

## My priorities

- Find more partners for the Arts Centre Working Group.
- Continue healthy eating campaign for children in the district and extend the free fruit scheme.
- Try to increase the number of free-access cash machines from nine to 12.
- Agree a programme for the Swadlincote schools in the Building Schools for the Future project.
- Seek firm proposals for additional flood defences.
- Maintain the progress on NHS dentistry in this area.
- Seek the inclusion of more local schools in the Reading Recovery scheme.
- Increase the number of people subscribing to my e-newsletter to 400.
- Continue to answer all correspondence within five working days.
- Increase face-to-face contact with constituents.

## Facts and figures

- Voted in 75 per cent of votes in Parliament in 2007/8.
- Spoke in 23 debates.
- Received answers to 127 written parliamentary questions.
- Team in Swadlincote dealt with 2,132 new cases in 2007.
- Spent £142,405 on expenses for 2006/07 (latest figures) on staffing, travel plus office expenses.
- This publication is funded by the Communications Allowance set up to provide funds to communicate with constituents.



*Caterer Sarah Bloor with Rachel (eight) and Katie Marsh (six) at the school dinners event at Newhall Junior School.*

# Pupils tasting dinner delights

**I HAVE** held two events in the past year to highlight the benefits of school dinners in South Derbyshire which is part of my ongoing campaign to encourage healthy eating among children.

Parents and pupils were given a chance to taste some of the menu and chat to catering staff and teachers at the sessions in Hilton Primary School and Newhall Junior School.

I can vouch for the fact that the meals are all nutritious, balanced and tasty. But the take-up rate for the county in 2006/07 was 46 per cent in primary



*From left, school chef Lynnette Tinney, mums Karen Thomas and Melanie Jones and Mark Todd.*

schools. I would like to improve this rate in schools in my constituency. The alternative – usually packed lunch – is not normally as healthy.

The feedback from the events showed that several

parents wanted to move their children onto school meals.

I will continue to work with the council's catering department to highlight the benefits of school dinners.

If anyone is interested in finding out about school meals, contact my constituency office on 01283 551573.

My team is also working on trying to extend the free fruit scheme in primary schools. At the moment, only infants (four to seven-year-olds) are eligible. Some schools informally give older children left over fruit but I think all primary school children could benefit.

I have raised the issue in Parliament – including at Prime Minister's Questions in March – and am working with local headteachers and the primary care trust to tackle this issue.

## GET IN TOUCH AND HAVE YOUR SAY

**HERE'S** how you can get in touch:

● **Constituency office**  
37 Belmont Street  
Swadlincote  
Derbyshire DE11 8JU  
Tel: 01283 551573  
Fax: 01283 210640  
E-mail: markwtodd@btconnect.com

● **House of Commons**  
London SW1A 0AA  
Tel: 0207 219 3549  
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● **Website**  
[www.marktodd.org.uk](http://www.marktodd.org.uk)

What issues concern you? Do you have any suggestions for improving South Derbyshire?

Name:

Telephone:

Address:

E-mail:

Would you like to receive the e-newsletter? Yes / No

**Return to: Mark Todd MP, Freepost, MID23132, Swadlincote, Derbyshire DE11 9BR**

The information provided is for the use of Mark Todd and his staff only. The information will not be passed to a third party or any other organisation.