

14th May 2010

Schools set to participate in local Olympics

Tuesday 25th May 2010 09.30 – 14.30

Local school children from across the West Midlands will be taking part in the Olympics 2012 Inspire to Aim Higher event, hosted at the RAF Museum Cosford on Tuesday 25th May. This special event is a collaboration which aims to promote participation, inclusion and competition, whilst highlighting the values of the Olympic and Paralympic movement.

The day will commence with an opening ceremony including music supplied by the RAF Cosford band, a performance from the Idsall School dance group and an introduction to the day's activities.

Schools will be participating in a variety of activities during their visit. One of the key highlights will be a demonstration from the RAF Cosford Field Gun Crew, led by Cdr Mark Smith RN. This sporting tradition sees a team of 18 people racing a gun and limber over a designated course. It takes great mental and physical strength and is concluded with firing of the gun.

Phil Clayton, Education Officer at RAF Museum says:

"The Olympic event is a unique opportunity for learners to experience a range of sporting activities outside of the school environment.

This is the first time the Museum has been involved in an event of this kind and it is a wonderful opportunity for learners to experience and learn a range of sports first hand."

Other activities planned include Rockets, Athletics, Football, and Archery. The Lilleshall partially sighted cricket team will also be participating.

Participating schools will also be completing an art competition which ties in with the Olympic theme by creating a unique logo. Guest of Honour, Jez Moxey Chief Executive of Wolverhampton Wanderers football club will be judging the children's work on the day and will announce the winner during the closing ceremony.

For more information on the Museum Access & Learning programme, please call 01902 376200 or visit: www.rafmuseum.org. The Museum is open daily from 10am – 6pm (last admission 5pm), entry is FREE.

Media are invited to attend this event. Please confirm attendance by 4.30pm on Monday 24th May on 01902 376 208/212 and speak to Karen or Michelle.

Notes to Editors:

- **Schools attending** include: Albrighton Primary, Sheriffhales Primary, Edward the Elder Primary, Wood End Primary, St. Mary's Albrighton Primary, Shifnal Primary, Perry Hall Primary, St. Patrick's Catholic Primary and Wednesfield High School.
- Royal Air Force Museum Cosford, Shifnal, Shropshire, TF11 8UP
- Open daily between 10am 6pm (Last admission 5pm)
- FREE admission
- Photo and interview opportunities available
- For further information and all media enquiries please contact
- Karen Crick on 01902 376208 or <u>karen.crick@rafmuseum.org</u>
- RAF Museum Cosford images & logo available at: http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/cosford/media-enquiries/downloads.cfm

NB: Field Gun Crew demonstration subject to operational requirements.