the

Centre becomes 'live' on Monday 11th November 2002 and young people will start attending the Centre after school hours.

The Learning programme has been developed by a group of teachers from North Lincolnshire who enjoyed a three day placement to undertake this project. The young people have now got a superb programme to follow, a big thank- you to them. Also, our thanks, to Mr Keith Leedham, a teacher at Winterton Junior School, who gave us our name - Study United F.C. (S.U.F.C – spot the connection!!!!)



All the challenges that are set are related to the game of football. For example, 'Spend Ya Dosh' is an exciting maths challenge that explores elements of the football transfer market (as the teachers said – 'one for Brian'.... Laws that is!)

An added bonus to the above project is that young people also will have the opportunity to raise their skills in the game of football. Running alongside the learning opportunities, is a ten week programme delivered by Football In The Community, offering expert coaching and fun based physical activities.

'Playing for success' Scunthorpe United Football Club

So what will happen at THE NEW STUDY UNITED F.C.?

Building onto the existing Centre a further 20 computers will be installed. The new Centre is part of a major re-development at Glanford Park.

The Centre will have a new staff team existing of a Centre Manager, Teacher, ICT Technician and Admin staff. Additionally there will be a Volunteer Mentor programme - so if you are reading this and would like to be involved contact Jo Leedham (01724) 297327. We will be recruiting for volunteers in 2003 so why not be first in the queue!!!! Full training (free) is to be provided for this very rewarding role.

Young people will continue to follow a ten week programme but in the lifetime of the project every school of North Lincolnshire will have the opportunity to be involved.

'JOINING THE ELITE'

The Iron will become one of only a handful of Third Division clubs to have a learning and study centre.

Councillor Andrea Deas, North Lincs Councils' Cabinet Member for Education, said: 'We are delighted and fortunate to be part of this exciting initiative

The 'Playing For Success' project has only been previously open to Premier Division and First Division Clubs, so this is the first time Scunthorpe United was able to bid for funding."

Rules were changed in July this year and Councillor Deas added, "It was a major achievement for the Club and Council which would benefit



Celebrations to Mark News of Study Centre Development

Seen here, at Scunthorpe United v Blackpool are: Scunthorpe United Chief Executive, Don Rowing and Chairman, Steve Wharton confirming the partnership with Cllr Andrea Deas and David Leas, Assistant Director of Education, from North Lincolnshire Council, also in attendance were: Lee Turnbull, Football In the Community and Steering Group members Jo Leedham and Angeline Mather (shame it wasn't a double celebration, as the Iron went down 3-2).

The Department for Education and Skills and **The Football Foundation** have funded the project to the tune of £200,000 and North Lincolnshire Council and Scunthorpe United have both put in £50,000.

Iron Manager, Brian Laws has confirmed that Iron players will get involved by working as mentors, alongside children, an experience he says he is looking forward to.

It is expected the centre will be open, at first, during out-of-school hours and then all day as it

Don Rowing, Scunthorpe United's Chief Executive, said: "Scunthorpe United is fully

committed to working with, and on behalf of, the community.

The study support centre is another example of our vision for the future."

Lee Turnbull, Manager of the Club's Football in the Community Scheme and a Steering Group

Want to know More
information?

Contact:

Jo Leedham

